

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 11, 2000/Vaisakha 21, 1922 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 641. Shri Chintaman Wanga.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

11.01 hrs.

At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise it after the Question Hour, Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, do you want to say anything ?

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi) : Yes, Sir. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have called the Leader of the Opposition . Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

11.02 hrs.

At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the beginning of the Session, we had emphatically urged the

Government to restore the subsidy cut to the extent possible on essential supplies distributed through the P.D.S. for those below the poverty line (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, why are they disturbing the Question Hour ? . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Question Hour be conducted. They can be allowed to raise this issue during Zero Hour. This issue has been discussed in detail in this House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : They have given notices for suspension of Question Hour. That is why I have called the Leader of the Opposition . Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir we had demanded the removal of 15 per cent hike in the price of urea so as to lighten the burden of the farmers. We had also expressed our opposition to the steep increase in the prices of cooking gas and kerosene, which had greatly affected the middle and the lower middle class. However, Mr. Speaker, you in your wisdom, disallowed many of our notices. We accepted your ruling. But we did expect that during the course of the discussion on the Finance Bill the Government would respond positively to the needs of the people and help lighten the tremendous burden, which the economically weaker sections, the farming community and the middle and lower middle classes are carrying. It is unfortunate that the Government has been most insensitive on such an important issue, which affects the daily lives of millions of our people.

Since this Session will soon be over, we have no alternative, but to draw the attention of the Government to the situation that exists and renew our demand for the restoration of the subsidy. . . . (Interruptions) It is in pursuance of this that we have given notices under Rule 184, and we urge upon you to give us an opportunity to voice the rightful demands of the economically weaker sections and the farming community in this House. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise it in the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, there are several protests being held outside by different political parties, including ours. I would, on this occasion, like to express our solidarity with the millions outside Parliament who are suffering this burden and through you once again ask the

*Not Recorded

Government to respond positively on this issue. . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, you can raise all these things after the Question Hour is over.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : We would request you therefore to admit our motion moved by our Party Members . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow all of you during the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not now, please. It would be after the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, give me two minutes. . . (Interruptions) Today, the country is observing *Bharat Bandh* against the anti-people policies of this Government. There is tremendous price rise affecting the lives of the common people in this country. . . (Interruptions) They should roll back PDS prices, fertiliser prices and kerosene price. Everything is against the common people. . . (Interruptions)

In the name of globalisation, they are giving more benefits. . . (Interruptions) Today, the country's unity and integrity are in danger. . . (Interruptions) The entire Opposition is demanding that this Government must roll back the prices of essential commodities. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of price rise can be discussed in detail but Question Hour should not be suspended. The issue of price rise has already been discussed and can be discussed again but Question Hour should not be suspended. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; please understand. Let the Question Hour be over.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After the Question Hour, I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is an important hour. Please understand it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After the Question Hour, I will allow you during the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; this is not the way. During the Budget discussion also a number of issues like the rise in prices, the President's Address, passing of the Finance Bill, were discussed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way, please.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir a lot of discussion has already taken place. . . (Interruptions) It is not proper. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION MINISTER (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : This issue has been debated in this House for 10 hours. . . (Interruptions)

11.07 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. What is this ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You please go back to your seats. Do not disturb the proceedings.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : You can hold debate on it again if you wish to do so. . . (Interruptions)

*Not Recorded

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Plundering of Monuments

*641. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ancient monuments of great historical value are being systematically plundered;

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

(c) the details of all such cases which occurred during the last three years; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to protect these monuments and to remove encroachment therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. The centrally protected monuments are well maintained and are secure.

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

(d) Some encroachments have been reported in the prohibited and protected area of the monuments under the care of the Archaeological Survey of India. The assistance of the State Government and the local authorities is sought immediately to help in the removal of the encroachments and appropriate legal action is taken thereafter.

Reduction in Strength of Employees in Air India

*642. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Air India has decided to cut down its employees' strength to 10,000 from 17,000 by 2004-05; and

(b) If so, the reasons for this overstaffing and the manner and phases in which the manpower is proposed to be reduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tourist Centres

*643. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of top tourist centres of the country which were visited by maximum number of domestic and foreign tourists during each of the last three years;

(b) the total income in foreign exchange and Indian currency earned from these tourists; and

(c) the initiatives being taken to boost tourism at these tourist centres?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) According to International Passenger Survey Report on Foreign Tourists dated December 1999, the top ten places in India visited by foreign tourists are :

(i) Delhi	(vi) Jaipur
(ii) Mumbai	(vii) Varanasi
(iii) Agra	(viii) Bangalore
(iv) Chennai	(ix) Panjim
(v) Calcutta	(x) Udaipur

On the basis of estimates available, the top ten States popular with domestic tourists are :

(i) Andhra Pradesh	(vi) Madhya Pradesh
(ii) Uttar Pradesh	(vii) Maharashtra
(iii) Tamil Nadu	(viii) Rajasthan
(iv) Karnataka	(ix) Jammu & Kashmir
(v) Bihar	(x) Kerala

(b) Estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism in Indian and foreign currency during last three years are as follows :-

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings	
	In Rs. Crores	In US\$ million
1997	10725.64	2913.64
1998	11950.78	2935.15
1999	13041.81	3035.69

(c) Initiatives taken to boost tourism in the country include Central financial assistance to the State Governments./ U.T. Administrations for the improvement of infrastructure facilities, development of tourist attractions, strengthening of publicity and promotional efforts, use of information technology and encouraging private investments in the tourism sector including hotels by providing various incentives like tax exemption, interest subsidy, concessional custom duty on import etc. During the year 1999-2000, 416 projects/schemes for an amount of approx. Rs 9427.70

lakhs have been sanctioned for State Governments/U.T. Administrations towards Central financial assistance for the implementation of various tourism projects.

CBI Probe into Defence Deals

*644. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the CBI has expressed its inability to undertake the probe into defence deals since 1985, asked for by the Government this year unless specific cases are referred to it; and

(b) If so, the details of other main points raised by the C. V. C. or C.B.I. in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A detailed presentation on Defence Procurement Procedure was given to the CVC by Ministry of Defence and the Services HQrs. After discussion with the CVC about the modalities in this regard, the first batch of 63 case [files on defence procurement has been submitted to them. These include some cases] mentioned by an Hon'ble MP in a Short Duration Discussion on defence procurement in Rajya Sabha on 23.12.1999 and in a writ petition filed by a Naval Officer, in which allegations of presence of agents and corruption were made. These case files are presently under scrutiny in the CVC. Defence Ministry is extending cooperation as required in the matter.

The CBI has not raised any point in this regard with Ministry of Defence.

Medical Examination of Air Hostesses

*645. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's directives allowing Air Hostesses to serve till the age of 58 years treating them at par with male crew has been implemented by Air India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that these directives are implemented in Air India;

(d) whether the Air Hostesses in Air India are denied in-flight career progression;

(e) the measures contemplated to end this discrimination;

(f) whether the Government are aware of the fact that only Air Hostesses in Air India between the age group of 45 and 50 years have to undergo medical examination including internal examinations whereas the male crew of the same age group do not have to undergo any medical examination; and

(g) if so, the steps being taken to remove the disparity ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Following the Government directive, both the Male and Female Cabin Crew of Air India retire at the age of 58 years. However, the functions and cadres of male and female cabin crew in Air India are different. Once reach the age of 50 years the female Cabin Crew are taken off flying duties and are deployed on ground duties till the age of superannuation. On such ground assignments, their last drawn salary is protected except for flight related allowances. The seniority of air hostesses on ground assignment is protected and their chances of promotion are regulated as per the promotion policy applicable to that category. The matter pertaining to extension of age to undertake flight duties upto 58 years is subjudice.

(f) and (g) Some air hostesses have approached Mumbai High Court for redressal of their grievances. Annual Medical examination is also the subject matter pending before the Mumbai High Court. While the Mumbai High Court has admitted the writ, no relief has been granted so far in this matter.

Requirement of Loco Wheels

*646. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the annual requirement of loco wheels in Indian Railways;

(b) the units which are supplying these loco wheels;

(c) whether the railways import large number of loco wheels;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, country-wise;

(e) whether the poor quality of wheels has caused several accidents; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to acquire high quality wheels ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) The annual requirement of loco wheels on Indian Railways is about 33,000 wheels.

(b) and (c) The units which are supplying loco wheels are listed in Statement-I. Since the indigenous capacity for manufacture of loco wheels is still inadequate to meet full requirements of Indian Railways, Imports are resorted to cover the shortfall. However, the Railways are pursuing the policy of increasing domestic production.

(d) The details are given in Statement-II

(e) No Sir. Only one case of derailment of a MG locomotive was reported during year 1997 due to breakage of wheel.

(f) The manufacturing and quality assurance facilities of the Romanian supplier of the wheel which failed causing derailment, were inspected and certain remedial measures to ensure consistency in quality were advised to the firm. Further procurement from this firm has been stopped till such time the remedial measures are taken by the firm to ensure high level of consistency in quality.

Statement-I

List of Units which are Supplying Loco Wheels to Indian Railways

S.No.	Name of the units and country
1.	M/s SMR SA, BALS, Romania
2.	M/s Nizhnedneprovsky Tube Rolling Plant, Ukraine.
3.	M/s Vyksa Steel Works, Vyksa, Russia.
4.	M/s Mafersa SA, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
5.	M/s Lucchini SPA, Loreve, Italy.
6.	M/s Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd. Osaka, Japan.
7.	M/s Maanshan Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. Anhui Province, China.
8.	M/s Durgapur Steel Plant, Durgapur, India.
9.	Wheel and Axle Plant, Bangalore, India (under Ministry of Railways) Under development for cast wheels.

Statement-II

The Details of Import of Loco Wheels during last 3 Years

Year of contract	Country of manufacture	Quantity in nos.	FOB Value in Indian Rupees in crores.
1	2	3	4
1997-98	Romania	29256	52.45 Crores

	1	2	3	4
		Ukraine	232	0.36 Crores
		Italy	188	0.28 Crores
		Japan	641	1.48 Crores
1998-99		Ukraine	13574	25.80 Crores
		Russia	14000	28.08 Crores
		Italy	536	1.10 Crores
1999-2000		Russia	8404	15.44 Crores
		Ukraine	10733	19.96 Crores
		Brazil	8900	17.07 Crores
		China	3300	6.33 Crores
		Italy	361	1.14 Crores

[Translation]

Compensation paid by I.A. and A.I. to victims of Air Crashes

*647. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of compensation that Air India and Indian Airlines have paid to victims of the air crashes during 1995-96 to 1998-99;

(b) the losses suffered by these companies on account of damage to planes;

(c) the amount of insurance claim received by these companies alongwith the amount yet to be received; and

(d) the details of the cases lying pending with the tribunals and consumer courts as on April 30, 2000 relating to the persons killed, rendered disabled, financial losses suffered and inconvenience caused to the passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The amount of compensation paid by Air India and Indian Airlines to the victims of air crashes during the period from 1.4.95 to 31.3.99 is as under :

(i) Air India	Nil
(ii) Indian Airlines	Rs. 46.62 lacs.

(b) Indian Airlines is fully insured against all risk including third party liability. Therefore, no loss was caused to Indian Airlines due to these accidents.

(c) The amount of insurance claim received by Indian Airlines towards the loss of aircraft and compensation paid to the passengers and others is as under :

Towards loss of 2 aircraft Rs. 20.75 Crores

Compensation paid to the Passengers and others Rs. 46.62 lacs

(d) There is no case pending settlement in Civil/Consumer Courts relating to the air crashes involving Indian Airlines aircraft which occurred during the period from 1.4.95 to 31.3.99.

[English]

Issue Price of Palmolein

*648. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to reduce the issue price of palmolein;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the date from which the reduction is likely to take place;

(c) whether the Union Government are providing palmolein to the States on different rates;

(d) If so, the details thereof alongwith the rate of issue, State-wise; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to help the poor people ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) The Central Issue price (CIP) of imported RBD Palmolein being supplied to States/U.Ts. for supply through the Public Distribution System has been reduced with effect from 24.4.2000 to Rs. 18,000/- per tonne in case of supplies made in bulk, i.e. loose and Rs. 20,000/- per tonne in case of supplies made in 15 Kg. tins. This reduction is applicable uniformly to all States/U.Ts. The CIP is uniform and as such there is no difference in prices for different States as far as Government of India is concerned. As the PDS scheme is a part of the poverty alleviation programme, this reduction is expected to provide further relief to the target group.

Air Surveillance in J and K

*649. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether helicopters armed with machine guns and rockets were pressed into operation to hit militant hideouts in snow-clad mountains in Doda district on March 24, 2000;

(b) if so, the results achieved therefrom; and

(c) the measures proposed for continuous air surveillance in Jammu and Kashmir area to avoid massacre of the type held in Chithising Pura on March 20, 2000 ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Helicopters were used in Doda District on 25th March, 2000, during a combined operation of Army and the Air Force. The operation was a success. Further use of helicopters in a gunship role in J and K would depend upon tactical requirements.

Appropriate steps continue to be taken by the security forces to tackle terrorism in J and K.

[Translation]

Leasing out of Airstrips to Private Companies

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

(a) whether the Government propose to lease out some important airstrips to private companies;

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

(c) the amount of profit likely to be earned by the Government as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when suitable through long-term lease. At present, the existing airport at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are being taken up for this exercise. The objective of this exercise is to attract substantial private investment and upgrade these airports to international class.

(c) No estimate can be given till bids are invited and the process is concluded.

[English]

Womens' Rights

*651. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad has reported that India is one of the most backward countries in the matter of womens' rights;

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

(c) the name of the States which are the most backward in this regard; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (d) The India Rural Development Report, 1999 of the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad does not refer to the issue of women's rights, but deals with those relating to women's development and inequalities, in terms of which the States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have been identified to be lagging behind.

2. The measures initiated by the Government of India in regard to women's development include the following :-

- (i) "Women centrad approach to development" is an important strategy adopted in Rural Development Programmes.
- (ii) The earlier, successful experiences of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), in improving the income levels and empowerment of women, have been given further thrust by stipulating that 50 per cent of groups, formed under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), should be for women.
- (iii) Minimum 33% reservation for women in all tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- (iv) 30% earmarking for women in all wage employment programme of the Ministry of Rural Development.
- (v) Under the National Social Assistance Programme, the National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) provides lump sum cash assistance to pregnant women of households living below the poverty line.

Land Resources

*652 SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to create a separate department for land resources;

(b) whether certain recommendations in this regard have been received by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have asked the State Governments to furnish details in respect of land resources available with them; and

(e) if so, the response of the State Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (e) A separate Department of Land Resources (in the Union Ministry of Rural Development) came into the being in April 1999. State-wise information in respect of Wastelands has been obtained and compiled by the Department of Land Resources.

Lt. Gen. Chandra Shekhar Committee Report

*653. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's efforts to "establish a self-reliant defence industrial base" through large scale privatisation has run into trouble as reported in the 'Statesman' dated March 24, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have since examined the recommendations of the Lt. Gen. Chandra Shekhar Committee on Strengthening defence industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The recommendations deal with long-term partnership between defence and industry and touch upon possible strategies to foster such a relationship; expectations of industry regarding long-term futuristic requirements of Services; streamlining of procedures for tendering, inspections and certification; commercial clauses and incentives to industry especially those which will foster investments involvement in R and D and reviews of the Industrial Policy. Many of the recommendations find commonality with those of other Task Forces which have already been accepted. In order to give a practical shape to the implementation and operationalisation of the recommendations, two Core Groups have been set up in CII to prepare an Action Plan in two selected areas, viz. :

(i) Information Technology and communication, and

(ii) Components and materials.

Fencing of Airports

*654. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the security of Guwahati, Agartala, Ranchi, Patna, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bhopal, Port Blair, Baroda and Rajkot Airports is being compromised due to lack of perimeter fencing which is either non-existent or inadequate;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the perimeter fencing of these airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The perimeter wall/fencing exists at each of these airports. Though the height of the wall is marginally shorter than required, at Ranchi, Patna, Ahmedabad, Port Blair and Vadodara airports, action has been initiated to raise the height of perimeter wall at these airports. There is round the clock patrolling of the perimeter.

[Translation]

Procurement of Wheat by Big Companies

*655. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to huge difference between the support price of wheat and its price under the Public Distribution System for the people living above poverty line, big companies like Godrej, Hindustan Lever Limited, Kargil India, I.T.C. Agro etc. have made arrangements for procurement of wheat from the markets/mandis of Punjab and Haryana;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the procurement of FCI would be affected due to the stepping in the market of these big companies; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the procurement of wheat by FCI is not affected ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per reports received from Government of Punjab/Haryana, no big companies like Godrej, Hindustan Lever Limited, Kargil India, I.T.C. Agro. etc. are making procurement of Wheat in these States. However, private traders

have purchased 1.85 lakh MTs. and 0.90 lakh MTs. of Wheat out of the total arrivals of 82.35 lakh MTs. and 34.99 Lakh MTs. of Wheat in Punjab and Haryana, respectively.

Under the Minimum Support Price Scheme of the Government, FCI and the State Procuring Agencies are to procure any stocks of wheat which is offered by the farmers at the designated mandis/purchase centres if it is within the quality specifications announced by the Government of India. The farmer is, However, free to sell his produce in the open market or the procuring agencies, as is advantageous to him. Therefore, there is no restriction on purchase of wheat from mandis by the private trade.

(c) and (d) Does not arise, Sir However, the FCI/State Governments ensure that price support operations are undertaken to prevent distress sale of foodgrains by farmers.

[English]

Salary and Perks of Pilots

656. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India is unable to attract passengers inspite of all concessions and attractions offered by it;

(b) If so, whether the causes of continuous loss to Air India for the last six years have been analysed;

(c) if so, whether excess of salary and perks to pilots is one of the causes of loss suffered by Air India;

(d) if so, the details of the remuneration and perks being paid to its pilots by Air India and other international airlines of Similar Status; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to run Air India as a professional business organization with a view to ensuring profits ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The losses are due to increase in expenditure on account of interest and depreciation on new aircraft, reduction in yield due to increased discounting in the market and cost of operations, increase in wage bill and other staff costs and landing, handling and navigational charges, depreciation of rupee value, etc.

(c) Pilots are amongst the highly paid community in the aviation industry today. They do constitute a substantial share of the wage bill.

(d) Details are given in Statement enclosed.

(e) Air India has taken the following main steps to make them profitable and more professional :-

- (i) Improve the aircraft employee ratio (ii) Develop brand loyalty through improved customer facilitation (iii) Route rationalisation by re-deploying capacity on more profitable routes.

(iv) Maximise utilisation of the fleet (v) Fleet rationalisation (vi) Supplementing Air India's core network with a secondary network of code share services through alliances with selected airlines (vii) Use of information technology for yield management, Customer services and scheduling.

Statement

Annual Gross Income of Cockpit Crew (Including Flying Allowances)

CAPTAIN (COMMANDER)

Airlines	Superwide		Wide		Medium		Effective Dates
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Air India	4482279	4537333	4482279	4537333	4482279	4537333	01/12/1998
Cathay Pacific	8605262	10898674	8605262	10898674	8605262	10898674	01/10/1997
United Airlines	13792594	14077383	13120719	9034844	10575549	11578008	1997
Lufthansa	4237401	8040648	4237401	8040648	4237401	8040648	1995
Air Canada	4863742	6338592	4601766	6021782	NII	NII	1997
Emirates	4545340	6292890	4545340	6292890	4545340	6292890	1997
Qantas	NII	NII	559832	591500	531206	585078	1995

FIRST OFFICER

Airlines	Superwide		Wide		Medium		Effective Dates
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Air India	3272807	3318919	3272807	3318919	3272807	3318919	01/12/1998
Cathay Pacific	6924270	7773842	6924270	7773842	6924270	7773842	01/10/1997
United Airlines	4088311	10024504	3886652	9636927	3541265	8140717	1997
Lufthansa	2720340	4698729	2720340	4698729	2720340	4698729	1995
Air Canada	2758184	4342130	2634554	4148248	NII	NII	1997
Emirates	3535140	4442090	3535140	4442090	3535140	4442090	1997
Qantas	NII	NII	370474	431522	323726	378274	1995

Rate of exchange as on 1.1 1998

Canada CAD = Rs. 26.17

Hongkong HKD = Rs. 4.70

German DEM = Rs. 20.53

Emirates ADH = 9.91

Australian AL = 26.18

U.S. US = Rs. 43.00

**Assistance to Voluntary Consumer
Organisations**

*657. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of voluntary consumer organizations functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these organisations are receiving financial assistance from the Union Government to undertake consumer protection activities;

(c) if so, the total financial assistance provided by the Government to each of these organizations during the last three years and the current financial years, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether there is any audit system/utilization certificate by these organisations of the funds so provided to them by the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the number of cases which came to the notice of the Union Government against these VCOs which have misused the funds and action taken against them during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) As per information received from the States/UTs., there are 1350 Voluntary consumer organisations (VCOs) functioning at present in the country. Statement-I showing the number of VCOs in States/UTs. is annexed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Financial assistance is given to eligible VCOs/ Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) against specific project proposals. A Statement-II showing the state-wise financial assistance provided to VCOs/NGOs since 1997-98 is attached. No financial assistance has been released so far during the current year to the VCOs/ NGOs.

(d) Yes, Sir. The organization concerned is required to submit a utilization certificate in the prescribed proforma duly certified by a chartered accountant alongwith the implementation report and details of expenditure incurred on the items mentioned in the sanction letter.

(e) No such case has come to the notice of the Government.

Statement-I

No. of VCOs Functioning in States/UTs

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of VCOs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	321
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	8
4.	Bihar	30
5.	Gujarat	123
6.	Goa	5
7.	Haryana	16
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6
10.	Karnataka	78
11.	Kerala	60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71
13.	Maharashtra	70
14.	Manipur	3
15.	Meghalaya	6
16.	Mizoram	2
17.	Nagaland	3
18.	Orissa	46
19.	Punjab	51
20.	Rajasthan	79
21.	Sikkim	3
22.	Tamil Nadu	161
23.	Tripura	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	103
25.	West Bengal	36
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
27.	Chandigarh Administration	6
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil
29.	Delhi	26
30.	Daman & Diu	1
31.	Lakshadweep	2
32.	Pondicherry	18
		1350

Statement II

Statement showing Financial assistance to VCOs/NGOs in Various States/UTs.

Andhra Pradesh

Name	Year	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
Freedom Fighters Welfare Association, Dharmaram Rural Vill., Geesu Konda Mandal,	1997-98	58,500.00
St. Patrick's Educational Society, Main Road, Borabanda, Hyderabad,	1997-98	63,900.00
Rural Poor People's Welfare Society, 12/269-DID, Ashok Nagar, Anantapur,	1997-98	29,700.00
Ammaji Rural Development Organisation, D. No. 14/46-IA, Kamala Nagar, Behind Bank of Baroda,	1997-98	22,500.00
Humanitarian Organisation of Peoples' Education (HOPE), Dum-Dum Gardens, Nuzvid, Krishna Dt,	1997-98	27,000.00
Kanchikacherla, Consumer Welfare Council, Kanchikacherla, Krishna Dt,	1997-98	22,500.00
Nehru Yuvajana Sangham, Nagulavaram, Adm. Vinukonda,	1997-98	27,000.00
Socio-Economical Voluntary Association, MIG 3, A.P. Housing Board Colony, Tirupati,	1997-98	18,000.00
Priyadarshini Rural Welfare Development Trust, 6-685-25, Srinagar Colony,	1997-98	31,500.00
Rural Education Health and Agricultural Dev. Society (REHADS) House No. 26/595, Sham Nagar, Nandyal,	1997-98	27,000.00
Venkateswara Social Service Association 15/44/1, Mirjalguda Malkajgiri, Ranga Reddy Distt.	1997-98	45,000/00
Visakha Consumer's Council, 13-28-6/4, Upstairs, KGH UP Road,	1997-98	67,500.00
Akividu Consumers Association, Akividu, W. G. District,	1997-98	37,250.00
Andhra Seva Samiti, Kakumanuvari Street, Kothapet, Guntur,	1997-98	22,500.00
Comprehensive Action for Rural Development Society, Nuzvid, Patha Ravicherla, Nuzvid Mandal, Krishna Dt,	1997-98	36,000.00
Kanchikacherla Consumers Welfare Council, Kanchikacherla, Krishna Distt.,	1998-99	41,400.00
I.C.W.A., Pothurajumitta, Kandukur,	1997-98	45,000.00
National Educational Minorities Society, 12-15-53, Surya Hanuman Apartments, Kothpet,	1997-98	45,000.00
Rural Poor People's Welfare Society, D. No. 11/292-A2, Arvinda Nagar,	1997-98	40,500.00
Vijaya Education Society, Church Compound, Door No. 17-3-173, Narasaraopet,	1997-98	45,000.00

1	2	3
Arunodaya Mahila Mandali, D.No. 4-600-A21, Somnath Nagar, Anantapur,	1998-99	36,000.00
Integrated Rural Development Society,	1998-99	27,000.00
Nehru Yuva Mandali Magallu, Nandigama Mandal,	1998-99	22,500.00
Sri Vinayaka Yuva Jana Sangam, Door No. 11-321, Kaji Street, Chittoor.	1998-99	31,500.00
Aruna Mahila Mandali, Shed No. 5 Phase II Auto Nagar Nellore-524004.	1999-2000	27,000.00
Consumer Welfare Society, 2-160, Vidyanagar Colony, Adoni-518302,	1999-2000	13,500.00
Garthapuri Consumers Council, Tripuramalluvari Veedhi, Old Guntur,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Jagruthi Voluntary Organisation, Office H.No 11-3-34/2, Nehru Nagar, Khamman-507001, Khamman Distt.	1999-2000	22,500.00
Kasturibai Mahila Mandali, Elchuru, Santhamaguluru Mandal, Prakasham-Distt.	1999-2000	22,500.00
Machilipatnam Consumers Protection Council, D. No. 18-120, Sukarabad, Machilipatnam-521001,	1999-2000	31,500.00
Madhuri Mahila Mandali, Bharatpet, 1st Line, Guntur-522002,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Sree Devi Weaker Section Mahila Mandali, S.R. Building, IInd Line, Nallacheruvu, Guntur - 522003,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Assam		
Arunoday Vikas Samity, P.O. Jagiroad, Morigaon Distt.	1997-98	27,000.00
Biher		
Gramin Rojgar Seva Parishad, Vill. Kanhauli Dih, Near Sanskrit College, Post G.P.O.	1997-98	22,500.00
Jan Vikas Kendra, Hamidgani, Daltonganj, Palamau,	1997-98	18,000.00
Akdegwa Gram Vikas Sansthan Vill. Akdegwa, Post Mubarakpur (Akama),	1997-98	27,000.00
Harijan Mahila Evam Bal Vikas Sansthan, At and PO Shahi Niketan, Pupri PO, Janak Pur Road, Sitamarhi Distt.	1997-98	27,000.00
Rural Development Society, Shastri Nagar, House No. 45, Ground Floor, Sajjad Nagar, Agra Bihar,	1997-98	36,000.00
Chandrika Samajik Uthan Evam Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Jamhor, Aurangabad,	1997-98	31,500.00
Gautam Budh Manav Kalyan and Prakritik Vikas Sansthan, At-Sheopur, P.O. Mairwa,	1997-98	27,000.00
Gram Vikas Sanstha Parasa, At-Parasa, Post-Kutharia, Distt. Madhubani,	1998-99	27,000.00

1	2	3
Rural Ladies Welfare Society Village-Dharampur, Post-Nikashi, Via-Pindharuch, Distt. Darabhanga,	1998-99	
Jan Jagaran Samiti, Yarpur, N.C. Ghose Lane Near Kailash Bhawan, MO. - Yarpur, Post-G.P.O. Patna-800001.	1998-99	8,100.00
Lok Manglam, Mohalla-Gudri, P.O. - Laheriasarai, Distt, Darbhanga.	1998-99	22,500.00
Seva Sansthan, C/o Rambilash Roy, (Chandwara) Kanhauli Math Road, PO-Ramna, Distt, Muzaffarpur,	1998-99	18,000.00
Vikasayan, Vill. P.O. Sheikhpur, Akharaghat, Muzaffarpur,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Daroga Prasad Ray Mahila Prashikshan Evam Audyogik Kendra, Sutiher, Nawadah (Saran)	1999-2000	27,000.00
Mahila Avam Bal Vikas Kendra, Jayprakash Nagar, Patna-800001,	1999-2000	12,500.00
North Bihar Samaj Kalyan Sangathan Paigamberpur Via-Silout, Dist-Muzaffarpur,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Radhika Sewa Sansthan, Vill-Partapu, P.O. Mehsi (thana), Distt, East Champaran.	1999-2000	22,500.00
Delhi		
Consumers Forum, B-24, Maharani Bagh,	1997-98	207,000.00
All India Dalit Development Research Institute, 1955, DDA Janata Flats, Nand Vihar	1997-98	36,000.00
JAN Jagariti Educational Society, M-186, Mangol Puri,	1997-98	27,000.00
Consumer Coordination Apartments, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg,	1997-98	157,160.00
Society for Civic Rights, J-13, Prasad Nagar,	1998-99	235,000.00
Voluntary Organisation in Interest of Consumer Education (VOF-71, (Basement),	1998-99	500,000.00
Gujarat		
Consumer Protection Education and Research Centre, 10, Arihant Chambers, Jamadar Street Bhavnagar,	1998-99	235,000.00
Consumer Education and Research Centre, Suraksha Sankool, Thaltej, Ahmedabad-380054,	1998-99	420,000.00
Jagrut Grahak Deepak Chambers Nawabwada Raopura Vadodara-390001(Gujarat)	1999-2000	36,000.00
Haryana		
Adarsh Saraswati Shiksha Samiti, Kakroi Road, Sonapat, (Haryana)	1999-2000	31,500.00
Haryana Lok Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Blue Jay Road Samalkha, Distt. Panipat Haryana.	1999-2000	31,500.00

1	2	3
Himachal Pradesh		
Social Action for Rural, Develop. Of Hilly areas (Sardha) Village Kaffota, Distt. Sirmour,	1997-98	33,300.00
Karnataka		
Karnataka State Federation of Consumer Organisation, 93, 9th Cross 1st Stage,	1997-98	20,250.00
Harihara Grameenabhiwruddhi Sangha, At. Siddaganahalli Post Ramapatna,	1997-98	13,500.00
Mysore District Federation of Consumer Organisation, 1138/3, Narayana Sastry Road, Devaraj Mohalla,	1997-98	18,000.00
Renuka Mahila Samaja, Near Marikamba Temple, Vedavathi Na Hiriur Town.	1997-98	36,000.00
Social Action for the Rural Development Organisation (SARD), L-1, 322/A, 5th Cross Saradadevi Nagar,	1997-98	36,000.00
Kerala		
Kerala Consumer Welfare Federation, Door No, XXVI/519 (1211 Neaw), Thevara,	1997-98	27,000.00
National Service Society of India Building No. 711/IV/N.P. Kadavil Bull Chingavanam PO.	1997-98	27,000.00
Alathur Taluk Consumers Protection Forum, Jyothy Bhavan, Allathur Post, Pallakkad-678541,	1997-98	27,000.00
Madhya Pradesh		
Utthanum Samiti, 16, Sindhi Colony, Lashkar, Gwalior,	1997-98	31,500.00
Anusuchit Jati Janjati Kalyan Sansthan, House of Shri Mukesh Agrwal, Durga Near Agrwal STD, Kiree Mohalla	1997-98	27,000.00
Shri Ballabh Shiksha Prasara Samiti, Tiwari, Bhawan Tulsi Colony, Morena.	1997-98	36,000.00
Jaya Prakash Memorial Centre, 11/89, Distt Bastar, Kirandul-494556,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Maharashtra		
Satyashodhak Mahila Vikas Mandal, N-9, K-79/4 HUDCO, Pawan Nagar , New Aurangabad,	1998-99	45,000.00
Bahujan Education Society, Tembhari, At, Tembhan, Post-Silli, Tahsil Kuhi, Distt, Nagapur-441202,	1999-2000	18,000.00
Manipur		
Greenland Development Organisation, Sagalband Tera Sapam Leirak, Tyre Road, Imphal,	1997-98	58,500.00

1	2	3
Integrated Rural Development Agency, Hanguai B.P.O. Santhel P.O. Mayang Imphal,	1997-98	67,500.00
The Chingamathak Nemeirakpam Makha Leikai Development Centre, Chingamathak,	1997-98	72,000.00
National Association of Fishermen, Manipur State Unit, Assembly Road,	1997-98	45,000.00
Rural Development Woman Organisation, WANGBAL, PO Thoubal,	1997-98	33,300.00
Nagaland		
Kwghi Kemehei Zie (Consumer Welfare Organisation), Tseminyu, Distt, Kohima , Box No. 197, Nagaland-797001,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Orissa		
Consumer Guidance and Protection Forum, F/31-LIC Colony, Rajabagicha, Balasore,	1997-98	18,000.00
Natural Institute for Social Welfare, At/P.O. Kaliapani Jajpur Distt,	1997-98	36,000.00
Peoples Rural Reconstruction Institute for Youth Action, (PRRIYA), At. Sanakomari P.O. Bartana,	1997-98	27,000.00
Rourkela Consumers' front, A-256, Sector 7, Rourkela,	1997-98	81,000.00
Nilakantheswar Club, Tigiria At, Jorakani PO,	1997-98	45,000.00
Jatiya Seba Pratishthana , Shri Ramji Bhavan, Temple Street, Baripada, Mayurbhanj,	1997-98	45,000.00
Mother Teresa Ladies Mission, Vill. and PO Chirulei, Mahimagadi Via, Dhenkanal Distt,	1997-98	27,000.00
Nilachal Seva Pratisthan, Dayavihar (kanas), Puri Distt,	1997-98	31,500.00
Orissa Consumer's Association, Biswanath Lane, Cuttack,	1997-98	49,500.00
Research Academy for Rural Enrichment (RARE) At/PO/Distt, Sonapur	1997-98	27,000.00
Jagrat Yuva Jyoti Club (JYJC), At Kantamal, PO Utkela,	1997-98	40,500.00
Ratnakar Rural and Urdan Bikash Institution, At Kabara, PO Kabara Madhapur, Via Mahimagad,	1998-99	27,000.00
Radhakrishna Club, At San Bazar, Jagatsinghpur Distt. and PO	1998-99	36,000.00
Citizens' Association For Rural Dev., Berhampur	1998-99	27,000.00
Jeevan Rekha Parishad N1/78, IRC Village, Nayapalli,	1998-99	35,100.00
Consumer Protection Council, C/66, Sector-2, Rourkela 769000.	1999-2000	2,35,000.00
Orissa consumers' Association, (Ex. Member C.C.P.C.) Biswanath Lane, Cuttack-753002,	1999-2000	45,000.00

1	2	3
National Council of Child and Rural Technology, At. Rendhagarh, P.O. Gorual, Distt, Puri - 752002,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Project Swarajya At. Moti Bhavan, Kesharpur Road, Buxibazar, Cuttack-753001.	1999-2000	31,500.00
Mousurni Social and Charitable Organisation, Plot No. 3456, At Palasuni, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar-751010,	1999-2000	30,600.00
Naba Jyoti Club, At. Madhapur, P.O. Kabara, Madhapur, Distt, Dhenkanal.	1999-2000	18,000.00
Punjab		
Social Work and Rural Development Centre Vill. and PO Nurpur Bedi, Distt - Ropar.	1997-98	31,500.00
Rajasthan		
Banswara Sahkari Upbhokta Thok Bhandar Ltd, Banswara Distt,	1997-98	67,500.00
Nirashrit Mahila Bal Vikas Gramodyog Shiksh Sarniti, Pai Bagh, Bharatpur,	1997-98	77,000.00
Prachin Kathputli Kala Sansthan B-22, Indrapuri Lalkothi, Yojana, Jaipur,	1997-98	36,000.00
Gandhi Yuva Mandal, Bajman Baroda, Teh, Gangapur City,	1998-99	27,000.00
Consumer Unity and Trust Society, 7-A, Jamnalal, Bajaj Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur	1998-99	235,000.00
Ajmer Zilla Gramin Upabhokta Sansthan Masuda, Ajmer Distt.	1999-2000	22,500.00
Tamil Nadu		
Bharathi Integrated Rural Development Society, Ammapalayam-Vill. and PO, Onnupuram Arni Taluk,	1997-98	27,000.00
Centre for Integrated Social Action, 23-Old Pappuraja Line, Edamal Street Theni-625531,	1997-98	45,000.00
Centre for Rural Development (CRD), PO Appipatty, Via Chinnamanur,	1997-98	45,000.00
Centre for Rural Oppressed People (CROP), No.7, Appu Gounder Street, Chinna Allapuram, Vellore,	1997-98	27,000.00
Chetana Vikas, Parthibanur, Ramnad Distt,	1997-98	63,000.00
Community Action for Village Improvement, 62 East Palayam, Pattukkottai, Tenjore,	1997-98	36,450.00
DR. (Ms) C.M.E. Mathews Memorial Development Association, 2/95, Kollaimattu Street, Katecherimangalam,	1997-98	40,500.00
Federation of Consumer Organisation (FEDCOT), 115/2, Kamara] Avenue, 2nd Street, Adyar,	1997-98	225,000.00

1	2	3
Gnanaguru Welfare Association, 65-A, Khanpalayam, 1st Street, Maduri,	1997-98	45,000.00
Gokul Education and Employment Training Society (GEETS), No.5/D Block, Pensioners Line,	1997-98	63,000.00
Nehru Social Education Centre, Ayakkaranpulam-2, Sethi PO, Vedaraniyam Taluk,	1997-98	45,900.00
Society for Education and Economic Development (SEED) Melpadur Village and Post Chengam Taluk, Tiruvannamalai,	1997-98	36,000.00
Tamil Nadu Consumer Protection Centre Navjeevan Mansion, North Gate, SS Colony, Madhurai,	1997-98	36,000.00
Village Progress Welfare Centre, Kuppam Village and PO, Kannamangala, Polur Taluk,	1997-98	22,500.00
National Mother and Child Welfare Organisation 56, Old Sandipettai Street Tiruturaipoondi,	1998-99	36,000.00
S.M.N. Consumer Protection Council, 115/2 Kamaraj Avenue, Adayar, Madras,	1998-99	235,000.00
Uttar Pradesh		
Bharat Gram Udyog Vikas Sansthan, Vill. Neeli Kheri, PO Didauli,	1997-98	22,500.00
Bharat Jyoti 46, Diamond Dairy Kabir Marg,	1997-98	36,000.00
Cosmic Society For Human Resource Development and Research, 67, Balipur, Katra Road, Pratapgarh,	1997-98	27,000.00
Grameen Shiksha Avam Prodyogiki Vikas Sansthan, L-33, Indira Nagar, Rai Bareli,	1997-98	27,000.00
Grameen Yuva Evam Bal Vikas Parishad, Kasrav Vill., Semramanapur PO Fatherpur,	1997-98	22,500.00
Gramin Udyog, Sewa Samity, Tulsi Colony, Kankar Kheda Sardhana Road,	1997-98	49,500.00
Gramin Yuva Vikas Samiti, Gram. Umargahana, PO Malwan,	1997-98	27,000.00
Himalayan Gramodhyog Vikas Sansthan, GB Hospital Road via Linktora Pithoragrah-262501,	1997-98	36,000.00
Jan Seva Samiti Kutiliya Sondei Pratapgarh,	1997-98	36,000.00
Janpriya Sewa Sansthan 198, Paltan Bazar, Pratapgarh,	1997-98	28,800.00
Lokoudyog Sewa Sansthan, At and PO Sikraura,	1997-98	27,000.00
Mahila Jagriti Samiti, Bahjol, Moradabad,	1997-98	43,200.00
Peoples Society of Socio-Economic Development, 266/162, Sarlakunji, Nai Basti, Bhadewan,	1997-98	27,000.00

1	2	3
Poorvanchal Nagar Evam Gramya Vikas Sansthan, 519, Chotte Qazipur, Gorakhpur,	1997-98	45,000.00
Seva Kula Sikshan Sansthan, Jat Mulpur, P.O. Parpati, Deoria,	1997-98	40,500.00
Swami Sant Das Manav Kalyan Samiti, Baraicha Vill. Panchamai, P.O. and Dist., Fatehpur,	1997-98	22,500.00
Vishwa Bhartiya Samajouthan Sansthan 178, Munshi Purava, D-Block, Indira Nagar,	1997-98	36,000.00
Abhilasha, 77E, Bakshi Kala, Daraganj,,	1998-99	45,000.00
Amit Shikshan Sansthan, Vill. and PO Maharaiganj, Azamgarh,	1998-99	18,000.00
Bharatiya Gram Vikas Parishad, Vill and PO Sonkh,	1998-99	31,500.00
Bhoot Purva Sainik Sansthan, Vill. Kumrala, PO Gajraula,	1998-99	18,000.00
Grameen Shiksha avam Prodyogiki Vikas Sansthan, L-33 Indira Nagar, Rea Bareli,	1998-99	18,000.00
Maya Silai Kadai, Prashikhsan Sansthan, Vill. Gunnour Abdulhai, P.O. Gunnour,	1998-99	36,000.00
Shiksha Avam Jan Kalyan Samiti, Ranipur, PO Bharsar (Sahjanwa),	1998-99	22,500.00
Shivam Udhog Shakti Sansthan, Gram Fatepur, PO Anoopshahar,	1998-99	34,200.00
Awadh Grameen Vikas Sansthan, Vill. and PO Dhammaur, Distt, Sultanpur,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Bhartiya Upbhokta Sanrakshan Samiti, L-124, Sector 11, Noida, Distt.-Gautam Budh Vihar,	1999-2000	25,500.00
Gram Vikas Seva Sansthan, Village Mannipur, P.O. Golabazar, Gorakhpur,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Institute for Socio- Cultural and Rural Development, 32, Narendra Nagar, Unnao,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Janta Sewa Samiti, Vill. Pakarder, P.O. Mahson, Distt, Basti,	1999-2000	31,500.00
Kalyan Shikha Seva Sansthan, At - Chaudah Meel, PO.-Ghurwara, Distt- Raebareli,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Late Ramrakhar Randey Jan-Hitkari Kendra, Gram-P.O. Malookbari, Fatehpur-212658,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Mahila Mandal Sewa Sansthan, 476, Ram Janki Nagar, Near Viveka Nand School, Basaratpur, Gorakhpur, (U.P.)	1999-2000	18,000.00
Manishi Bal Vidya Mandir Samiti, 402/1, Sharma Sadan, Raj Colony, Jaunpur,	1999-2000	27,000.00
Rasoolpur Latif Nagar, Paropkari Sanstha, Vill-Rasoolpur, Post-Bhatgaon, Distt, Lucknow,	1999-2000	22,500.00

1	2	3
Sangram Samai Seva Sansthan, Vill. and P.O. Betabar Kalan Distt.- Ghazipur,	1999-2000	22,500.00
SHARP Development, L-124, Sector-XI, Noida -201301,	1999-2000	27,000.00
West Bengal		
Chingurdania Vivekananda Chingurdania Vill. and PO, Midnapur Distt,	1997-98	38,700.00
Federation of Consumer Associations West Bengal 39, Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta,	1997-98	49,500.00
Tarun Sangha, Vill. Phakirehak PO Barabari,	1998-99	45,000.00
Barachira Mitra Sangha, Vill. : Barachira, P.O. Rankinipur Distts, Midnapore 721659,	1999-2000	22,500.00
Federation of Consumer Association West Begal, 39 Shakespesr Sarani, Calcutta- 700017,	1999-2000	1,90,000.00
Federation of Consumer Associations West Begal, 39 Shakespesr Sarani, Calcutta- 700017,	1999-2000	4,41,000.00
Federation of Consumer Associations West Begal, 39 Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta	1999-2000	400,000.00

Non-Utilisation of Defence Budget

*658. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Army failed to utilise over Rs. 1000/- crores of budget earmarked for 1999-2000 despite pendency of modernisation/upgradation demands of arms, ammunitions and certain other equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to cut short procedural delays in purchasing defence equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) The Final Accounts for 1999-2000 are not yet due. However, from the preliminary figures regarding the progress of expenditure, utilisation of Army Budget has not fallen short by around Rs. 1000/- Crores.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Promotion of Cultural Tourism

*659. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote cultural tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the action-plan formulated therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes sir.

(b) Promotion of various facets of cultural tourism viz. pilgrim, tourism handicrafts, heritage sites and monuments, Ayurveda, Yoga, Arts and Crafts, Fairs and Festivals, different music and dance forms, cuisine etc. is an ongoing activity of the Ministry of Tourism.

(c) (i) Promotion of Cultural tourism through its 18 overseas tourism offices by highlighting the above facets of Cultural tourism in the overseas markets.

(ii) Organising Fam tours for Travel Agents/ Tour Operators /TV Teams/Travel Writers/ Decision and Opinion Makers for projecting India's Culture.

(iii) Providing Central Financial Assistance for organising various fairs and festivals to State Governments.

(iv) Production of brochures/information book-lets on cuisine, Monuments, Dance and Music, Fairs and Festivals, Yoga, Ayurveda etc.

[Translation]

Shortage of Air Capacity

*660. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have reviewed the shortage of air capacity and insufficient air traffic;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the domestic air transport sector, the total capacity available and the trends have been analysed. Fleet augmentation plans of various operators are examined on the basis of this data and capacity induction is approved so that overcapacity and consequent sickness in the aviation sector are avoided.

[English]

Development of Wasteland

6960. SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be Pleased the state :

(a) whether the Government have received a project report from the District Authority of Bardhaman for development of wasteland in respect of Asansol and Durgapur Sub-divisions;

(b) if so, the details of contents of that report; and

(c) the steps the Government are contemplating to finalise the project report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Project proposal prepared by the District Planning committee, Burdwan was received in this Department in December 1998 through the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta. This project proposal envisaged development of 1,87,099 ha of wasteland over a period of 10 years from 1999 to 2009 in Asansol and Durgapur sub-divisions at a total cost of Rs. 7507.05 lakhs. This proposal was examined in the Department and it was found that the proposal was not prepared as per the Guidelines for Watershed Development. Consequently, it was returned to the State Govt. in January, 1999 with the request that the proposal may be recasted as per Guidelines of IWDP Scheme. The revised project proposal has not been received so far.

Enquiry against Official of Air India

6961. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether pursuant to the Delhi High Court's order, an enquiry was conducted by a Committee of Secretaries of the Government and upheld the findings of the Deputy Managing Director, Vigilance of Air India in the Scindia House/Atmaram Properties scandal;

(b) if so, the action taken against the officers found guilty in this scam;

(c) whether some of the official indicated in this case have been subsequently rewarded with promotions/foreign postings;

(d) if so, whether an officer found guilty of lapses was subsequently appointed as consultant after retirement and continues till date; and

(e) if so, the loss suffered by Air India in this case?

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

(b) and (c) Majority of the officers against whom there were allegations have retired. Air India initiated departmental proceedings against one of the serving officers on 2.3.98. This officer has been sent on posting to Singapore for one year.

(d) One retired employee of Air India whose name was mentioned in the report dated 21.12.96. of Chief Vigilance Officer of Air India in Atmaram Mansion (formerly Scindia House) case for certain alleged lapses, was appointed as a consultant in Air India from October, 1997. His appointment was terminated on 15.4.2000.

(e) Non-utilisation of premises of the Atmaram Mansion resulted in an expenditure of Rs. 313.95 lakhs to Air India.

Agricultural Lands to SC/ST Persons

6962. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have owned far less quantity of agricultural land as compared to the land owned by the non-SCs/STs.

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

(c) whether only a few communities of SCs/STs in States have become the owners of agricultural land;

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

(e) the steps taken to provide agricultural land to SCs/STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) As per data available from Agricultural Census 1990-91 the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others, respectively help 325.43 lakh acres (13.17 million hectares) 442.56 lakh acres (17.91 million hectares) and 3321.52 lakh acres (134.42 million hectares) of operated area. It is estimated that out of these operated areas, 12.84 million hectares was owned by Scheduled Castes and 17.37 million hectares was owned by Scheduled Tribes. The share of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others in the total operated area was 8.0 per cent, 10.8 per cent and 81.2 per cent respectively during 1991. As per the Population Census, 1991, the total population of Scheduled Castes was 16.48 per cent and the population of Scheduled Tribes was 8.08 per cent of total population of the country (excluding Jammu and Kashmir). The data for past Agricultural Censuses indicates that the share of Scheduled Castes farmers in the total operated area has

increased from 7.0 per cent during 1980-81 to 8.0 per cent in 1990-91. The share of Scheduled Tribes farmers during the same period has increased from 10.2 per cent to 10.8 per cent. State-wise details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Community-wise information is not maintained by the Central Government.

(e) The land acquired by the Government through imposition of ceiling on agricultural holdings, Government wastelands and Bhoodan lands are distributed to the rural poor including SCs and STs. Since inception of the programme, an area of 52.68 lakh acres of ceiling surplus lands, 147.47 lakh acres of Government wastelands and 21.75 lakh acres of Bhoodan lands have been distributed to rural poor including SCs and STs. Nearly 50 per cent of ceiling surplus land distributed to the rural poor has been allocated to SCs and STs in the proportion of 36 per cent to SCs and 14 per cent to STs.

Statement

Statewise Distribution of Area Operated - 1990-91

(Area in thousands hectares)

S.No.	State	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Others	All Social Groups
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1082 (7.48)	1045 (7.23)	12333 (85.29)	14460 (100.00)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0 (0.00)	344 (98.29)	6 (1.71)	350 (100.00)
3.	Assam	131 (4.09)	458 (14.29)	2616 (81.62)	3205 (100.00)
4.	Bihaṛ	645 (6.00)	1745 (16.24)	8353 (77.75)	10743 (100.00)
5.	Goa	(Ng) (0.71)	0 (0.00)	67 (99.29)	67 (100.00)
6.	Gujarat	333 (3.24)	941 (9.14)	9018 (87.62)	10292 (100.00)
7.	Haryana	76 (2.05)	0 (0.00)	3635 (97.95)	3711 (100.00)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	138 (13.66)	40 (3.96)	832 (82.38)	1010 (100.00)
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	80 (7.89)	135 (13.31)	799 (78.80)	1014 (100.00)

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Karnataka	995 (8.08)	614 (4.98)	10712 (86.94)	12321 (100.00)
11.	Kerala	51 (2.84)	33 (1.84)	1712 (95.32)	1796 (100.00)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1796 (8.12)	5565 (25.17)	14750 (86.71)	22111 100.00
13.	Maharashtra	1262 (6.03)	1532 (7.32)	18131 (86.65)	20925 (100.00)
14.	Manipur	5 (2.86)	77 (44.00)	93 (53.14)	175 (100.00)
15.	Meghalaya	0 (0.00)	302 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	302 (100.00)
16.	Mizoram	0 (0.00)	84 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	84 (100.00)
17.	Nagaland	0 (0.00)	968 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	968 (100.00)
18.	Orissa	454 (8.57)	1520 (28.70)	3322 (62.73)	5296 (100.00)
19.	Punjab	95 (2.36)	0 (0.00)	3938 (97.64)	4033 (100.00)
20.	Rajasthan	2464 (11.75)	1759 (8.39)	16748 (79.86)	20971 (100.00)
21.	Sikkim	2 (1.80)	48 (43.24)	61 (54.95)	111 (100.00)
22.	Tamil Nadu	534 (7.14)	87 (1.16)	6853 (91.69)	7474 (100.00)
23.	Tripura	31 (10.06)	138 (44.81)	139 (45.13)	308 (100.00)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1885 (10.48)	57 (0.32)	16044 (89.20)	17986 (100.00)
25.	West Bengal	1114 (19.70)	397 (7.02)	4145 (73.29)	5656 (100.00)
26.	Union Territories	2 (1.43)	21 (15.00)	117 (83.57)	140 (100.00)
ALL INDIA		13173 (7.96)	17908 (10.82)	134426 (81.22)	165507 (100.00)

Note : Figures in brackets are percentages.

Conversion of Railways into Corporation

6963. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has suggested for conversion of Indian Railways into a Corporation;

(b) whether the CII has also suggested to increase the Passenger fares as a first step towards commercialisation of Railway services and to bring a parity between passenger fares and freight charges; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by the Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) had organised a National Conference on "Railway Budget 2000-01 pre-budget proposals" on 14.1.2000 in Delhi. The Background paper for the conference contained suggestions for rationalising rates and fares, and reversing the trend of cross-subsidisation of passenger fares with freight. As a Government organisation, Indian Railways has a responsibility of fulfilling certain Public Service Obligations such as carrying passengers and certain commodities below cost and maintaining services on difficult inaccessible, uneconomical, unviable routes. As a commercial enterprise, Indian Railways has also to earn enough to ensure its viability. A regular machinery exists within the Ministry of Railways to look into all these aspects before pricing the services.

Civil Aviation Works at Manipur

6964. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes for the development of civil aviation works at airports in Manipur State to be implemented during Ninth Plan; and

(b) the amount granted by the Government for the same Scheme-wise alongwith the time schedule fixed for completion of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Imphal Airport in Manipur belongs to the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The details of works to be implemented during 9th Five Year Plan are :-

(i) Work relating to construction of Technical Block cum control Tower at a cost of Rs. 2.53 crores is in progress and is likely to be completed in October, 2000.

(ii) Construction of Peripheral Road at a cost of Rs. 1.76 crores is nearing completion.

(iii) There are plans to take up works relating to Apron, Provision of shoulders, construction of link taxiway and isolation bay and resurfacing and strengthening of runway at a cost of Rs. 12.40 crores. Completion time is 24 months from the date of commencement of work.

Government is providing 40% of budgetary support to AAI.

Historical Monuments in Maharashtra

6965. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number and location of historical monuments in various parts of Maharashtra;

(b) the monuments out of them which are under the supervision of Archaeological Survey of India;

(c) the funds provided by the Government for maintenance of upkeep of these monuments; and

(d) the number of new proposals received from Maharashtra for taking up other historical monuments in the State by ASI during the current year alongwith details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) There are 285 monuments in Maharashtra protected by the Noread Archaeological Survey of India. The names and location of these monuments are available in the Parliament Library. These are 263 monuments protected by the Government of Maharashtra. The details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) The Archaeological Survey of India has allotted Rs. 1,38,00,000/- for its protected monuments in Maharashtra for the year 2000-2001.

(d) The Archaeological Survey of India has received one proposal for protection from its field office in Maharashtra.

Statement**Protected Monument List of State Govt. (Maharashtra State)
(TEMPLES)**

Sl. No.	Name	Locality	Taluka	District
1	2	3	4	5
01.	Amba Mandir	Ambagaon	Bhokrdhan	Aurangabad.
02.	Ghrishneshwar Mandir	Ellora	Khultabad	Aurangabad
03.	Jamkhed Mahadev Mandir	Jamkhed	Ambad	Aurangabad
04.	Jambuvant Mandir	Jamkhed	Ambad	Aurangabad
05.	Kankaleshwar Mandir	Beed	Beed	Beed
06.	Khadeshwari Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
07.	Mahadev Mandir	Patoda	Patoda	-do-
08.	Amleshwar Mandir	Ambejogai	Ambejogai	-do-
09.	Kholeswar Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
10.	Mahadev Mandir	Hadgaon	Hadgaon	Nanded
11.	Renukadevi Mandir	Mahur	Kinvat	Nanded
12.	Ankaleshwar Mahadev Mandir	Anagdev	Kinvat	Nanded
13.	Trivikram Mandir	Ter	Usmanabad	Usmanabad
14.	Mahadev Mandir	Mankeshwar	Paranda	-do-
15.	Bhavani Mandir	Tuljapur	Tuljapur	-do-
16.	Hindu Mandir and Shilalekh	Murup	Nurup	-do-
17.	Panch Pandav Mandir	Hardeshwar	Parbhani	Parbhani
18.	Mahadev Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
19.	Mahadev Mandir	Kashikund	Parbhani	-do-
20.	Hindu Mandir	Araldhareshwar	Basmat	-do-
21.	Hanuman Mandir	Borwad	Jintur	-do-
22.	Hanuman Mandir	Bhogaon	-do-	-do-
23.	Hanuman Mandir	Bhosi	-do-	-do-
24.	Hanuman Mandir	Boni	-do-	-do-
25.	Hanuman Mandir	Charvatula	-do-	-do-
26.	Narsinha Mahadev Mandir	Charthane	-do-	-do-
27.	Ganpati Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
28.	Gokuleshwar Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
29.	Khurache Aie Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
30.	Mahadev Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
31.	Nageshwar Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Tutareashwar Mandir	Charthane	Jintur	Parbhani
33.	Mahadev Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
34.	Renuvihar Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
35.	Jain Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
36.	Nagnath Mandir	Ondha	Hingoli	-do-
37.	Hemadpanthi Mandir	Bamhni	-do-	-do-
38.	Hemadpanthi Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
39.	Mandir and Vihar	Arni	-do-	-do-
40.	Hemadpanthi Mandir	Devlane	Tatana	Nasik
41.	Mahadev Mandir	Dhodanbe	Chandwad	-do-
42.	Murtidhar Mandir and Ahilyadevi Mandir	Chainchondi	Yeola	-do-
43.	Kashi-Vishveshwar Mandir	Sangamahull	Satara	Satara
44.	Maruti Fadanvis (Mahadev Mandir)	Maroda	Chanda	Chandrapur
45.	Kalikadevi Mandir	Shirud	Dhule	Dhule
46.	Hemadpanthi Mandir	Tondapur	Jamner	Jaigaon
47.	Someshwar Mandir	Rajura	Rajura	Chandrapur
48.	Rudreshwar Mandir	Hinganghat	Hinganghat	Wardha
49.	Sundernarayan Mandir	Nasik	Nasik	Nasik
50.	Laxmi Mandir	Shrigodre	Shrigodre	Ahemadnagar
51.	Raghveshwar	Kumbhi	Kopargaon	Ahemadnagar
52.	Khandoba Mandir	Satara	Aurangabad	Aurangabad
53.	Nageshwar Mandir	Rahimabad	Sillod	Aurangabad
54.	Jain Leni	Chandwad	Chandwad	Nasik
55.	Kshetrapal Mandirache Awashesh	Mansupri	Kandhar	Nanded
56.	Harba Mandir	Methi	Sindakhed	Dhule
57.	Bhawani Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
58.	Vishnu Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
59.	Mukateshwar Mandir	Sinnar	Sinnar	Nasik
60.	Mahadev Mandir	Aare	Karvir	Kolhapur
61.	Kedareswar Mahadev Mandir	Dharmapuri	Ambejogai	Beed
62.	Dashrdheshwar Mandir	Mukhed	Mukhed	Nanded
63.	Nrushinha Mandir and Puratatviya Awashesh	Shelgoan	Deglur	-do-
64.	Mahadev Mandir	Yeoti	Biloli	-do-
65.	Yognrushinha Mandir	Raher	-do-	-do-
66.	Chatri	Ambala	Ramtek	Nagpur

1	2	3	4	5
67.	Chatri	Ambala (S. No. 2939)	Ramtek	Nagpur
68.	Chatri	Ambala (S. No. 2963)	-do-	-do-
69.	Shivamandir	Ambala (S. No. 2948)	-do-	-do-
70.	Mahadev Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2929)	-do-	-do-
71.	Harihar Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2887)	-do-	-do-
72.	Datta Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2896)	-do-	-do-
73.	Jagannath Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2918)	-do-	-do-
74.	Panchsikhari Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2898)	-do-	-do-
75.	Shiv Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2957)	-do-	-do-
76.	Shiv Mandir	Ambala (S. No. 2936)	-do-	-do-
77.	Wajeshwar Mandir	Wawi	Sinnar	Nasik
78.	Mukteshwar Mandir	Sinnar	-do-	-do-
79.	Mahadev Mandir	Tulapur	Haveli	Pune
80.	Nageshwar Mandir Pune	Somwar Peth Pune	Pune	
81.	Kukadeshwar Mandir	Maujapur	Junnar	-do-
82.	Nilkanteshwar Mandir	Singhakhed Raja	Sindhakhed Raja	Buldhana
83.	Kevalnrusinha Mandir	Ramtek	Ramtek	Nagpur
84.	Rudranrusinha Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
85.	Bhogram Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
86.	Warah Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
87.	Guptaram Mandir	-do-	-do-	-do-
88.	Mahadev Mandir Sankul	Hattarsang Kudal	S. Solapur	Solapur
FORTS				
89.	Taltam Fort	Jijala	Songaon	Aurangabad
90.	Bhitulwadi Fort	Baitulwadi	-do-	-do-
91.	Aintur Fort	Aintur	Knada	-do-
92.	Kandhar Fort	Kandhar	Kandhar	Nanded
93.	Mahur Fort	Mahur	Kinwat	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
94.	Naldurg Fort	Naldurg	Tuljapur	Osmanabad
95.	Ausa Fort	Ausa	Ausa	-do-
96.	Paranda Fort	Paranda	Paranda	-do-
97.	Udglr Fort	Udglr	Udglr	-do-
98.	Pathari Fort	Pathari	Pathari	Parbhani
99.	Wadgaon Fort	Wadgaon	Kalamunri	-do-
100.	Amargad Fort	Jintur	Jintur	-do-
101.	Rajned Fort	Anthali	Basmat	-do-
102.	Sinhagad	Sinhagad	Hawell	Pune
103.	Rajgad Fort	Rajgad	Velhe	-do-
104.	Kharda Fort	Kharda	Jamkhed	Ahmednagar
105.	Dharavicha Fort - Kala Quilla	Dharavi Mumbai	Kurla	Mumbai
106.	Saint Jorge Fort	Fort	Mumbai	Mumbai
107.	Sirgaoncha Fort	Sirgaon	Palghar	Thane
108.	Nagardhan Fort	Nagardhan	Ramtek	Nagpur
109.	Shivdicha Fort	Shivdi	Kurla	Mumbai
110.	Umredcha Fort	Umred	Umred	Nagpur
111.	Malegaoncha Fort	Malegaom	Malegaon	Nasik
112.	Mahimcha Fort	Mahim	Andheri	Mumbai
113.	Torna Fort	Velhe	Velhe	Pune
114.	Bandracha Fort	Bandra	-do-	-do-
115.	Ankai-Tankai	Yeola	Yeola	Nasik
116.	Parola Fort	Parola	Parola	Jaigaon
117.	Vishalgad	Vishalgad	Shahuwadi	Kolhapur
118.	Rangna	Chikewadi	Bhuthergad	-do-
119.	Bhuthergad	Peth-Sivapur	-do-	-do-
120.	Koyarigad	Mauje Ambavane	Mulshi	Pune
CAVES				
121.	Ghatotkach Caves	Jinjala	Songaon	Aurangabad
122.	Bhokardhan Caves	Bhokardhan	Bhokardhan	-do-
123.	Rudreshwar Caves	Wetatwadi	Soegaon	-do-
124.	Jogi Sabha Mandap Caves	Ambejogai	Amejogai	Beed
125.	Pandavlena Caves	Mahur	Kinval	Nanded
126.	Dharashiv Caves	Usmanabad	Usmanabad	Usmanabad
127.	Chamar Leni	-do-	-do-	-do-
128.	Jain Shaiva Mandir	Jintur	Jintur	Parbhani

1	2	3	4	5
129. Khadeshwar Caves		Lonad	Bhivandi	Thane
130. Boudha Caves		Khed	Khed	Ratnagiri
131. Jain Leni		Mohidatarph	Haveli	Dhule
132. Hindu Leni		Shivur	Hadgaon	Nanded
133. Shaiva Caves (Panavdara Leni)		Borivade	Panhala	Kolhapur

OTHER MONUMENTS

134. Janabaichi Samadhi		Gangakhed	Gangakhed	Parbhani
135. Shahaganj Masjid		A' bad	A'bad	Aurangabad
136. Kalj Masjid		-do-	-do-	-do-
137. Chowk Masjid		-do-	-do-	-do-
138. Lal Masjid		-do-	-do-	-do-
139. Asafjaha-jam Masjid		Ajanta	Sillod	-do-
140. Jame Masjid (1680)		Beed	Beed	Beed
141. Juni Masjid (constructed by malikambar)		Nanded	Nanded	Nanded
142. Juni Masjid (constructed by Kutubshah)		-do-	-do-	-do-
143. Sarafraj Khanchi Masjid		Biloli	Biloli	-do-
144. Sami Masjid		Ausa	Ausa	Usmanabad
145. Sami Masjid		Parbhani	Parbhani	Parbhani
146. Kazisaheb Masjid		Basmat	Basmat	-do-
147. Jame Masjid		Konri	Jintur	-do-
148. Jami Masjid		Aunta	Hingoli	-do-
149. Asafjaha-i che Thadge		Khulatabad	Khulatabad	Aurangahad
150. Azamshah che Thadge		-do-	-do-	-do-
151. Nasirjung Shahid che Thadge		-do-	-do-	-do-
152. Abulhusan Tuyubshah che Thadge		-do-	-do-	-do-
153. Ahemadshah che Thadge		-do-	-do-	-do-
154. Ahemadnagar's Burhan Nijamshah che Thadge		-do-	-do-	-do-
155. Muhammadbin Tughalak's Datache Thadge		Rajani	Beed	Beed
156. Roshan Khan Che Thadge		Parbhani	Parbhani	Parbhani
157. Hajratshah Ismail Che Thadge		Konri	Jintur	-do-
158. Shahenshah valicha Darga		Beed	Beed	Beed
159. Pir Balashah Cha Darga		-do-	-do-	-do-
160. Hajrat Suddin Cha Darga		Sakapur	Kinvat	Nanded
161. Hajrat Baddon Cha Darga		-do-	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
162.	Shah Luftullah Timurani Durga	Timruni	Kinvat	Nanded
163.	Sompiracha Durga	Mahur	-do-	-do-
164.	Hajrat Samsuddin cha Durga	Usmanabad	Usmanabad	Usmanabad
165.	Laoni Pand	Tuljapur	Tuljapur	-do-
166.	Khan-ei-Ali cha Durga	Basmat	Basmat	Parbhani
167.	Shah Samsuddin cha Durga	Jintur	Jintur	-do-
168.	Shah Mastan cha Durga	-do-	-do-	-do-
169.	Shah Tnkali cha Durga	Ondha	Hingoli	-do-
170.	Idguah	Mahur	Kinvat	-do-
171.	Gurudwara	Nanded	Nanded	Nanded
172.	Naukhanda Palace	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	Aurangabad
173.	Starjung-I chi Baradari	Ajantageon	Sillod	Aurangabad
174.	Khan-e-Jahanchi Bagh	Khultabad	Khultabad	-do-
175.	Munim Bagh	-do-	-do-	-do-
176.	Bani-Begum Bagh	-do-	-do-	-do-
177.	Bagh-a-Gusman	Udgir	Udgir	Usmanabad
178.	Bhadkal Darwaja	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	Aurangabad
179.	Makai Darwaja	-do-	-do-	-do-
180.	Delhi Darwaja	-do-	-do-	-do-
181.	Rajora Darwaja	Beed	Beed	Beed
182.	Kotwal Darwaja	-do-	-do-	-do-
183.	Dod Darwaja	-do-	-do-	-do-
184.	Ganj Darwaja	-do-	-do-	-do-
185.	Ajanta Sarai	Ajantageon	Sillod	Aurangabad
186.	Mauli Talao (Matrutirth)	Mahur	Kinvat	Nanded
187.	Gokuleshwar Barav	Charthana	Jintur	Parbhani
188.	Pushkarni	-do-	-do-	-do-
189.	Panchhaki	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	Aurangabad
190.	Unkeshwar Garam Panychazara	Anagdev	Kinvat	Nanded
191.	Rankhamb (Vijay stambha)	Beed	Beed	Beed
192.	Inscribed Mile Stone (Margstambh)	Ankur	Kannad	Aurangabad
193.	Dipmal	Charthana	Jintur	Parbhani
194.	Narsinha Murti	Paithan	Paithan	Aurangabad
195.	Sheshshai Statu	Paithan	Paithan	Aurangabad
196.	Inscription	Rajkot	Nanded	Nanded
197.	Pre-historic site (1 km. away from A' bad)	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	Aurangabad

1	2	3	4	5
198. Pre-historic site	Khultabad	Khultabad	Aurangabad	
199. Pre-historic site	Bhokardhn	Bhokardhan	-do-	
200. Pre-historic site	Ambad	Ambad	-do-	
201. Pre-historic site	Jalna	Jalna	Jalna	
202. Oldstonage burial ground	Mahur	Kinvat	Nanded	
203. Ironage Stonecircle	Vadgaon	Tuljapur	Osmanabad	
204. Ironage Stonecircle	Shendri	Paranda	-do-	
205.)				
to) Prehistoric site	Ter	Osmabad	-do-	
215.)				
216. Prehistoric Site	Mat	Purna	Parbhani	
217. Neolithic Tools	Savergi	-do-	-do-	
218. Neolithic Tools	Hingoli	Hingoli	-do-	
219. Neolithic Tools	-do-	-do-	-do-	
220. Prehistoric site	Aundha	-do-	-do-	
221. Prehistoric site	Khanapur	-do-	-do-	
222. Samadhi of Sambhaji Maharaj	Vadu	Koregaon	Pune	
223. Vishrambaghwada Pune	Pune	Pune	Pune	
224. Rangamahai	Chandvad	Chandvad	Nasik	
225. Harinarayan Math	Benwadi	Karjat	Ahemadnagar	
226. Birth Place of Lokmnya Tilak	Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri	
227. Laxmi Vilas Palace	Kolhapur	Karvir	Kolhapur	
228. Samadhi of Ramchandra Ananya	Panhala	Panhala	Kolhapur	
229. Samadhi of Baji Prabhu Deshpande	Vishalgad	Shahuwadi	Kolhapur	
230. Haujkator	Haujkatorn	Elichpur	Amravati	
231. Satbudaki	Mat Budaki	Ellichpur	Amravati	
232. Bhadkal Gate	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	
233. City Gate	Amalner	Amalner	Jalgaon	
234. Pandav wada Masjid	Arandol	Arandol	-do-	
235. Samadhi of Mayabai	Hinganghat	Hinganghat	Wardha	
236. Mahatma Fule Wada	Pune	Pune	Pune	
237. Samadhi of Tanaji Malusare	Sinhgad	Haveli	Pune	
238. Old Vihar (Well)	Chinchodi	Yeola	Nasik	
239. Dutch Valkar (Factory)	Vengurle	Vengurle	Sindhudurg	
240. Raghobadada Wada	Kopergaon	Kopergaon	Ahemadnagar	
241. Adalat Wada (New wada)	Satara	Satara	Satara	
242. Bhoil-Hudli Tekadi	Mandhi	Umred	Nagpur	
243. Residence of Ram Ganesh Gadkari	Sayner	Savner	Nagpur	

1	2	3	4	5
244.	Laghuji Jadhav Wada (Birth place of Jijamata)	S'Raja	Sindakhedraja	Buldhana
245.	Archaeological Site	Aadam	Umred	Nagpur
246.	Moti Talav	S' Raja	Sindakhedraja	Buldhana
247.	Sawkarwada	-do-	-do-	-do-
248.	Rangmahal	-do-	-do-	-do-
249.	Old vihir (Well)	Ridhapur	Morshi	Amravati
250.	St. Krishpals Home	Pune	Pune	Pune
251.	Birthplace of Vir.Savarkar	Bhagur	Bhagur	Nasik
252.	Hati-Khana	Mahur	Kinvat	Nanded
253.	Barav	Methi	Sindakheda	Dhule
254.	Banganga Talav	Wlakeshwar	Mumbai	Mumbai
255.	Dharmashala	Ambala (S.No. 2951)	Ramtek	Nagpur
256.	Gokul Gate	Ramtek	Ramtek	Nagpur
257.	August Kranti Maidan	Mumbai	Mumbai	Mumbai
258.	Birthplace of Senapati Bapat	Parner	Parner	Ahemadnagar
259.	Ahilyabai Holkar Wada	Chondi	Jamkhed	-do-
260.	Mastani Kabar	Pabal	Shirur	Pune
261.	Sardar Kanoji Jedhe Wada	Kari	Bhor	Pune
262.	Sarkhel Knoji Angre's Tomb	Alibag	Alibag	Raigad
263.	Hutatma Rajguru's Wada	Rajguru Nagar	Khed	Pune

[Translation]

Solar Power to Madhya Pradesh

6966.SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Villages in Santa district of Madhya Pradesh where solar power is being supplied; and

(b) the names of Solar energy units which are supplying solar power as on March, 31, 2000 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) At present no village is being provided electricity through solar energy devices in Satna District of Madhya Pradesh. Earlier, stand alone solar street lighting systems were installed by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB) in 15 villages in this district, with support from the Ministry (then Department) of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and the Rural Electrification Corporation. But these systems could not be maintained properly by MPEB or the respective Gram Panchayats, as these systems were installed in remote locations.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System

6967.SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have designed and developed Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System;

(b) If so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the system per unit; and

(d) the details of plans for large scale production and installation of these Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting system in big cities/towns all over the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) Two public sector undertakings, namely,

Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) and Central Electronics Ltd. (CEL) have designed and developed solar powered traffic signal lighting systems. BEL has installed 5 such systems in Bangalore and Hyderabad. One system installed by CEL and sponsored by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) is functioning in New Delhi. Bharat Electronics Limited have also installed a solar powered system for pedestrian crossing in Chennai.

(b) The salient features of the Solar Powered Traffic Signal Lighting System installed by CEL in New Delhi are 1.92 kWp SPV array capacity, 500 AH/48 Volts Battery Bank, 48 V / 30 A Charge controller, 3.3 KVA inverter and other system components.

The system has 60 halogen lamps each of 55 watts. The system is grid - interactive and can operate on solar power for about 3 hours per day on the average.

The system developed by BEL is based on the LED technology in place of conventional lamps. The system consumes about 10% of the power consumed by the conventional lamps and requires much less maintenance.

(c) The cost of the system installed in New Delhi by CEL was Rs. 13.90 lakhs. The cost of the system developed by BEL for a four road junction is in the range of Rs. 7-8 lakhs.

(d) Central Electronics Limited has interacted with Delhi Police to deploy such systems all over Delhi and is pursuing the matter with other metropolitan cities in the country. Bharat Electronics Limited is also putting efforts to install such systems in Hyderabad, Chennai and Bangalore. IREDA can provide soft loans to eligible end users for installation of such systems any where in the country.

Land of Nangal Dewat Village for AAI Ltd.

6968. SHRI SAHIB SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the scheme and discussion that have taken place for shifting of Nangal Dewat Villagers which has been going on between the Airports Authority of India (AAI), DDA and the villagers for getting the land vacated ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : A scheme for rehabilitation of people of Nangal Dewat Village was worked out in an area of 63 acres of land in 1987 at Rangpuri as against the total land area of 59 acres of Nangal Dewat Village and Airports Authority of India (AAI) has spent Rs. 8.11 crores for its development purposes. In 1988, plots of various sizes ranging from a minimum of 26 sqm to a maximum of 330 sqm were carved out for resettlement and 963 dwelling units were required for rehabilitation as per joint survey by Delhi Development

Authority and AAI. It has not been possible to implement the scheme so far, because the villages have raised demands.

Construction of Roads in Karnataka

6969. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had urged the Union Government for construction of two road over bridges between Shimoga and Holehonnur Road and Shimoga and Honnali Road due to heavy density of traffic at the existing railway level crossings; and

(b) if so the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Government of Karnataka have assigned priority for construction of only one Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing at Km. 62/ 11-12 across Shimoga-Honnali road between Bhadravati and Shimoga stations.

(b) This proposal has already been included in the Railway Budget for year 2000-2001.

Flights on Ahmedabad-Bhuj Sector

6970. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for frequent delays in the schedule timings of passengers aircraft of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air operating in Gujarat, specially on Ahmedabad-Bhuj Sector ; and

(b) the steps being taken to improve such situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) During the month of March 2000, 30.8% of the flights operating to various stations in Gujarat were delayed. 5.66% of the flights were delayed due to reasons within the purview of Indian Airlines /Alliance Air while the remaining delays were due to adverse weather, airport restrictions, miscellaneous and consequential reasons. There is no Indian Airlines/Alliance Air flights operating on the Ahmedabad-Bhuj sector.

(b) All delays and cancellations are investigated to identify/pinpoint the cause and remedial action is taken to eliminate those which are within the purview of Indian Airlines.

Nedumbassery Airport

6971. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the flights operating from Nedumbassery airport are generally delayed which cause inconvenience to its passengers as they have to miss the connected flights;

(b) if so, the reasons for its late running; and

(c) the remedial action being taken to streamline the flights ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No not arise.

Widening of Road Over Bridges

6972. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have considered to widen and expand road over bridges at Nedumpayikulam, Mylom, Kottarakara Town, Punalur-Valacode, Quilon-Shengottai section of metre gauge line;

(b) if so, the time by which the above work is likely to be started;

(c) the total amount of money estimated for this work;

(d) whether the Government of Kerala has given any assurance to co-operate this construction; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Proposals will be examined after finalization of alignment of the proposed Broad Gauge line for which final location survey is in progress. Work can be taken up only after finalization of alignment, plans and estimate.

(d) State Govt. of Kerala has referred reconstruction of Road Over Bridge at Mylom to two lane width.

(e) Proposal is at planning stage.

Tourist Complexes In Country

6973. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tourist complexes which sprang up in the country from 1980 onwards;

(b) the five star hotels constructed in these tourist complexes, place-wise;

(c) whether the traditional centres of cultural tourism are converted into crowded tourist resorts;

(d) if so, whether there are any instructions to the tourism officials to supply the brochures on tourism to the foreigners only;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to supply the brochure to the domestic tourists also; and

(f) if so, the details of the procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Since 1980, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has extended Central Financial Assistance to 204 tourist complex projects of the State/U.T's Governments. Some of these tourist complexes also have facility of accommodation, however, Ministry of Tourism, has not extended any Central Financial Assistance for five star hotels in these tourist complexes.

(c) No, Sir

(d) to (f) Tourist Brochures are distributed without discrimination to Indians and foreigners through Government of India Tourist Offices in India and abroad. Therefore, the part (e) and (f) do not arise.

Jobs to SCs/STs/OBCs

6974. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of SCs/STs and OBCs provided jobs in his Ministry/Department/Autonomous bodies and subordinate offices during each of the last three year, category-wise;

(b) the number of SCs/STs and OBCs post lying vacant in each of the above offices as on March 31, 2000; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by his Ministry for filling up these vacant posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Development of Electronic Warfare System by DRDO

6975. DR. ASHOK PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Defence Scientists are making efforts to develop a complete electronic warfare system;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the above system is likely to be developed; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), in partnership with the users, is developing electronic warfare (EW) systems Samyukta for the Army and Sangraha for the Navy. These systems are in advanced stages of development. DRDO has already developed and operationalised EW system Tempest for the Air Force.

(c) Development of Samyukta and Sangraha is planned to be completed by 2002.

(d) The expenditure likely to be incurred thereon by DRDO, the Army and the Navy is Rs. 233. crore, 502 crore and 220 crore respectively.

Electrification of Railway Routes

6976.SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the railway routes electrified during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period, route-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

Statement

(a) Railway routes electrified during the last three years i.e. 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, state-wise are as under :

S. No.	State	Routes
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Simhachalam-Kottavalasa Palasa-Ichchhapuram (ii) Duvvada-Vadlapudi
2.	Bihar	(i) Dania-Gumia-Phusro (ii) Tiruldih-Ramgarh (iii) Bokaro-Muri-Kita, and Karampada-Kiriburu

1	2	3
		(iv) Jasidih-Jhajha-Kiul-Mankatha (v) Barhiya-Mokama-Danapur
3.	Gujarat	(i) Udhna-Chaltham
4.	Haryana	(i) Jagadhari workshop-Sarsawa (ii) Ambala-Dhulkot (iii) Ghaggar-Kalka
5.	Kerala	(i) Vallatolnagar-Ernakulam
6.	Orissa	(i) Chandiposh-Bimlagarh- Barsuan and Bimlagarh Karampada (ii) Talcher-Mermandoli and Bhadrak- Kenduapada (iii) Ichchhapuram-Berhampur
7.	Punjab	(i) Sirhind-Roopnagar (ii) Dhulkot-Ghaggar
8.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Salem-Salem Market
9.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Kanpur-Lucknow (ii) Sarsawa-Khanalampura (iii) Mughalsarai-Dildarnagar
10.	West Bengal	(i) Adra-Midnapur (ii) Nischintpur-Karhipur (iii) Purulia-Kotshila (iv) Pundag-Muri (v) Hijli-Bakhrabad

(b) The expenditure incurred on railway electrification projects during the last three years are as under :

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
1997-98	320
1998-99	334
1999-2000	316

[English]

Acquisition of Russian Spy

6977.KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are acquiring Russian Spy in the sky;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the number of such spy to be acquired ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The IAF has no plans to acquire any Russian 'spy in the sky'.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pilots and Crew Members of Alliance Air

6978.SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pilots and the crew of the Alliance Air are on contract basis and they are paid less than the Indian Airlines pilots;

(b) if so, the reasons for the discrimination; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to remove this disparity ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Whereas the Pilots of Alliance Air are engaged both on contract basis and on deputation from Indian Airlines, the crew members are on contract basis only. The pilots and the crew members of Indian Airlines and Alliance Air are governed by different sets of rules and terms and conditions. A comparison would, therefore, be not appropriate.

[Translation]

Selling of Trees

6979.SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways had decided to cut down and sell trees on its land;

(b) if so, the estimated income to be earned therefrom, zone-wise;

(c) the number of trees cut down alongwith the income earned therefrom so far, zone-wise;

(d) whether environmentalists were consulted prior to taking decision of cutting down these trees; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The

cutting/harvesting of matured/dried trees and natural products like sale of grass/fruit/fishing rights etc., is a continuous process. Census of matured trees is taken periodically but it is difficult to assess the likely total earning out of sale of mature trees as this varies widely with specie and location of the tree.

(c) An amount of about Rs. 4,22,87,019 has been earned from sale of matured trees/sale of grass/fruit/fishing rights etc. during the year 1999-2000, The Zonal-Railway wise break up of earnings is as under :

Railway	Earnings from Mature Trees (1999-2000)
Central	10,92,796
Eastern	20,70,366
Northern	1,59,53,600
North Eastern	1,25,24,000
Northeast Frontier	5,77,358
Southern	75,24,000
South Central	10,23,870
South Eastern	2,21,029
Western	13,00,000
Total	4,22,87,019

(d) and (e) Railways cut only those mature trees which have been planted by it over the past 4 decades. Moreover, Railways plant a far larger number of trees than it cuts. Cutting and planting of trees being a continuous process. Since only matured trees are harvested/proposed to be harvested and a far larger number are planted, no adverse effect on the environment is expected. Also the trees are harvested in consultation with the Forest Departments and after obtaining due clearances.

[English]

P.L.Ls on Super Bazar

6980.SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public interest litigations on the Super Bazar, Delhi have been filed in the Delhi High Court so far giving the PIL-wise details of matters taken up therein and their present status;

(b) whether the Government are causing impediment in the quick disposal of PILs and the Central Registrar is delaying the completion of the investigation;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to expedite the submission of the investigation report by the Central Registrar;

(e) whether the Super Bazar is on the threshold of closure as all its finances have been misappropriated; and

(f) if so, the steps taken up to improve the misdeeds going on in the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) the Super Bazar, Delhi has informed that at present two public interest litigations (PIL) have been filed in Delhi High Court against them. Further, in both these petitions some shareholders have raised issues relating to illegal actions and irregularities committed in Super Bazar Particularly in the award of contract for the construction of multistoried building at Rajendra Place by the former Chairman of Super Bazar and also matters relating to the election of the Board of Directors. The Delhi High Court has directed the Management of Super Bazar, Delhi to conduct the elections of Board of Directors as Per rules.

(b) to (d) The Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) have ordered an inquiry under the provisions of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 to inquire in to the alleged irregularities in the affairs of the Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super Bazar) on 1.7.99, exercising the powers under Section 69 of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984. However during last 10 months, three enquiry officers have been changed due to administrative reasons. The last Enquiry Officer was appointed on 31.1.2000 to complete the enquiry. The report of the Enquiry Officer has not yet been received.

(e) and (f) Super Bazar is presently in the grip of an acute financial crisis. Some cases of irregularities in Super Bazar have been referred to CBI for investigation. No specific date has been indicated for the completion of their investigation. The Vigilance Department of the Super Bazar is also taking appropriate action against irregularities in the functioning of Super Bazar.

Difference in Air Ticket Charges

6981. SHRI A. P. ABDULLAKUTTY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government noticed the differences in Air Tickets being charged from Gulf countries to various Indian airports which are in equal distance;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) the airlines operating from Gulf countries to other countries are charging less than what Air India is charging from Gulf Countries to Calcutta Sector; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Since the market fares are dependent not only on distance but also on various factors like competition, air seat capacity available on the route, seasonality etc., there could be variation in the level of fares for the same distance.

Ban on Recruitment In Ordnance Factories

6982. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether there is a ban on recruitment in Ordnance Factories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the vacancies arising due to death in harness and also by retirement are not being filled up in the clothing sector of Ordnance Factories;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of such vacancies in each of the ordnance factories as on date;

(e) whether the Government are aware that gradual diversion of items of private sector is being done in the clothing sector; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not filling up the vacant post in view of diversion of work to private sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (f) There is no ban on recruitment of manpower and the vacancies in all ordnance factories are being filled up based on functional requirements after consideration of relevant factors like current workload, future targets, wastages etc. Vacancies arising due to death-in-harness are being filled to the extent permissible as per the existing Government instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training. The number of vacancies in the five ordnance factories of Clothing and Equipment Group as on 1.4.2000 are as follows (for all the categories including Industrial Employees, Non-Industrial Employees and Non-Gazetted Staff) :-

Ordnance Equipment Factory, Kanpur	2236
Ordnance Clothing Fy., Shahjahanpur	3550
Ordnance Parachute Fy., Kanpur	1721
Ordnance Clothing Fy., Avadi	951
Ordnance Equipment Fy., Hazratpur	33

There is no diversion of clothing items to the private sector.

Irregularities in Recruitment of Air Hostesses in Alliance Air

6983. SHRI HASSAN KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether gross irregularities were committed in recruitment of staff including the air hostesses in Alliance Air during 1996;

(b) If so, whether subsequent Vigilance Inquiry proved gross violation of rules involvement of official of Alliance Air as even married woman were recruited as Air Hostesses; and

(c) If so, the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a), (b) and (c) The matter is being investigated.

Selling of Imported Rice

6984. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the selling of imported rice in the open market is cheaper than the rice sold under P.D.S.;

(b) If so, whether the Government are aware that such circumstances encourage the black-marketeers to store the imported rice from the open market causing P.D.S. rice more costlier for the people;

(c) If so, whether the Government are aware that the rice eating State of Tamil Nadu will be the most affected; and

(d) If so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) As per the condition stipulated in the current Export and Import (EXIM) Policy of the Government, only rice with 50% or more broken can be imported freely. However, under the Public Distribution System (PDS), the rice, which is distributed has a maximum limit of 25% broken. The prices of these two different varieties of rice therefore are not comparable.

(d) To curb import of rice on private account and to make it more costlier, Government has imposed duty upto 80% on import of husked (brown) rice and broken rice, and upto 70% on semi-milled and wholly milled rice.

[Translation]

Construction of Over Bridges

6985. SHRI SURESH PASI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems being faced by the public due to absence of over bridges at Manauri, Bharwari and Siradhu railway stations in Kaushambi district;

(b) whether accidents often take place at the said railway stations while crossing the railway line due to absence of over bridges; and

(c) If so, the time by which these are likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Foot Over Bridge connecting platforms at these stations have been provided for use of bonafide Railway passengers. Foot Over Bridge at Manauri was damaged some time back after being hit by a wagon with open door. Action has been initiated to get it repaired.

[English]

Construction of Energy Units in Uttar Pradesh

6986. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any review of the construction work of Energy units in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) If so, the number of units where work is not going on in a planned manner; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources has been reviewing the progress of various schemes/programmes of non-conventional energy sources from time to time throughout the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh. The Ministry allocates physical targets under its major programmes such as biogas, improved chulhas and solar photovoltaic programmes State-wise on an annual basis and reviews the achievements made. A target of 10,000 biogas plants, 100 Community/institutional/night soil based biogas plants and 2.50 lakhs improved chulhas has been fixed for the year

2000-01 for the State of Uttar Pradesh. The physical achievements made under various non-conventional energy programmes in the State of Uttar Pradesh as on 31.03.2000 are given in the Statement-I.

(b) and (c) The details of various non-conventional energy projects under construction/implementation are given in Statement-II. Work on these projects is going on in a planned manner and these projects are largely expected to be installed/commissioned as per the approved plan schedule.

Statement-I

The Physical achievements made under the various programmes of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the State of Uttar Pradesh as on 31.3.2000

S. No.	Programme/Scheme	Units	Cumulative Achievements (as on 31.3.2000)
1	2	3	4
1.	Biogas Plants	Nos.	3,31,387
2.	Community/Institutional/ Night-soil biogas Plants	Nos.	981
3.	Improved Chulhas	Nos. in lakh	35.4
4.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme	No. of Blocks	115
5.	Special Area Demonstration Programme	No. of Energy Parks	5
6.	Small Hydro Power	MW	31.39
7.	Biomass Power/Co-Generation	MW	46.5
8.	Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants	KW	225
9.	Biomass Gasifier	KW	511
10.	Solar Photovoltaic Systems		
i.	Solar Lanterns	Nos.	56,538
ii.	Home Lighting Systems	Nos.	56,279
iii.	Street Lighting Systems	Nos.	708
iv.	Non-grid connected SPV Power Plants.	KWp	178.90 (39 Nos.)

1	2	3	4
11.	SPV Pumps (direct market arrangement through (IREDA)	Nos.	179
12.	Solar Water Heating Systems	Sq.m. collector area	28,000
13.	Solar Cooker Programme	Nos.	39873
14.	Energy from Waste	MW	1

MW = Mega Watt; KW = Kilo Watt; KWp = Kilo Watt peak, sq.m = square meter.

Statement-II

Details of the projects under construction/under implementation in the State of Uttar Pradesh

S. No.	Projects under construction/ under implementation	Aggregate Capacity/ Nos.
1.	Small Hydro Power Projects (State Govt.)	41.58 MW/23
2.	Solar Power Plants	100 KWp/1
3.	Biomass Co-generation Projects	21.50 MW/21
4.	Biomass Gasifier Projects	1.2 MW/14
5.	Waste to Energy Project	5.40 MW/2

MW = Mega Watt, KWp = kilo Watt peak

Supply of Airbuses

6987.SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN :
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether bids for the supply of aircraft which were made by the Aircraft giants, Boeing and Airbus way in the year 1996 were put on the backburner by the Government;

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

(c) whether now the Indian Airlines proposed to open the bids; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Indian Airlines did not invite any bids from aircraft manufacturers in 1996

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Indira Awas Yojana

6988.SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for private participation in housing schemes under Indira Awas Yojana to provide accommodation to the people living below the poverty line in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) and (b) As per existing guidelines, rural families below the poverty line including from Bihar are eligible to receive assistance under Indira Awas Yojana. The guidelines also specify that construction will be done entirely by the beneficiary who is free to choose the technology, design and material to be used in the construction of the house.

[English]

Drought In Country

6989.SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts and population affected by serious drought in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide assistance to them; and

(c) the reasons for not providing the basic needs even after fifty years of independence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have reported severe drought conditions. The number of districts and population affected are :-

Gujarat	-	17 districts covering a population of approximately 215 lakh
Rajasthan	-	26 districts covering a population of approximately 262 lakh
Andhra Pradesh	-	18 districts covering a population of approximately 415 lakh

Assistance provided to the affected States is :

(i) Under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) :

(Rs. in crore)

State	1999-2000		2000-2001
	CRF	NFCR	CRF
Gujarat	121.05	54.58	131.14
Rajasthan	155.25	102.93	112.12
Andhra Pradesh	107.69	75.36	77.78

(ii) Special allocation of foodgrains for drought relief :

The Government have decided to supply foodgrains at BPL rates to all families (Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line) in drought affected areas at the rate of 20 kg. per family per month for three months. Further, foodgrains are also to be provided at BPL rates under the Food for Works Programme and to NGOs/local bodies for running free community kitchens in drought affected areas. The total quantity of foodgrains allocated under these categories is as follows :

(Quantity allotted in tonnes)

State	Rice	Wheat
Gujarat	1,47,682	2,71,523
Rajasthan	22,573	5,03,889
Andhra Pradesh	1,00,000	-

The net consumer subsidy involved in the above foodgrain allocation is as under :

(Rs. in crore)

State	Rice	Wheat	Total
Gujarat	81.91	86.87	168.78
Rajasthan	12.42	176.89	189.31
Andhra Pradesh	59.00	-	59.00
Total	153.33	263.76	417.09

(iii) In addition to the above direct assistance to the drought-affected areas, the Ministry of Rural Development have released a total amount of Rs. 425.71 crore as Central share under its various poverty alleviation and area develop-

ment programmes. The State-wise details are as under :

(Rs. in crore)

State	Funds Released
Gujarat	128.09
Rajasthan	112.93
Andhra Pradesh	184.69
Total	425.71

[Translation]

National Library Calcutta

6990.SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the provisions of Public Libraries Act, 1954 a publisher is required to send one copy of books published in India to the Directors of Libraries;

(b) if so, whether the National Library, Calcutta has failed to receive books worth Rs. 29.35 lakhs and foreign magazines worth Rs. 8.36 lakh due to not applying the provisions of Public Libraries Act, 1954; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers Public Libraries Act, 1954 (not Public Libraries Act, 1954) the National Library along with three other public libraries in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai is entitled to receive a copy of every publication brought out in any language anywhere in the country.

(b) It is not possible to make any estimate in monetary terms of books, periodicals, etc. not being received by the National Library. Foreign magazines are not entitled to be received by the National Library under the above mentioned Act.

(c) Does not arise.

Functioning of Gram Sabha

6991.SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have observed the year 1999-2000 as the Gram Sabha year; and

(b) if so, the number of schemes introduced during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (c) Yes Sir, While no scheme was introduced in connection with the Year, 1999-2000 as the Year of the Gram Sabha, several initiatives were taken by the Central Government during this period, The State Governments/Union Territories were advised to ensure that the Gram Sabha should meet at least once every Quarter, preferably on 26th January- Republic Day, 1st May -Labour Day, 15th August Independence Day and 2nd October - Gandhi Jayanti, All the Chairpersons of the Gram Panchayats were urged to make concerted effort to strengthen and empower the Gram Sabha, The Year of the Gram Sabha was publicised through the All India Radio and Television and through advertisements in National News-papers. The Chief Ministers/Administrators were also requested to initiate the measures :

- (i) to vest in the Gram Sabha, powers on the lines envisaged in the Provisions of Panchayats (extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996,
- (ii) to make a mandatory provision in the Panchayati Raj Act for holding Gram Sabha meetings throughout the country on the same predetermined dates;
- (iii) to make a mandatory provision in the Panchayati Raj Act specifying quorum for Gram Sabha meetings;
- (iv) to make members of the Gram Sabha aware of their powers and responsibilities to ensure mass participation, particularly of the SCs, STs and Women;
- (v) to lay down procedures for the Gram Sabha to effectively carry out social audit of beneficiary-oriented development programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Steps were taken to the effect that selection of beneficiaries under the Indira Awaas Yojana, the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana is done in the Gram Sabha meetings. The Gram Sabha was also authorised to approve works to be undertaken under the JGSY. A National level Workshop on functioning of the Gram Sabha was organised by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. This workshop recommended various ways and means for strengthening the Gram Sabhas.

[English]

Finance Commission Report

6992. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Finance Commission of the Union Territory of Daman and Diu had studied the functions of District Panchayats and Municipalities and has since been submitted its Interim as well as final report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The Finance Commission of the Union Territories has submitted its Report. The Ministry of Home Affairs are considering the recommendations of the Finance Commission. The Report of the Commission, alongwith Explanatory Memorandum, would be laid by that Ministry before both Houses of the Parliament.

Import of Edible Oils

6993. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gap between demand and production of oilseeds is widening each year necessitating import of oilseeds in large volume;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether due to adulteration in mustard oil sharp rise was recorded in the prices of edible oils during 1998-99;

(d) if so, the latest position thereof,

(e) whether due to import of edible oil the crops of edible oil seeds in India has declined; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The production of oilseeds, the net availability of edible oils and the demand for edible oils in the last 3 years are given below :

(Figures in Lakh MT)

Year	Oilseed	Net availability of edible oils (Supply)	Import	Consumption
97-98	213.24	62.00	20.83	82.83
98-99	252.10	72.60	43.93	116.53
99- 2000	216.20*	64.78*	36.00*	100.78

* Estimated Consumption has been taken to be the demand.

(c) and (d) The adulteration in mustard oil and subsequent measures taken by the Government in 1998-99 to ensure safe and quality edible oils in the open market temporarily affected the distribution of oils in the market resulting in some increase in prices. The main reasons for the sharp rise in prices of edible oils were the widely publicised report of set back to the domestic oilseed production and high international prices of edible oils. This will be clear from the prices of edible oils in the international market as shown below for the months of April to May in the last 3 years during 1998 to 2000 :-

(Prices per MT in USD FOB)

Year	RBD Palmolein		Soyabean Oil		Sunflower Oil	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
1998	686	709	638	651	671	737
1999	509	476	421	405	451	454
2000	385	327.5	395	395	425	400

(c) and (f) A major reason for the low production of oilseeds is the low productivity of our oilseeds cultivation compared to the situation in other countries as may be observed from the table below :-

Productivity of oilseeds

(Tonne/Hectare)

Oilseed	India	World	Highest
Soyabean	0.96	2.25	3.05 (EU-15)
Cottonseed	0.62	1.02	2.11 (Australia)
Groundnut	0.74	0.99	3.00 (EU-15)
Sunflower	0.62	1.28	2.25 (Chile)
Rapeseed	0.90	1.50	3.01 (EU-15)

Government has set up a Technology Mission on oilseeds and pulses for harnessing the best of technology on production and processing.

Assistance from FBI of USA

6994. SHRI DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Federal Bureau of Investigation of U.S.A. has offered assistance to India in the investigations of the Indian Airlines flight hijacking case;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) During the first meeting of the Indo-US Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism in February 2000, hijacking of Indian Airlines plane was discussed extensively with the US side. Both the sides agreed to work together to ensure that the Perpetrators of the hijacking are brought to Justice.

Agreement for Air Services

6995. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Bahrain have signed an air service agreement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) India and Bahrain have signed an Air Services Agreement on 5th April, 2000.

(b) The major features of the Agreement are as follows :-

- (i) Both countries shall have the right to designate upto two airlines for operating the agreed services.
- (ii) The frequency of services and capacity will be determined by the two aeronautical authorities from time to time
- (iii) The designated airlines of India can operate services to Bahrain and that of Bahrain to Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram.

Cancellation of Ration Cards

6996. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to debar income tax assesseees from taking sugar through PDS;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for the identification of income tax assesseees;

(c) if so, whether there is rule that if a person does not take PDS sugar for three months then the ration card stands cancelled;

(d) if so, whether the Government are aware that ration card is an important document of persons domicile and identity and needs for every important dealing; and

(e) if so, the steps being proposed to avoid the above cumbersome situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The Government has decided to exclude the income tax assesseees and their family members for PDS Sugar with effect from 1st July, 2000.

(b) If the card holder or any member of his family is income tax assessee, then the card holder and his family members will not be entitled to PDS Sugar from 1.7.2000.

(c) From the information available from the States/UTs, it seems that this is not the position.

(d) and (e) The State Governments/UT Administrations have been directed to issue instructions to concerned authorities not to insist on production of ration card for identity purposes and for identification purposes, the photo identity card issued by the Election Commission be used. Many State Governments/UT Administrations have already issued instructions/orders in this regard.

Indication of Contents on Aerated Drinks Bottles

6997. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that soft drinking companies have not indicated the contents on their products; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that contents are indicated on all aerated drinks bottles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures

(Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, declaration of net quantity, in terms of the standard units of weight or measure, is a mandatory requirement. Non-declaration of the said information attracts penal provisions. The enforcement of the provisions of the said Rules rests with the State/UTs. In case of detection of violation, action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Rules.

Functioning of Railway Courts in Kerala

6998.SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be Pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Railway Courts are functioning in Kerala;
- (b) whether the Government are aware that no permanent Presiding Officer/Magistrate is there in these Courts;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to post permanent Presiding Officers/Magistrates in Railway Courts in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) At present, three Railway Magistrates' Courts are functioning at Quilon, Calicut and Shoranur in Kerala.

(b) to (d) Permanent Railway Magistrates are functioning in the three courts.

[Translation]

Cultural Agreement between India and China

6999.SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and China on cultural co-operation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the date by which this agreement is likely to be effective ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) A Cultural Exchange Programme between India and China was signed at Beijing on April 11, 2000. The programme will be effective for the years 2000-2002. The Cultural Exchanges are proposed to be undertaken in the fields of Arts and Culture, Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Mass-Media and Social Sciences. In addition, both sides have agreed to take up any other additional proposals through mutual consultations.

[English]

Territorial Army

7000.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state;

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to reorient the training process and modernise the Territorial Army in the country in view of the changing internal security scenario; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following measures have already been undertaken :-

- (i) collective training under centralised arrangements for all TA officers for streamlining standardising and sharpening of the training skills with emphasis on counter insurgency operations,
- (ii) courses at Army training institutions at par with regular army personnel,
- (iii) attachment with regular army for training purposes,
- (iv) enhancement of duration of operation oriented exercises; and
- (v) attachment of TA personnel with Army/Rashtriya Rifles units in intense counter insurgency environment, as a trial measure.

Other measures such as enhancement of duration of basic recruit training of infantry battalions, graduation of TA personnel onto 5.56 mm INSAS Rifles and use of computers by infantry battalions for enhancing their information technology skills are also being contemplated.

[Translation]

Historical Monuments in Delhi

7001. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state;

- (a) the number of historical monuments being protected in Delhi by the Department of Archaeological Survey of India;
- (b) the number of historical monuments which are still unprotected; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on the protection of such monuments of historical importance during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There are 165 monuments in Delhi protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) No such survey has been conducted by Government.

(c) Expenditure incurred during last three years on Archaeological Survey of India protected monuments in Delhi is as under :-

1997-98	Rs. 2,11,50,000.00
1998-99	Rs. 2,41,98,136.00
1999-2000	Rs. 3,20,48,689.00

[English]

Adventure Tourism

7002.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Adventure tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the programmes drawn up thereon for Ninth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to the States/UTs Governments of the prioritized projects in consultation with them every year for the procurement of skiing/watersports/mountain-eeing/trekking equipment and their accessories as a part of development of Adventure Tourism in the Country. Ministry of Tourism produced an Adventure Spots Tourism Directory and CD Rom on Indian Wildlife and adventure activities to promote Adventure Tourism in the Country.

[Translation]

Employment to Below Poverty Line

7003.SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised a scheme to provide employment or self employment at least

to one member of each of the families living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Wasteland and Barren Land

7004.SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government have made any estimate in regard to the total wasteland and barren land in the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which the said land has increased during the year 1999 as compared to the year 1990;

(c) the expenditure incurred in this regard during each of the last three years. State-wise;

(d) the details of the barren/wasteland converted into cultivative land by incurring the above expenditure;

(e) whether the said barren/wasteland could not be fertile; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) In the past, no systematic survey has been made on scientific basis periodically for quantification of wastelands including barren land in the country. However, the Department of Space (National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad) has reported in March, 2000, the extent of wastelands including barren land in the country at 63.85 m.ha. Therefore no precise information is available on the increase in the extent of such lands during the year 1999 as compared to the year 1990.

(c) to (f) Wastelands including barren lands are degraded lands which are currently under-utilised and are deteriorating for lack of appropriate water and soil management or on account of natural causes. Therefore agricultural operations are generally not feasible on such lands at the first stage of development. However under the central wastelands development sector scheme viz. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), an amount of Rs. 196.45 crores has been released to various States for development of 3.25 lakh ha. wastelands degraded lands during the last three years. State-wise

details of funds released under the scheme is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State wise funds released under Integrated Wastelands developments programme (IWDP), during last three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000)

S.No.	State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1075.31	981.21	949.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	9.00	-
3.	Assam	36.78	24.52	197.69
4.	Bihar	-	-	37.63
5.	Gujarat	306.77	546.17	491.73
6.	Haryana	112.06	90.52	43.78
7.	Himachal	311.51	188.42	684.16
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	99.96	136.40	100.00
9.	Karnataka	434.33	513.41	707.33
10.	Kerala	40.32	78.55	-
11.	Maharashtra	69.96	242.53	347.93
12.	Manipur	135.10	285.52	167.55
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	65.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	213.97	258.63	1011.12
15.	Nagaland	120.00	465.81	264.42
16.	Orissa	353.71	263.19	536.39
17.	Punjab	-	6.60	7.70
18.	Rajasthan	416.16	292.55	487.17
19.	Sikkim	194.32	176.10	261.56
20.	Tamil Nadu	282.07	176.26	484.93
21.	Tripura	70.00	-	-
22.	Uttar Pradesh	863.67	1464.51	1462.15
23.	West Bengal	-	-	-
Total		5136.00	6199.90	8307.42

[English]

Shortage of Rail Wagon for FCI

7005.SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether FCI is facing acute shortage of Rail wagons to transport rice from its godowns;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in piling-up of stocks at different rice mills in the country especially in East Godavari District;

(c) if so, whether FCI had targetted procuring levy rice of seven lakh tonnes whereas procured about two lakh tones only;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether about 20,000 tonnes of rice stocks has also been piled-up at different mills in the Rajahmundry district; and

(f) if so, the total rice procured by the FCI from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) No. Sir,

(c) and (d) No targets are fixed by FCI However, against an estimate of 7 lakh tonnes for East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh, FCI had procured 9.16 lakh tonnes of levy rice, which is 2.16 lakh tonnes more than expected.

(e) No such complaints have been received from the Millers.

(f) The total rice procured by FCI during the year 1999-2000 in AP is 38.97 lakh MTs.

[Translation]

Electrification of Railway Routes

7006.SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of Railway routes targetted to be electrified in the country during the Ninth Five Year plan;

(b) the total length of railway routes electrified so far, and

(c) the details of the railway routes proposed to be electrified during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) 300 Route Kilometres of railway routes are targetted to be electrified during the Ninth Five Year Plan and so far 1467 Route Kilometres of railway routes have been electrified.

(c) During the remaining period of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the following railway routes are planned to be electrified :-

S.No.	Section	Railway
1. Danapur-Dildamagar (Balance portion of Sitarampur-Mughalsarai Project)		Eastern
2. Kusunda-Jamuniatand (Complete Project)		Eastern
3. Kita-Bondamunda (Balance portion of Bokaro-Barsuan /Kiriburu Project)		South Eastern
4. Bakhrabad-Bhubaneshwar-Berhampur (Balance portion of East Coast line)		South Eastern
5. Tambaram-Chengalpattu and Chengalpattu-Arakkonam (Part of Tambaram-Villupuram Project)		Southern
6. Mughalsarai-Varanasi (Part of Mughalsarai-Zafarabad Project)		Northern
7. Roopnagar-Nangaldam (Balance portion of Sirhind-Nangaldam Route)		Northern
8. Chalthan-Navapur (Part of Udhna-Jalgaon Project)		Western

[English].

**Purchase of AWACS on Lease
from Russia**

7007.DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to purchase three AWACS from Russia on lease as reported in the *Nav Bharat Times* dated April 16, 2000 or have made any agreement otherwise for purchase of the same;

(b) if so, the details of terms and conditions laid down therefor; and

(c) the main features of these AWACS and the extent to which it is likely to enhance our Air Force level ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) There is no decision to purchase three Russian AWACS. However one Russian AWACS aircraft has been taken on lease for 30 days for in-country demonstrations to provide hands-on experience to LAF personnel.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Recruitment of Pilots and Air
Hostesses**

7008.SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the total number of pilots and air hostesses selected and recruited by the Indian Airlines, Alliance Air and Air India during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : While no selection/recruitment of pilots have taken place in Indian Airlines during last 3 years, the details in respect of Air India and Alliance Air are as under :

Air India	1997	1998	1999
No. of Co-Pilots/Trainee Pilots selected	14	nil	01
No. of Co-Pilots/Trainee Pilots recruited	39	23	13
Alliance Air			
No. of Pilots selected	17	18	11
No. of Pilots recruited	17	18	11

The details of Air hostesses selected/recruited are as under :-

Indian Airlines

No. of Airhostesses selected	nil	nil	78
No. of Airhostesses recruited	03	nil	39

Alliance Air

No. of Airhostesses selected	123	19	44
No. of Airhostesses recruited	123	19	44

There has been no recruitment of Air hostesses in Air India during the last three years.

Tourist Visiting Ajanta, Ellora

7009.DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourism visited Ajanta, Ellora and Khajuraho during the last three years; and

(b) the amount allocated to provide more facilities, and for development of areas around these places during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) On the basis of information received from the Archaeological Survey of India, total number of tourists who visited Ajanta and Ellora during the last three years are as follows :—

Year	Total No. of Tourists	
	Ajanta	Ellora
1997	2,99,869	5,27,788
1998	2,72,007	5,04,984
1999	2,58,283	5,06,745

Separate figures for foreign tourist visiting Ajanta and Ellora are not available.

According to the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, estimated number of foreign tourists who visited khajuraho during the last three years are as follows :—

Year	Number of Foreign Tourists
1997	61793
1998	60681
1999	61997

(b) During the last three years an amount of Rs. 155.11 lakhs and Rs. 152.69 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh for development of areas around Ajanta and Ellora and Khajuraho respectively.

The Government of India entered into a loan agreement with the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) of Japan for conservation and development of Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 81.07 crores. The major components of the project are: afforestation, up-gradation of Airport facilities at Aurangabad, strengthening and improvement of roads, augmentation of water supply and sewerage, improvement of electricity supply, conservation of monuments and visitors' management facilities. The project has been extended till March 2002.

Cultural Agreement between India and Italy

7010.DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Italy are two giants in the panorama of world culture;

(b) if so, whether any cultural agreement has been signed between the two countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cultural Agreement between two countries was signed in November, 1976.

(c) In pursuance of this agreement, both sides have so far implemented five three year Cultural Exchange Programmes. The last such Programme is valid till the end of 2000. The Programme provides for cooperation and exchanges in the fields of education, language, art and culture archaeology, archives, museology, libraries, mass media and protection of cultural heritage. The Programme also envisages an active collaboration between the universities, cultural and academic institutions in the two countries.

(d) The co-operation in the field of cultural exchanges, exchanges of experts, scholars, students, authors and academicians have been growing over the years.

Setting up of Art Gallery and Museum in Hubli

7011.SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Ministers of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have released any amount so far for setting up of Art Gallery and Museum in Hubli, Karnataka.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the amount released has been utilised;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which the construction work of the Art Gallery and Museum is likely to start; and

(f) the amount proposed to be released during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Barren Land

7012. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) The names of districts in Bihar where exists the barren land;

(b) the funds made available to Bihar to convert this barren land into cultivable one;

(c) whether the State Government has not utilised the full amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) The wastelands/barren lands exists in all the districts of Bihar in one form or the other.

(b) Wastelands/barren lands are degraded lands which are currently under-utilised and are deteriorating for lack of appropriate water and soil management or on account of natural causes. Therefore agricultural operations are generally not feasible on such lands at the first stage of development. However the Department of Land Resources is implementing two major schemes for development of wastelands in Bihar viz. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) and Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP). An amount of Rs. 12.46 crores has been released to Bihar for implementation of IWDP projects. Further under DPAP, an amount of Rs. 13.50 crores has been released to the State for implementing watershed development projects.

(c) and (d) The projects sanctioned under the two programmes are still in progress at field level. The information relating to full utilisation of funds would be known only after their completion.

Publicity of Indian Culture

7013. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL :

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any special publicity drive to bring the youth closer to Indian culture so as to check flourishing western culture in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The objectives and policies for promotion, preservation and conservation of Indian Art and Culture are implemented by the Department of Culture through various schemes and by funding of autonomous organizations. The Schemes of the Department for scholarships for advanced training, fellowships for application and academic oriented research work in Indian Art and cultural fields, production and salary grants to promote creative arts and sustain "Guru-Sishya Parampara" etc. are given widest possible publicity to encourage individuals and organizations to apply for such financial assistance. Funds are provided to autonomous organizations, including Akademies and Cultural Institutes of national importance to promote and propagate understanding of Indian Art and Culture. To revitalise the education system by creating an understanding and awareness among students about the Indian Art and Culture and integrating this knowledge with education the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) conducts variety of training programmes and workshops for in-service teachers, educators, administrators and students throughout the country. It also brings out several publications, which attempt to provide understanding and appreciation of different aspects of Indian Art and Culture

Consumer Courts

7014. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of members nominated in each consumer court in Delhi for the disposal of consumer cases alongwith their qualifications and experience; and

(b) the steps being taken to fill up vacant posts in these consumer courts if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The details of members nominated in each consumer court in Delhi alongwith their qualifications and experience, as reported by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, are given in the Statement.

(b) As reported by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, two posts of Members one in District Forum-South and another in District Forum-North East are vacant. These vacancies were notified in the leading newspapers on 15.2.2000 Applications were received and are under scrutiny before the Selection Committee prescribed under Section 10 (IA) of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Member	Qualification and Experience
1	2	3
1.	Shri Deeshbandhu, Member, State Commission.	M.A., LLB. Several years experience in public affairs till he retired as Addl. Commissioner, MCD.
2.	Smt. Rumnita Mittal, Member (female), State Commission.	B.A., LLB. Twenty years experience as an Advocate.
3.	Shri G.R. Gupta, Member, District Forum-North.	M.A., LLB. 20 years experience in problems relating to Law and Public Affairs till he retired from IPS.
4.	Smt. Santosh Khanna, Member (female), District Forum-North.	M.A., LLB. Many years experience in problems relating to Public Affairs as she worked as Editor in Lok Sabha Sectt.
5.	Smt. Nargis Rajkumar, Member (female), District Forum-South.	B.A., LLB. Advocate on record-Supreme Court Ex-Secretary, All India Women Conference.
6.	Shri R.C. Nigam, Member, District Forum-West.	B.Com., LLB, FCA, FCS. Worked as Registrar of Companies and worked as Joint Director (Inspection), MRTP Commission, Delhi.
7.	Smt. Ravi Prabha, Member (female), District Forum-West.	B.Com. (Hons.), LLB, 4 years experience as an Advocate.
8.	Shri S. Gupta, Member, District Forum-North East.	M.Com., worked as Joint Director General (Investigation and Registration) and Sr. Counsel for Director General (I and R) in MRTP Commission.
9.	Shri R.K. Goswami, Member, District Forum-North West.	M.A., experience in Public Administration till he retired from IAS.
10.	Smt. Usha Khanna, Member (female), District Forum-North West.	M.A., LLB. Worked as Civil Lawyer for many years.
11.	Shri Nand Lal, Member, District Forum-New Delhi.	M.A., LLB. Worked as Director, Department of Company Affairs, Govt. of India (25 years Experience).
12.	Smt. Sushma Yadav, Member (female), District Forum-New Delhi.	M.A., LLB, Ph.D., 33 years experience in teaching, research and general administration in Social Welfare.
13.	Shri R.N. Bansal, Member, District Forum-South West.	B.A., LLB. 30 years experience in public administration till he retired from IAS.
14.	Smt. Anshumala Verma, Member (female), District Forum-South West.	B.A. (Hons.), Diploma in System Management, NIFT and many years experience in Industry, as she worked as Director, Business Development with Polar Technology.
15.	Shri S.P. Vashistha, Member, District Forum-Central.	M.Com., LLB, 27 years legal experience to work with Department of Company Affairs.
16.	Smt. Asha Kumar, Member (female), District Forum-Central	M.Sc., several years experience in public affairs and worked as Member, Prohibition Cell, Distt. Gurgaon and Member Managing Committee, Delhi Mahila Kalyan Samiti.
17.	Shri K.K. Bhasin, Member, District Forum-East	M.A., LLB, 30 years experience in public administration till he retired from I.A.S.,

1	2	3
18.	Smt. Monika Taneja, Member (female), District Forum-East	M.A, LLB, enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi and several years experience in Industry as she worked as Director, Monsoons India Pvt. Ltd.

Construction of Under Bridges

7015. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether under bridges at Rampura and Keshav Puram Industrial Area railway level crossings were sanctioned a long ago but construction works have not yet been commenced;

(b) If so the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which construction work of above under bridges is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Automation of Ammunition Inventory

7016. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Army is going in for total automation of its ammunition inventory as reported in the *Tribune* dated April 9, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to help the army to face any Kargil type misadventure ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The automation of Army Ordnance Corps inventory is to bring about transparency in the holding, to facilitate distribution and effective control. Accordingly, two task forces were formed to undertake functions as per a broad charter which includes :-

(i) Automation of Central Ordnance Depot, Delhi Cantt and Ordnance Services Directorate at Army Headquarter (including concerned sections of Ministry of Defence).

(ii) Automation of other Ordnance echelons, down to Division and Brigade level including enhance-

ment of communication network through wide area Network.

(b) It is envisaged that with the utilisation of Information technology, the total Ordnance inventory will be automated to focus on the needs of the Army to face any Kargil type misadventure.

[Translation]

Survey for Ratlam-Dungarpur Rail Line

7017. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey works for laying railway lines from Ratlam to Dungarpur via Banswara and Ahmedabad to Udaipur via Dungarpur has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the time by which the above works are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Surveys for construction of new line for Ratlam-Banswara-Dungarpur and gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Dungarpur-Udaipur MG line are expected to be completed by 31.12.2000. Further consideration of these projects would be possible once the survey reports become available.

[English]

Tourists Visiting Tamil Nadu

7018. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of tourists visited Tamil Nadu during the last three years including foreign tourists; and

(b) the details of financial assistance provided/ proposed to be provided for the development of tourism in Tamil Nadu during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) According to the

Statistics available from the State Government, total number of tourists including foreign tourist who visited Tamil Nadu during 1997, 1998 and 1999 are as follows :-

Year	Total No. of Tourists
1997	1,95,64,742
1998	2,10,49,593
1999	2,18,59,383

(b) The projects for central financial assistance are prioritised in consultation with the State Governments every year for that year. Based on the prioritization of projects for the year 1999-2000, 26 projects for an amount of Rs. 493.85 lakhs were sanctioned to the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the implementation of various tourism projects like wayside amenities, High Mast lighting, refurbishment of monuments, etc.

Translation]

Conversion of Paddy into Rice

7019.DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 67 percent of paddy is converted into rice on an average in the country;

(b) if so, whether this average at international level is 72% to 73%;

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

(d) the reasons for such a big difference in it;

(e) the estimated loss per quintal as a result thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to push up conversion yield to 72%.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) In respect of the Rice procured for the Central Pool, the Government of India, based on the recommendations of an Expert Committee which examined the results of trial milling of Paddy conducted by three scientific institutes, have fixed an uniform out-turn (milling yield) ratio of 67% in Raw rice and 68% in parboiled rice.

(b) to (d) As per the available information, the out-turn ratio in respect of some of the major rice producing

countries which employ improved rice milling technologies are :

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| (i) Indonesia - 68% | (ii) USA - 70% |
| (iii) China - 70% | (iv) Australia - 72% |

(e) Assuming the international out-turn ratio of 72% the estimated loss in terms of rice is about 7.0%,

(f) Government has taken following steps for increasing the milling yield of Paddy :

- (i) In the year 1970 the Rice Milling industry (regulation and licensing) Rules were amended to take up the modernisation of conventional rice mills.
- (ii) About 13 regional extension service centres have been set up so far in different paddy growing states to propagate the benefits of modernisation of rice mills and by product utilisation with the financial support by the Government of India.
- (iii) In order to encourage production of quality rice will machinery and allied equipment in the country four testing centres have been set up in the Southern, Eastern, Northern and Western regions of the country. These centres undertake testing of rice milling equipment as per standard prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standard.
- (iv) A subsidy scheme was launched in the year 1983 for modernisation of Huller Mills wherein the beneficiaries were entitled to get about 50% cost of modernisation equipment as subsidy i.e. 15 thousands per unit. The scheme has been discontinued from April 1997 onwards.

However, a similar scheme is in operation by technology mission on oil seeds, pulses and maize in the Ministry of Agriculture to augment the availability of rice bran for extraction of oil by modernisation the Huller Rice Millers.

[English]

Linking of Kolhapur City with Ratnagiri

7020.SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to link Kolhapur city with Ratnagiri on Konkan Railways; and

(b) if so, the results of the survey and the decision taken by the Government to execute the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The results of the survey have revealed the cost of the 211.45 km. long line as Rs. 1273.82 crores with a negative Rate of return. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of the line coupled with the severe resource constraints being faced by Railways at present, it has not been found possible to consider taking up the project.

[Translation]

Extension of Mahakaushal Express upto Jammu Tawi

7021.SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Jabalpur-Delhi Mahakaushal Express upto Jammu Tawi and to run Bhopal-Durg Amarkantak Express from Jabalpur on daily basis; and

(b) if so, the time by which the approval is likely to be granted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Sanitation Programme

7022.SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects undertaken with regard to Central Rural Sanitation Programme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the amount released to the States during the above period for implementation of the Programme, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether any new guidelines have been issued to the State Governments regarding the above programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) 51 new

projects under Central Rural Sanitation Programme were sanctioned during the last 3 years as per details given in Statement-I.

(b) The details of funds released, state-wise, during the last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme is at Statement-II.

(c) and (d) The Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme has been restructured w.e.f. 1-4-99. The new guidelines have been issued to all the States/UTs. The Restructured Programme will move away from the principle of State-wise allocations primarily based on poverty criteria to a "demand-driven" approach. It is community led and people centred. The allocation based programme will be phased out progressively and will be replaced by the Total Sanitation Campaign. Alternate Delivery Mechanism through Rural Sanitary Mats along with different technological options and IEC and school sanitation are the major components of Total Sanitation Campaign under the restructured Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme.

Statement-I

*Details of new projects approved, State-wise
during the last three years.*

S.No	State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	1	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			2
3.	Assam	—	—	3
4.	Bihar	—	—	2
5.	Gujarat	—	—	3
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1
7.	Karnataka	—	—	3
8.	Kerala	1	6	3
9.	Maharashtra	—	—	4
10.	Orissa	—	—	3
11.	Rajasthan	—	—	4
12.	Sikkim	—	—	2
13.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	4
Total		1	7	43

Statement-II

Details of funds released, State-wise during the last three years.

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No	State/UT	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1021.32	1148.93	1074.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	40.48
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	133.22
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	729.75
5.	Goa	3.75	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	215.00	200.00	484.10
7.	Haryana	52.42	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.54	70.77	42.13
9.	J and K	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	1014.55	498.67	997.19
11.	Kerala	531.47	731.37	253.03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	506.86	525.48	438.11
13.	Maharashtra	1285.38	575.28	1838.02
14.	Manipur	15.00	45.50	8.96
15.	Meghalaya	15.91	35.00	0.00
16.	Mizoram	4.68	21.00	1.89
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	405.54	315.82	771.04
19.	Punjab	0.00	53.35	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	193.76	193.76	556.80
21.	Sikkim	23.13	26.00	25.43
22.	Tamil Nadu	925.93	496.39	1052.49
23.	Tripura	48.67	24.00	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2641.99	1116.49	737.77
25.	West Bengal	304.21	304.21	0.00
26.	A&N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	D and N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Daman and Diu	0.00	3.50	0.00
29.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Lakshadweep	2.50	3.50	2.50
31.	Pondicherry	2.50	3.50	2.50
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		9285.11	6394.52	9187.82

Stone and Copper Plate Inscriptions

7023. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stone inscriptions and copper plate inscriptions so far discovered in the country;

(b) the chronological classification and details of the number of inscriptions found so far;

(c) the number of stone inscriptions and copper plate inscriptions from Tamil Nadu copied deciphered and published so far;

(d) the details of chronological classification of these inscriptions found in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) the various steps taken by the Government to publish these inscriptions of historical and social value ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A total of 85,874 stone and copper plate inscriptions have been found by the Archaeological Survey of India so far. Chronologically they date from the 3rd century B.C. to the 19th century A.D.

(c) to (e) In Tamil Nadu as on date a total of 27371 stone and copper plate inscriptions have been found by the Archaeological Survey of India. These inscriptions date from 6th-7th century A.D. to 19th century A.D. These inscriptions have been reported in the Epigraphical publications of the Archaeological Survey of India viz; Annual Reports on Indian Epigraphy, South Indian Inscriptions, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Epigraphia Indica, and Epigraphia Indica (Arabic and Persian Supplement).

Train Service on Ahmedabad-Delhi Route

7024. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of train services cancelled prior to the conversion of metre gauge line into broad on Ahmedabad-Delhi route;

(b) whether these train services have been restored; and

(c) if, not the time by which these are likely to be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Due to

gauge conversion works, trains services between Delhi and Ahmedabad were curtailed in phases. Prior to gauge conversion, following trains were available between Ahmedabad and Delhi (MG) :-

- (1) 9903/9904 Delhi-Ahmedabad Exp.
- (2) 9931/9932 Delhi-Ahmedabad Aravali Exp.
- (3) 2905/2906 Delhi-Ahmedabad Ashram Exp.
- (4) 9901/9902 Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail.

After gauge conversion works, following trains have been introduced between Delhi and Ahmedabad via Jaipur (BG) :-

- (1) 9263/9264 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Porbandar Exp. (weekly)
- (2) 9105/9106 Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail
- (3) 2957/2958 New Delhi-Ahmedabad Rajdhani Exp. (tri-weekly)
- (4) 2915/2916 Delhi-Ahmedabad Ashram Exp.
- (5) 4311/4312 Delhi-Gandhidham Express (bi-weekly)

In addition that 9943/9944 Express is also running between Delhi Sarai Rohilla and Ahmedabad via Udaipur (MG).

It is also proposed to introduce a weekly train between Okha and Dehradun via Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Delhi and increase the frequency of 9263/9264 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Porbandar Express from weekly to bi-weekly in July, 2000 Time Table.

[Translation]

Concessional Tickets to Disabled

7025. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Concession in fare being given to the disabled persons is being misused; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check this misuse ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No report of misuse of the concession offered to the disabled persons by Indian Airlines has been reported so far.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Checking of Leakage and Irregularities

7026. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not been able to fully check the leakages and irregularities in the subsidy released under the rural development programmes by the Government to the State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in that direction over the years; and

(c) the details of the subsidy that has been released to the State Governments and Union Territories under IRDP and such other schemes for poverty alleviation and the extent to which the same has been utilised for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The onus of implementation of the rural development programmes rests with the State Governments and the Union Territories. However, in order to ensure proper implementation of the programmes including prevention of leakages and irregularities, the following steps have been taken/suggested by the Central Government :

- Emphasis on transparency by involving Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the planning and implementation of the programmes.
- Selection of works and the beneficiaries by the Gram Sabha.
- Constitution of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMC) for these programmes at the State, District and Block levels. The local MPs and MLAs are Members of the district and block level committees.
- Second instalment of the Central share of funds are released only after receipt of Audited Statements audited by independent Auditors.
- Field visits of officers of the Ministry under the Area Officers Schemes and reports regarding

implementation of the programmes. The Area Officers make the field visits on the basis of selected samples of works and make physical verification of the assets on the spot.

The State and District level Officers also make regular field visits and make physical verification of the assets on the spot.

(c) The details of central share of funds released to the States and Union Territories under the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99 and under the restructured Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during 1999-2000 are as given below :-

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Funds released under IRDP/SGSY
1997-1998	545.02
1998-1999	625.63
1999-2000	932.23

**Release of Shri Roop Lal from
Pak Jail**

7027.SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Shri Roop Lal Sahariya, who was arrested in 1974 in Pakistan on charges of spying and released in 2000, was a defence personnel working for the country;

(b) if so, the compensation paid to him/his family members during these 26 years; and

(c) the compensation proposed to be given to him now, when he has been released and come back to India ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Shri Roop Lal Sahariya who had joined the Indian Army as a Rifleman/washerman had taken premature discharge from the Army in 1969 on compassionate grounds. Thereafter he was not working for the Indian Army.

[Translation]

**Vrahad Sahitiyak Aur Kalakar
Mandhan Yojana**

7028.SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request to increase the annual income limit from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 50,000 under the 'Vrahad Sahitiyak Aur Kalakar Mandhan Yojana';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this limit has been revised thrice;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether various artists are deprived of the benefits of this scheme due to keeping low annual income limit;

(f) by when the income limit is expected to be increased; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (g) The Department of Culture administers a Scheme under which financial assistance is extended to persons distinguished in letters, arts and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances and their dependents. The assistance per month per artiste is Rs. 2000/-. In order to become eligible, an artiste should have attained an age of 58 years and his/her monthly income from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2000/- per month. The Govt. have already effected a raise in the assistance level from Rs. 1500/- per month to Rs. 2000/- per month w.e.f. 1.10.98. Since the revision in the level of assistance has recently been made, there is no proposal to revise these ceilings further.

**Arrival of Tourists in Jammu
and Kashmir**

7029.PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the arrival of tourists in Jammu and Kashmir has been decreased due to terrorist activities in the State :

(b) if so, the number of tourists visited during 1999-2000; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote tourism in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) There has been an increase of 1.64% in flow of tourists to the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the year 1999 as compared to the year 1998. Total number of tourists who visited Jammu and Kashmir during 1999-2000 are 4822966.

(c) The development of tourism in any State is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts./UT Administration. Central Ministry of Tourism, however, provides central financial assistance to them for specific proposals prioritised in consultation with them every year. During the year 1999-2000, 17 projects for an amount of Rs. 318.21 lakhs were sanctioned to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the implementation of various tourism projects including renovation/upgradation of tourist complex, construction of cafeteria and purchase of ice hockey equipment etc.

[English]

Rural Housing and Habitat Development Corporation

7030.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government decided to construct 13 lakh houses in the rural areas during 1998-99 in partnership with the private sector and set up a Rural Housing and Habitat Development Corporation to ensure housing for the rural poor; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the achievements made during the 1998 and 1999-2000, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) Government has prepared an Action Plan for Rural Housing in order to facilitate the construction of additional 13 lakh houses in the rural areas. The Action Plan includes Indira Awaas Yojana, Credit-Cum-Subsidy Scheme for Rural Housing, Enhancement of equity contribution by the Ministry of Rural Development to HUDCO etc. No decision about setting up of a Rural Housing and Habitat Development Corporation has been taken by the Government.

(b) Under Indira Awaas Yojana, State-wise achievements for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is mentioned in the Statement inclosed. The Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme was launched from 1.4.1999 with the target of 1.33 lakh houses. Rs. 50 crore and Rs. 150 crores was disbursed to HUDCO, as equity contribution in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively. As per information received from HUDCO, 13,04,072

and 10,06,253 houses have been sanctioned during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively for the benefit of Economically Weaker Section beneficiaries in the rural areas.

Statement

Achievements made under Indira Awaas Yojana during 1998 and 1999-2000

States/UTs	(Nos of houses)		
	1998-99	1999-2000*	
		Constructed	Under Construction
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	61430	65938	23683
Arunachal Pradesh	470	1101	861
Assam	20937	20412	21222
Bihar	125082	127313	201247
Goa	482	308	1709
Gujarat	21820	14627	13084
Haryana	10043	5711	1681
Himachal Pradesh	3874	2770	1876
Jammu and Kashmir	5400	5077	7460
Karnataka	37369	29685	17982
Kerala	9452	15280	16095
Madhya Pradesh	102901	58681	70889
Maharashtra	54532	42957	41598
Manipur	1125	0	0
Meghalaya	734	356	108
Mizoram	519	1434	202
Nagaland	2290	5097	0
Orissa	50671	42942	391
Punjab	3831	2438	1625
Rajasthan	32955	25158	19959
Sikkim	543	508	174
Tamil Nadu	68207	47807	15904
Tripura	3235	675	0
Uttar Pradesh	181274	96235	21482

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	36246	43017	18448
A and N Island	6	6	1
D and N Haveli	6	52	178
Daman and Diu	0	3	0
Lakshdweep	40	34	5
Pondichery	290	147	639
	835764	855769	498494

*Provisional (as per latest information available)

SC/ST Quota In IIS and M

7031. SHRI BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved for SC/STs in different faculties/disciplines in the Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering in Diploma, Pre-Graduation, Graduation and Post Graduation level courses during the last three years; and

(b) the number of students from SC/ST community admitted in different faculties/courses including their percentage as compared to the total seats during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering organized short-term courses spanning from 4 to 14 days duration on Skiing/Paragliding. Only Certificate of participation and completion of the short-term activities were given to those who participated in such activities.

(b) The Adventure Sports activities are open to all able bodied men and women who are interested in such adventure activities on payment of requisite fee.

Funds Allotted to DRDA

7032. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have been providing funds directly to the Districts Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) in the country;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have received reports about misuse of such funds; and

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

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

(b) Details of funds provided directly to the DRDA under the major Rural Development Programme during 1999-2000 are indicated in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Some reports of misuse of funds have been received. The Complaints/reports of misuse of funds received by the Government are forwarded to the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned for taking appropriate action as these schemes are implemented by the States/UTs. Officers of the Ministry of Rural Development also, at times, visit the States to look into such complaints.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the State/UT	Amount 1999-2000
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	37919.5
Arunachal Pradesh	5989.00
Assam	22396.16
Bihar	96724.51
Goa	323.33
Gujarat	18061.59
Haryana	8063.05
Himachal Pradesh	4421.44
Jammu and Kashmir	5165.97
Karnataka	22668.89
Kerala	12204.96
Madhya Pradesh	68823.53
Maharashtra	47892.38
Manipur	952.23
Meghalaya	1262.81
Mizoram	979.55
Nagaland	1509.46
Orissa	54625.14
Punjab	3637.15
Rajasthan	26978.60
Sikkim	627.28
Tamil Nadu	34784.71

1	2
Tripura	3219.59
Uttar Pradesh	108736.54
West Bengal	33540.26
A and N Islands	152.63
D and N Haveli	143.67
Daman and Diu	51.73
Lakshadweep	77.67
Pondicherry	169.94
Total	622303.27

Construction of Chennai-Tiravallur Rail Line

7033. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 42 KM Railways line between Chennai and Tiravallur of Southern Railway remain unfinished even though the project was initiated six years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(c) the steps taken to complete the above project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Setting up of Wind Mills in Orissa

7034. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wind mills set up in the coastal areas of Orissa were badly damaged due to cyclone; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to replace them with new wind mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) No damage has been reported to the wind mills during the last year's Cyclone.

(b) Does not arise.

Loan from International Financial Institutions

7035. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railways propose to take loan from international financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects for which the Railways are taking loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details are as under :-

- (1) Asian Development Bank for a loan totalling about Rs. 3,800 Crores (including co-financing) for Rail Sector Improvement Project covering aspects of augmentation of capacity, safety, etc.
- (2) Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra have jointly approached World Bank for funding of Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP). The Total cost of rail components of MUTP is approximately Rs. 5,000 Crores. Funding of the tune of 50%-60% is being negotiated from World Bank.
- (3) A Loan Agreement has been signed with Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW), Germany for a soft loan of DM 185 Million for financing a project of Modernization of Signalling between Delhi and Kanpur.
- (4) A proposal for extending French Mixed Credit to finance procurement of 3 phase AC/DC Traction Drive System for EMU of Mumbai area has been posed to the French Government.

Project for which Railways have taken loan are :

(1) Projects financed under ADB loan No. 857-IND

Procurement of three phase freight locomotives with transfer of technology, installation of traction sub-stations between Ghaziabad-Gomoh section of Northern and Eastern Railways, procurement of electric and diesel locomotive simulators.

(2) Projects funded under ADB loan No. 1140-IND

Electrification of Patratu-Sonnagar section of Eastern Railway, construction of third line between Sonnagar-Mughalsarai section of Eastern Railways.

- (3) Bilateral external assistance has been availed in the past to finance Continuous Automatic Train Control (CATC) system on Metro Railway,

Culcatta, construction of Koraput-Rayagada Railway Line and specific imports from U.K., Germany, Japan and Switzerland.

Advertisement by South Central Railways

7036.SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the South Central Railways issue a number of advertisements in the print media every year;

(b) if so, the amount spent thereon during 1999-2000; and

(c) the break-up of advertisements given to each and every Publication during 1999-2000 and the areas where it is published ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) yes, Sir

(b) During 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 2.07 crores (provisional) was spent on press advertisements including Rs. 1.73 crores on tender advertisements.

(c) A statement is attached.

Statement

(c) Details are as under :—

S. No.	Name of Publication	Place/s of Publication	No. of Avdertise-ments
1	2	3	4
1.	Indian Express	Southern Editions (9 centres)	1065
2.	Deccan Chronicle	A.P. Editions (4 centres)	120
3.	The Hindu	Southern Editions (8 centres)	76
4.	Economic Times	Hyderabad	100
5.	Citizens	Hyderabad	52
6.	Pledge	Hyderabad, Vijayawada	28
7.	Skyline	Hyderabad	18
8.	Today Freedom	Hyderabad, Vijayawada	22
9.	Employment Information	Hyderabad	14

1	2	3	4
10.	Lokmat Times	Aurangabad	36
11.	Gomantak Times	Goa	38
12.	Nav Hind Times	Goa	42
13.	'O' Herald	Goa	29
14.	Deccan Herald	Bangalore	42
15.	Eenadu	A.P. Editions (12 Centres)	12
16.	Vaaritha	A.P. Editions (11 Centres)	533
17.	Andhra Jyothi	A.P. Editions	262
18.	Andhra Prabha	A.P. Editions	134
19.	Krishna Patrika	Hyderabad, Vijayawada	29
20.	Vishaal Andhra	Vijayawada	18
21.	Prajha Shakthi	Vijayawada	18
22.	Janatha	Vijayawada	16
23.	State Times	Eluru	14
24.	Poddu	Hyderabad, Vijayawada	16
25.	Prajaporatam	Nalgonda	14
26.	Vijayabhanu	Vishakhapatnam	16
27.	Guntur Express	Guntur	12
28.	Hindi Milap	Hyderabad	652
29.	Ajantha	Hyderabad	18
30.	Prajasahayatha	Hyderabad	18
31.	Nau Deccan	Hyderabad	18
32.	Lokmat Samachar	Aurangabad	7
33.	Siasat	Hyderabad	130
34.	Munsiff	Hyderabad	142
35.	Rehnuma-E-Deccan	Hyderabad	42
36.	Saz-E-Deccan	Hyderabad	14
37.	Bhagyanagar Times	Hyderabad	38
38.	Maheshar	Hyderabad	15
39.	Mehangahi	Hyderabad	8
40.	Beat-E-Alam	Hyderabad	12

1	2	3	4
41. The Awam	Hyderabad		12
42. Siyanat-E-Jamoor	Hyderabad		12
43. Aurangabad Times	Aurangabad		22
44. Lokmat	Aurangabad		67
45. Marathwada	Aurangabad		9
46. Deogiri Tarunbharat	Aurangabad		13
47. Sharmik-Ek-Joot	Nanded		8
48. Prajavani	Nanded		7
49. Godateer Samachar	Nanded		7
50. Tarun Bharat	Goa		27
51. Nav Bharat	Goa		7
52. Kesari	Sangli		7
53. Sakaal	Kolhapur		12
54. Pudhari	Kolhapur		12
55. Yashwant	Latur		9
56. Prajavani	Bangalore and Hubli		48
57. Samyukta Karnataka	Bangalore and Hubli		32
58. Kannada Prabha	Bangalore		62
59. Vishaal Karnataka	Hubli		14
60. Vishwavani	Hubli		16
61. Nav Prabha	Hubli		8
62. Sanchar	Goa		4
63. Times of India	Mumbai		62
64. Hindustan Times	New Delhi		48
65. Statesman	Calcutta		32
66. Telegraph	Calcutta		52
67. Buy & Sell	Calcutta		24
68. India Tender Journal	New Delhi		18
69. Free Press Journal	Mumbai		24
70. Hindustan	New Delhi		9
71. Indian Express	Western and Northern Editions		72
72. Hitavada	Nagpur		13
73. Malayala Manorama	Kochi		2

Strength of Railway Police

7037. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present strength of railway police for the entire Karnataka is sufficient to provide escorts of every long distance trains in Karnataka;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of Railway Police in Karnataka for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Control of crime and maintenance of law and order on the Railways including on running trains is the responsibility of the State Governments. The adequacy of the strength of Railway Police should be decided by the State Governments, in this case the Government of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Military-men Missing since
Kargil War**

7038. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of military-men with their designations, reported to have been missing since Kargil Conflict;

(b) the steps taken to trace them out; and

(c) the outcome of the efforts made so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) **Due to avalanche**

(i) Officers	1
(ii) Other Ranks	08

Due to enemy action

Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs)	1
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Total	10
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(b) and (c) Efforts are on to trace the personnel missing due to avalanche. The Director General Military Operations (DGMO) has taken up the matter with his Pakistani counterpart to trace the personnel missing due to enemy action.

Construction of Hotels in Uttar Pradesh

7039. CH. TEJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of new hotels, motels and yatri niwas are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Central financial assistance of Rs. 69.97 lakhs for construction of 32 bedded Tourist Rest House at Tapovan, Rs. 12.00 Lakhs for FRP Huts at Chiaplakot and Pancheshwar and Rs. 25.00 lakhs for development of Tourist Village at Kasardevi in Uttar Pradesh have been approved during 1999-2000. First instalment for these projects is under release. However, Central financial assistance for construction of 100 bedded Janta Yatri Niwas at Chamoli and 20 bedded huts at Mussorie could not be approved/sanctioned due to non-receipt of clarifications/relevant documents from the State Government.

Removal of Slumdweller's Residing on Railway Land

7040. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court had directed the Railways to remove the slum dwellers residing near railway line in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the directions of the Supreme Court have been complied with; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Flights Timings of Private Airlines

7041. SHRI GEORGE EDEN :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent change in scheduled flights of private airlines have adversely effected the Indian airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for re-fixing of flight timings to protect the national carrier; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Management Machinery of Indian Airlines and Air India

7042. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a over-sized management machinery of Indian Airlines and Air India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the levels on which down sizing is likely to be done in this management machinery ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The employee/aircraft ratio in both the airlines is far more than international average. Both the airlines are working at downsizing through freeze on recruitment in non-operational categories, redeployment of staff, roll back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years, use of VRS etc.

[English]

Commissioning of Brahmaputra Naval Ship

7043. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Naval Ship Brahmaputra has been commissioned recently, without its main weapon systems, the Trishul;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the warship has been described by the Navy as "Rhino without a horn"; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) INS Brahmaputra has been commissioned without Trishul weapon system as the system is still undergoing trials and its performance has not yet been fully proved.

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

SC/ST Persons Deputed to U.N.O.

7044. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons from the Ministry of Rural Development and affiliated Organisations were deputed/sponsored/sent to UNO, its affiliated Organisations/other International organisations from January 1, 1996 till date in different grades and persons belonging to the SCs, and STs and OBCs among them and their percentage as compared to the total such assignments; and

(b) the reasons for discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) Three. None of them belong to SCs/STs and OBCs.

(b) The services of these Officers were sought by the Organisations by name Keeping in view their subject specialisation.

Implementation of IAY

7045. SHRI MUDRAGADA PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria being followed for selecting the families for allotment of Houses under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY);

(b) whether inspite of "Indira Awaas Yojana" being a complete Central Government Scheme, the MPs do not have any role to play in the selection process and thus missing an important and vital first hand feed back about the implementation of IAY; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made to ensure that involvement of the MPs is made mandatory on lines of Employment Assurance Scheme in all the decisions relating to Indira Awaas Yojana ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) to (c) The Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) Guidelines stipulate that, on the basis of allocations made and targets fixed, the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) Zilla Parishads, would determine the number of houses to be constructed, Panchayat-wise, under the IAY during a particular financial year and that the same shall be intimated to the Gram Panchayat. Thereafter, the Gram Sabha is to select the beneficiaries from the list of eligible

households, according to IAY Guidelines and as per priorities fixed, restricting this number to the target allotted. While approval of the Panchayat Samiti is not required, they have to be sent a list of the selected beneficiaries.

Members of Parliament are Members of the Governing Body of the DRDAs and are associated with policy and implementation of the Rural Development Projects, including the Indira Awaas Yojana. They are also Members of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

[Translation]

New Directions for Security Check at Airports

7046. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether new directions have been issued regarding security check of all the passengers including the Members of Parliament at the time of entering the airport with boarding card at the time of boarding the aircraft by machines and again manually by the C.I.S.F. jawans;

(b) if so, the logic behind the manual security check after the check through machines;

(c) whether the Members of Parliament were exempted from this sort of check earlier;

(d) if so, whether the directions for the security check are made available to the Members of Parliament; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A number of measures have recently been taken to strengthen security arrangements at airports. With a view to eliminating the possibility of a weapon or explosives being passed on to a passenger between the security hold and the aircraft, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) have issued instructions for secondary ladder point checking of passengers and their hand baggage. Security checks include both machine and physical checking.

(c) to (e) Security measures are uniformly applicable to all passengers.

[English]

Conversion of Chandigarh Railway Station Into Terminal

7047. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for originating important mail/express trains from Chandigarh railway station like New Delhi railway station.

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the detailed reasons for not converting Chandigarh railway station into a big terminal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) . Expansion of coaching terminal facilities at Chandigarh commensurate with traffic needs, has been taken in hand.

[Translation]

Bio-Energy Centres in Uttar Pradesh

7048. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bio-energy sources centres being run in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up bio-energy centres in accordance with para 6.200 and 6.223 of Seventh plan in Kheri and Mohanlal Ganj (U.P.); and

(c) if so, the present status of the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Government has no scheme for setting up of bio energy sources centres in different districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh or any other State.

(b) The paragraphs 6.200 and 6.223 of the Seventh Plan related to Draught Animal Power (DAP) and there is no proposal for setting up of either DAP or bio-energy centres in Kheri and Mohanlal Ganj in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Question does not arise.

Utility of Integrated Wasteland Development Programme in UP

7049. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply given to USQ No. 4232 dated April 20, 2000 regarding Watershed Schemes and state :

(a) whether any survey was conducted by the Union and State Governments to ascertain the utility of IWDP in district Kheri of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the districts/areas in addition to above district covered under this programme alongwith their names ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Department of Land Resources is implementing the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme on Watershed Basis. The Project proposals are submitted by concerned District Rural Development Agency to Government of India through State Governments for consideration and sanction. After the sanction of project and selection of the project implementing agencies, the survey is conducted by the concerned PIAs and work activities are undertaken as per requirement of the area. Two projects under the programme to treat an area of 24344 ha have been sanctioned for the district Kheri of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) 320 Projects in 220 districts, under Integrated Wastelands Development programme have been sanctioned including Lakhimpur Kheri covering an area 2296258 hectares.

Supply of Drinking Water from Indira Gandhi Canal

7050. SHRI SIS RAM OLA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had sanctioned Rs. 133 crore in 1997 for making available drinking water from the Indira Gandhi canal to the people of 96 villages of the Mandawa region and Bisau town under Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons for not undertaking the work so far;

(c) the time by which the said work is likely to commence; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) In 1997, the Government of India approved Churu-Bisau project under Sub-Mission to provide safe drinking water to 168 villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,829.00 lakhs, which is to be shared between Government of India and the State Government on 75:25 basis. Accordingly, the Central share for the project is Rs. 7,371.75 lakhs. In addition, a sum of Rs. 2,076.00 lakhs is to be provided by the State Government from its own sources for three enroute towns, i.e. Churu, Ratannagar and Bissau.

(b) and (c) As per information furnished by the State Government, the project has already been taken up for the

implementation. The State Government has further informed that the work of detailed engineering of two main pumping stations and 74.5 km long 800 mm trunk pipeline has been completed. The work of detailed engineering relating to village cluster distribution network is under progress. The State Electricity Board has taken up the work for laying 33 KV dedicated powerlines and additional 33 KV bays on 132 KV sub-station at Jhunjhunu, Churu and Sardarsahar. The work relating to building infrastructure development at Bhalavi has been awarded.

(d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Son of Suspected ISI Agent Recruited in Army

7051.DR. S. VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the son of a suspected ISI man has been recruited in Army, as published in Asian Age dated April 26, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor

(c) whether any inquiry in the matter has been conducted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) A news item regarding the issue had come to the notice of Government. In view of the sensitivity of the implications, the matter had been immediately taken up with Army Headquarters. Pursuant to further correspondence on the subject, Army Headquarters have been asked to enquire into certain specific aspects.

The response of Army Headquarters is awaited. Appropriate follow up action will be taken in the matter, to safeguard national security interests, after receipt of necessary inputs from Army Headquarters.

[Translation]

Linking of Private Ports with Rail

7052.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give priority to link the private ports with the rail;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard in January 2000;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the private ports to be linked with rail; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (e) In order to involve the stake-holders in the development and implementation of Railway projects, efforts are being made by the Government to involve the user agencies such as Ports, Public Sector Undertakings as also the State Governments in the form of Public-private-partnerships.

The Ministry of Railways has recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with M/s. Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited for forming a SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) for Gauge Conversion of Surendranagar- Pipavav and a New Line extension to Pipavav Port. The SPV shall undertake the work of Board Gauge rail connectivity between Surendranagar and the Port of Pipavav. Tentative project cost is Rs. 270 Crores. (Rs. Two hundred and seventy Crores). The project shall be funded in the following pattern :

66 2/3% of the Project Cost shall be funded through Equity.

33 1/3% of the Project Cost shall be funded through Debt.

Equity holding pattern :

(i) Ministry of Railways and its PSUs : 50%

(ii) Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited and others: 50%

The amount already spent by the Indian Railways on the proposed Broad Gauge Rail connectivity will be reckoned towards the equity contribution of Ministry of Railways.

Approximate expenses likely to be incurred by the Government is Rs. 90 Crores.

Ministry of Railways is examining the feasibility of entering into separate agreements with the ports of Mundra (in the Kutch region of Gujarat) and Dhamra (on the East coast of Orissa) to facilitate connectivity to these ports.

[English]

Foreign Visits of Defence Delegations

7053.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of delegations led by Army personnel or civilians of Defence Ministry went to the United States of America, Germany, France, U.K., South Africa and Russia during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 for negotiating Defence purchases;

(b) the names of the Heads of respective delegation in respective years, and

(c) the outcome of each of those visits.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Ten defence delegations from India visited Germany, U.K. and Russia in the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 for negotiating Defence purchases. No delegation had visited the United States of America and South Africa for this purpose. It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose further details of these visits.

Demolition of Stalls at New Delhi Railway Station

7054. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pucca-built Marble stalls of commission vendors demolished at New Delhi railway station during the last three years;

(b) whether the policy for placement of Modular stalls in their place introduced in 1999 has been implemented;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide compensation to affected commission vendors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) With a view to de-congest the platforms to make room for free flow of the passengers and to have aesthetic look of the stalls, a study of New Delhi Railway Station was undertaken by the National Institution of Design, Ahmedabad as a pilot project. A policy on modular stall was then formulated in 1999 and 18 departmental stalls at New Delhi Station have since been modified.

The stalls are built by the Railways and not by the vendors. The vendors are given various items for sale through these stalls for which they are paid commission on monthly basis. In recent times, there has been increase in the payment of commission to the commission vendors of New Delhi Station

(d) Does not arise.

Mandi for Delivery of Foodgrains

7055. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether FCI has intimated to State Agencies the details of centres at which they want to get mandi for delivery of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the locations thereof;

(c) whether the State agencies are holding godown/plinths accommodation for storage of wheat at the stations where FCI wants to get mandi for delivery of foodgrains.

(d) if so, whether FCI has any long term planning to construct new godown/plinths/ceilo for storage of Foodgrains keeping in view the increased production of wheat/paddy and slow movement of wheat and rice; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details are worked out at local level by the FCI. State-wise position is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) In some stations the State Agencies are also having their own godowns/plinths or hired godowns/plinths for accommodating their procured wheat stocks at the stations where FCI also want to get the direct mandi delivery of wheat, If the State agencies are unable to give direct deliveries to FCI and FCI godowns remain vacant, FCI withhold the carryover charges/incidentals. In U.P., where decentralised procurement scheme has commenced, the State Government will retain procured wheat in their godowns for further issue under Public Distribution System for the whole year. Only surplus wheat stocks above the requirement of State Government will be delivered to FCI in Central Pool.

(d) and (e) FCI constructs its own godowns at strategic locations depending upon the budgetary allocations, During the current 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002), 1.79 lakh MT storage Capacity has already been constructed upto February, 2000. Besides, construction of 2.70 lakh MT capacity godowns by the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/other agencies for the use of FCI has also been approved during the current Five Year Plan. Storage facilities for the increased procurement are generally met by hiring storage capacity from CWC, State Warehousing Corporation, State Government and private parties.

Statement

1. PUNJAB : So far no intimation has been made to State Government and its agencies for direct delivery of

wheat during Rabi 2000-2001. The position is being assessed.

2. HARYANA : FCI has directed its District Managers to intimate the details of the centres to concerned agencies where FCI can get direct deliveries from the State agencies from the local mandies as per the availability of stocks. Details have been worked out and action is being taken. FCI intends to take over direct delivery of wheat from the State agencies to the extent of about 3 lakh MTs during ensuing Rabi Marketing Season.
3. M.P. : After introduction of wheat procurement under decentralised procurement scheme, the State agency (MPSCSC) will retain their own requirement of P.D.S., and surplus wheat will be deposited to the FCI under the Central Pool. The agency MPSCSC has intimated that surplus wheat stocks will be deposited at Bhopal, Vidisha, Itarsi., Indore, Ujjain and Tikamgarh to the tune of 1.55 lakh MTs.
4. U.P. : U.P. State Govt. has started the decentralised procurement scheme. There are 7 different State procuring agencies for opening their purchase centres for purchase of wheat. FCI has also opened 41 purchase centres in the Eastern U.P.
5. RAJASTHAN : In Rajasthan, the State agencies viz RSWC and Rajfed are working as sub-agents of FCI and deliver the procured wheat on day to-day basis at FCI godowns.

[Translation]

Irregularities Committed by AAI

7056. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted an enquiry into the irregularities committed in the purchases and in other matters by the Airports Authority of India Ltd. during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the findings of the Enquiry Committee and the action taken against the guilty personnel?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) some references have been received from Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) during the last three years and necessary action is being taken on the same.

(b) No final recommendation has been made/ decision taken in respect of references received from CVC so far.

Development of Naseerabad Cantt.

7057. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent for development of Naseerabad Cantonment area during each of the last three years, scheme-wise;

(b) whether certain schemes for development of Naseerabad Cantonment area are pending with the Union Government.

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their long pendency;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding bunglings and financial irregularities in Naseerabad Cantonment area;

(e) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(f) if so, the findings thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The details of amount spent for development of Nasirabad Cantonment during the last three years is as under :—

Item	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Rs. in lakhs)
Buildings	21.96	17.76	26.30
Roads	3.55	2.74	28.12
Drains	27.32	10.55	5.58
Water supply	10.54	--	--
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	0.58	10.00	36.67

(b) and (c) All the scheme for development of the Nasirabad Cantonment have been approved except the scheme for construction of Community Hall since the proposed construction was on land not vested in the Board.

(d) to (f) Complaints about certain irregularities in Nasirabad Cantonment had been received. These were inquired into but were found to be devoid of any substance.

Cultural Centre in Sheikhpura

7058. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a cultural centre in Sheikhpura district of Bihar;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said centre is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery by BIS

7059.SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has launched a scheme for hallmarking of gold jewellery;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make it compulsory for all the jewelers in the country to obtain certification of gold jewellery purity before putting it for sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme envisages certification of the purity of gold jewellery. Under the scheme, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will certify the jewelers and recognize the Assaying and Hallmarking Centres. The "hallmarking" will consist of three compulsory symbols namely the BIS Mark fineness (caratage) and the Assaying and Hallmarking Centre's Mark. Only BIS certified jewelers can get their jewellery assayed and hallmarked by any of the BIS recognized Assaying and Hallmarking Centres in accordance with the relevant Indian Standards.

(c) This scheme is voluntary in nature and there is no proposal for making it compulsory.

Placing of Orders to Heavy Engineering Corporation

7060.SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Heavy industry and Public Sector Enterprises Minister has requested the Railways to place order with the ailing Heavy Engineering Corporation of Ranchi; and

(b) if so, action taken thereon;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request pertains to placement of orders against tenders. Each tender is decided as per merits of the tender viz rates, terms and conditions, past performance, quality requirements, rules and regulations including price/purchase preference applicable in the tender. Railways accord high priority to placement of orders on Public Sector Units subject to observance of laid down norms.

Model Plan for M.R.T.S.

7061.SHRI SAHIB SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway prepared a 'Model Plan' for Mass Rapid Transit System applicable to most of the Metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the physical and financial dimensions thereof;

(c) whether a 'Task Force' has been formed to take up such scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Seabird naval Project

7062.SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Karnataka had recently met him and urged for speedy implementation of the Seabird project at Karwar;

(b) whether a request was also made for additional funds for rehabilitation of the affected families at Karwar; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon along with the status report of the progress made in the setting up of the project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Chief Minister Karnataka, in a recent meeting, had requested for additional funds for rehabilitation of the affected families.

(c) The request of the Government of Karnataka for grant of additional fund for rehabilitation the project affected families is under active consideration of the Government. The Marine works have commenced with effect from 06 October 1999. The major works presently in progress are as under :—

- (i) Construction of approach roads, Engineer's office and Laboratory.
- (ii) Construction of quarry approach roads and preparation of quarry opening at Allgadda Hill.
- (iii) Bore holes survey for locating sand borrows for filling break water trenches.
- (iv) Construction of contractor's Establishment and Mobilisation of Equipment.

Users Fee at Airports

7063.SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the airports where users' fee is being charged from the passengers; and
- (b) the action taken on the complaints received in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government has levied "User Development Additional Fee" of Rs. 500/- per embarking international passenger at Calicut airport only. Malabar Airport Development Action Committee raised the matter against charging this fee. A writ petition has also been filed in the High Court of Kerala. The matter is subjudice at present.

Construction of Terminal at Aryankavu Railway Station

7064.SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether construction of terminal at Aryankavu railway station Madurai Division has been completed;
- (b) if so, the total expenditure incurred thereon;
- (c) if not the reasons of delay; and
- (d) the facilities are being provided for the passengers at Aryankavu railway station ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The replacement of tiled roofing with RCC roofing of Aryankavu Station building on Sengottai-Quilon metre gauge line has been completed.

- (b) About Rs. 4 lakhs has been spent so far.
- (c) Does not arise.

(d) This is an 'E' class station. Waiting hall of 39 sq. metre, platform shelter of 208 sq. metre, 2 water taps, 4 toilets and 58 seats are available and are considered adequate for the present level of passenger traffic.

Linking of Hyderabad with Kuwait, Jeddah and Kualalumpur

7065.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the introduction of air links from Hyderabad to Kuwait, Jeddah and Kualalumpur;
- (b) if so, reaction of the Government thereon; and
- (c) the time by which these flights are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide air connections between Hyderabad ad Kuwait, Jeddah and Kuala Lumpur. Of these services to Kuwait have since been started by Indian Airlines. The other destinations have not yet been connected due to inadequate traffic potential and/or shortage of aircraft capacity. Air India however, operates three common leg flights from Hyderabad to Jeddah over Mumbai with convenient connection.

Jobs to SCs/STs/OBCs In Civil Aviation Sector

7066.SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) number of posts reserved for SCs/STs and OBCs and the number out of them filled up in the Ministry/ autonomous bodies and subordinate offices during each of the last three years, category-wise;
- (b) number of SCs/STs and OBCs posts lying vacant in each of the above offices as on March 31, 2000; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by his Ministry for filling up these vacant posts ?

THE MINISTER CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The details regarding number of posts reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs, the number of posts filled out of them during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto 31.3.2000) and the number of posts lying vacant as on 31.3.2000 under the Ministry of Civil Aviation are given in the Statement attached.

(c) There is a freeze on further recruitment/review on manpower requirement in various Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. However, limited recruitment is being done in critical areas where it is necessary due to operational reasons. Efforts are made to fill up these reserved vacancies as and when action to

fill-up such posts in initiated. Efforts are also made to fill-up these reserved vacancies through special recruitment drives, intimation of vacancies to recruitment agencies

like UPSC, SSC and local employment exchanges and by way of advertisements in leading News Papers/Employment News etc.

Statement

Number of Posts reserved for Group	SC				ST				OBC			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1997-98	112	72	173	83	65	82	114	61	110	125	418	231
1998-99	71	33	106	34	32	15	59	18	86	65	188	79
1999-2000 (upto 31.3.2000)	49	45	95	54	23	21	37	21	76	92	217	112

Number of Posts reserved for Group	SC				ST				OBC			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1997-98	54	62	168	203	16	67	87	60	37	97	186	135
1998-99	47	18	114	113	17	3	55	7	24	26	108	30
1999-2000 (upto 31.3.2000)	26	16	98	133	1	3	42	4	22	28	98	35

Number of Posts Lying Vacant as on 31.3.2000

Group	SC				ST				OBC			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
	37	34	56	2	34	26	70	34	97	84	342	201

Job to Poors

7067. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which the poor people are likely to get the facility under I.R.D.P. D.W.C.R.A. and TRYSEM; and

(b) the manner in which the job oriented system is likely to be provided through Rural Development ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM). Development of Woman and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA) and Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) – as well as Million Wells Scheme (MWS), have been discontinued w.e.f. 1.4.99. A new programme

namely Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been lunched with effect from 1st April, 1999. The objective of SGSY is to bring the assisted below poverty line families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through a mix of Bank credit and the Government subsidy. This programme covers all aspects of self-employment such as organisation of the poor into Self Help Groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing.

Villages Benefited under IRDP

7068. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Maharashtra benefited under IRDP during the last three years;

(b) whether the pace of development has been satisfactory;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken to ensure proper implementation of said schemes in the above State ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (c) The number of villages benefited under erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was not monitored at the Central Level. IRDP and its allied programmes have been discontinued w.e.f. 1.4.1999. A new self-employment programme namely Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched from 1st April 1999. The number of villages benefited under SGSY is also not monitored at the Central level. The total number of families benefited under erstwhile IRDP during 1997-98 and 1998-99 and total Swarozgaris assisted under SGSY during 1999-2000 in Maharashtra were 147640, 145667, and 48062 (upto Feb., 2000) respectively. Being the 1st year of SGSY i.e. 1999-2000, the pace of programme is picking up slowly.

(d) The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched keeping in view the deficiency of the erstwhile IRDP and its allied programmes to produce the desired impact regarding alleviation of poverty in rural areas. SGSY has been conceived as a holistic programme encompassing all aspects of self-employment like organization of rural poor into self help groups and their capacity building identification of key activities, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology and marketing.

Launching of Third Stream of JRY

7069.SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Third Stream of JRY has been launched;

(b) the programmes/projects taken under this phase so far;

(c) the name of districts in Maharashtra and Karnataka have been selected for this phase;

(d) the allocation made to these States during each of the last three years and for the current year;

(e) the performance of implementation of the programme in these States during the above period; and

(f) the details of target fixed for 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a)

and (b) Special and Innovative projects under Third Stream of JRY was launched from the year 1993-94. The programmes/ projects such as those aimed at prevention of migration of labour, enhancing women employment, special programmes through voluntary organisations aimed at drought proofing as well as watershed development/wasteland development were taken up.

(c) to (e) During the last three years in Maharashtra and Karnataka, only on project for Karnataka in Belgaum district has been sanctioned and Rs. 80.00 lakhs Central share was released in March, 1999 out of the total approved central share of Rs. 240.00 lakhs for this project. No progress report of the project has so far been received from the State Government/Zila Parishad.

(f) The Special and Innovative project under Third Stream of JRY has been discontinued with effect from 1.4.1999.

[Translation]

Purchase of Generator Set

7070.SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Generator set was purchased by the Kota Division Power House of Western Railway in 1984 for emergency purposes;

(b) if so, the details of the capacity and price along with the date on which it was put to use and guarantee period etc. thereof;

(c) Whether the above set is functioning properly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the expenditure incurred on repairing of the said generator set, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) A 320 KVA capacity generator set was procured at the cost of Rs. 5,50,000/- and was commissioned on 3-12-1984. The firm had given a guarantee for 18 months from the date of supply and 12 months from the date of commissioning.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The year-wise expenditure incurred on routine maintenance such as (replacement of lube oil, air filter, oil filter etc.) is as under :

Year	Amount
1985	Rs. 687/-
1986	Rs. 650/-
1987	Rs. 3300/-
1988	Rs. 4364/-
1989	Rs. 3000/-
1990	Rs. 2500/-
1991	Rs. 1137/-
1992	Rs. 5283/-
1993	Rs. 3725/-
1994	Rs. 3743/-
1995	Rs. 9881/-
1996	Rs. 10081/-

On 30.6.97 the generator set stopped functioning due to defect in exciter assembly and automatic voltage regulator (AVR) and has been recommissioned after repairs on 20.3.2000. An amount of Rs. 5,23,496/- has been spent in 1999-2000 towards its repair overhauling and rehabilitation.

[English]

Reservation Quota for Gaya Station

7071.SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reservation quota fixed for Gaya railway, station, Train/Category-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that this quota does not fulfil the requirement of the people; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) After introduction of new reservation policy, Gaya Station has been given access to the entire reservation quota available at the train originating station on first come first served basis by the following trains passing Gaya :

1. 2311 Howrah-Kalka Mail.
2. 3009 Howrah-Dehradun Express
3. 3307 Dhanbad-Firozpur Ganga-Satluj Express
4. 3003 Howrah-Mumbai Mail
5. 3151 Sealdah-Jammu Tawi Express
6. 1159 Howrah-Gwalior Chambal Express
7. 1181 Howrah-Agra Chambal Express
8. 9306 Howrah-Indore Shipra Express
9. 3348 Patna-Barkakana Palamau Express
10. 2312 Kalka-Howrah Mail
11. 2802 New Delhi-Puri Purushottom Express
12. 2308 Jodhpur-Howrah Express
13. 8623 Patna-Hatia Express
14. 3330 Patna-Dhanbad Ganga Damodar Express

In addition specific quotas are also available at Gaya in the following trains :

Train Number and Name of train	Quota for different classes			
	AC 2-tier	I Class	AC 3-tier	Sleeper Class
1	2	3	4	5
2381 Howrah-New Delhi Poorva Express	13	-	5	80
8475 Puri-New Delhi Neelachal Express	2	-	2	67
2815 Puri-New Delhi Express	2	-	2	73
8605 Hatia-Delhi Jharkhand Swarnajayanti Express	4	-	-	26
2881 Puri-New Delhi Purushottom Express	-	-	-	48
1452 Gaya-Nagpur Dikshabhumi Express	-	-	54	327
2301 Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express	2	-	4	-
2302 New Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani Express	2	-	4	-

1	2	3	4	5
2421 Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express	2	—	4	—
2422 New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express	2	—	4	—
2382 New-Delhi-Howrah Poorva Express	—	—	—	72
8476 New Delhi Puri Neelachal Express	2	—	4	72
2816 New Delhi-Puri Express	2	—	4	72
3010 Dehradun-Howrah Doon Express	—	5	—	144
1182 Agra-Howrah Chambal Express	—	—	—	72
9305 Indore-Howrah Shipra Express	—	—	—	52

(b) and (c) By and large, these quotas has been able to meet the requirement of passengers intending to board from Gaya except in peak seasons when demands are heavy at almost all stations. Moreover, since the trains in which specific reservation quotas are earmarked are well patronised trains and the quota allotted to various stations are being fully utilised, it is not feasible to enhance these quotas at present.

[Translation]

Wages Paid to Ticket Checkers

7072.SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ticket checkers are working on daily wages particularly in Kota, Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur and Gangapur city of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the amount of daily wages being paid to these ticket checkers;

(c) Whether the Government have received complaints regarding delayed payment to these ticket checkers; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the timely payment to these ticket checkers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No ticket checkers are employed on daily wages in Kota, Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur and Gangapur city of Rajasthan. However, twelve volunteer ticket checkers are working at Bharatpur as per Central Administrative Tribunal orders. These ticket checkers are being paid Rs. 8/- per day as out of pocket allowance.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Theft of Pandrol Clips

7073.DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rail travel through Meerut, Ghaziabad, Moradabad and Rampur district has been rendered hazardous due to repeated thefts of pandrol clips and two ways keys; and

(b) If so, the action taken by the Government to stop such type of incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Roll-on-Roll-off Service

7074.PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railways have offered Roll-on-Roll-off services to some sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have held any discussion with the road transport industry to make Roll-on-Roll-off service acceptable;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the Railway stations which have been identified for Roll-on-Roll-off services, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken to high-light the benefits of the Roll-on-Roll-off service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A few offers have

been received for introducing Roll-on-Roll-off (RO-RO) services. Recently, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRC), a PSU under the Ministry of Railways, has started this service.

(b) Under RO-RO services, loaded trucks are 'Rolled on' to flat wagons and moved to their destination, where they are loaded off the wagons. Under the scheme, marketing with truckers etc. is to be done by the promoter. The Railways have to only provide haulage service. As Railways do not have suitable wagon for this service, the promoter will be required to acquire such wagons.

(c) and (d) Discussions have been held with interested promoters about various aspects of feasibility of the service. Certain technical problems arising out of possible infringements to trucks loaded on flat wagons because of overhead electrical wires etc. need studied.

(e) A proposal for introduction of a pilot service from Sabarmati to Ludhiana area has been approved so far.

(f) Marketing and publicity of the service has to be undertaken by the promoter.

Energy by Wind Mill

7075. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has suggested reduction in interest rate and rescheduling of outstanding loan by extending the loan repayment period by 4 to 5 years in respect of loans granted to wind mill sector;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expand the capacity of the energy generated by the wind mill sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) extends financing to commercial non-conventional energy projects, including wind power projects. Financial Institutions, including IREDA, review their financing guidelines from time to time. Based on representations received from various organizations, IREDA have formulated their financing guidelines, effective from 28th April, 2000. Loan rescheduling guidelines have also been revised by IREDA.

(c) 192 potential sites in 13 States/UTs have been identified for wind power projects. Fiscal and promotional incentives are available for commercial projects. Attractive

policies have been announced by the State Governments for wheeling, banking and buy-back of electricity generated from wind power projects. Soft loans are also available from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) for wind power projects.

Power to Panchayats

7076. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the powers given to the Panchayats are very scant vis-a-vis the Constitutional Provisions particularly with references to the Union Territory of Daman and Diu; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to give more rights and powers to the Panchayats ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) According to Article 243 G of the Constitution of India, State Legislatures had been vested with powers to make laws for endowing the Panchayats with such powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of self-government. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have devolved powers and functions upon the Panchayats in varying degrees.

(2) the issue of devolution of powers upon Panchayats is a continuing one. While some States have devolved considerable powers and functions upon Panchayats, others States/UTs have yet to follow. The Central Government has been requesting the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to devolve more powers to Panchayats through high-level review meetings and through correspondence with the Chief Ministers/Administrators, State Ministers and State Secretaries in charge of Panchayati Raj. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, as intimated by them, considering the recommendations of the Finance Commission, of Union Territories and would lay the Report of the Commission, alongwith Explanatory Memorandum, before both Houses of Parliament.

Safety System

7077. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any internal system either at Zonal level or at Divisional level to audit the safety system;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Safety Organization has been structured as a 3 tier organization i.e. Ministry of Railways, Zonal Railways and Divisional level. In a sense, the organization performs a role similar to that of an internal audit on aspects concerning safety in train operations.

The organization monitors training of staff during safety camps, refresher and promotional courses. In addition, the safety organisation arranges periodical safety meetings and safety seminars. Publicity through safety circulars, bulletins and safety posters is also being organized by Safety Organization.

Air Cargo Hub in Delhi

7078.SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airport Authority of India plans to create a world class transshipment hub for air cargo in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it is proposed to be financed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is going to appoint a consultant to advise on the modalities of setting up of the proposed JV Parallel Cargo Terminal and development of Delhi as a major transshipment hub.

Acquisition of Anti-Missile System from Israel

7079.SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any deal to acquire a ship based anti-missile system from Israel has been concluded; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the specification of the system ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Private Airlines

7080.SHRI P. R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) The Private airlines operating in the country; and

(b) the number of private airlines whose applications for obtaining licence are under consideration with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) M/s Jet Airways and M/s Sahara Airlines are the two private airlines operating scheduled services in the country.

(b) Consideration of proposals to commence airline operations is an on-going process. At present four applications are pending, for want of information/clarification.

[English]

Construction of Residential Complexes/Houses through HUDCO

7081.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways propose to utilise additional land near railway stations for the construction of residential complexes and houses through HUDCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the revenue to be expected from the housing activity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Construction of Yatri Niwas

7082.SHRI A. NARENDRA :

CH. TEJVEER SINGH :

DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals approved by the Union Government for construction of Yatri Niwas, Hotel/Motels and tourist lodges in various States during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned therefor, State-wise and location-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism, in consultation with the State Governments/UTs, provides Central financial assistance to them every year

to augment tourism infrastructure. During last two years 48 projects were approved and an amount of Rs. 1687.20 lakhs was sanctioned for these projects. A statement showing number of projects of Yatri Niwases/Motels/Tourist Lodges approved in various States and amount sanctioned for these projects during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is attached.

Statement

Central Financial Assistance Provided for Construction of Yatri Niwases/Tourist Lodges/Motels during 1998-99 and 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of State	1998-99		1999-2000	
		No. of Project sanction- ed	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Project sanction- ed	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	3	49.48
3.	Assam	3	88.00	1	18.00
4.	Bihar	1	19.39	1	41.85
5.	Chandigarh	-	-	1	40.00
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	-	-	-	-
8.	Haryana	-	-	-	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1	50.00
10.	J and K	1	34.85	-	-
11.	Karnataka	-	-	3	134.27
12.	Kerala	1	50.00	2	173.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	2	85.00	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	9	208.56
17.	Maharashtra	-	-	1	48.39
18.	Nagaland	-	-	1	40.00
19.	Orissa	-	-	3	138.95
20.	Pondicherry	-	-	1	10.50
21.	Punjab	-	-	1	60.00
22.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-
23.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tripura	1	15.00	--	---
25.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	2	63.10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3	129.93	4	120.00
27.	West Bengal	-	-	2	71.13
28.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	-
29.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	-	-	-	-
31.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-
32.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
Total		12	422.17	36	1265.03

Meeting on South Asian Travel Tourism Exchange 2000

7083.DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of the South Asian Travel Tourism Exchange 2000 held in Rajasthan recently;

(b) if so, the number of countries participated in the said meeting;

(c) the aims and objectives for holding the meeting; and

(d) the outcome of the said Meet ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 20 countries.

(c) To showcase the composite tourism product of South Asian Countries.

(d) Such Meetings are regular promotional exercises and the results are not visible immediately. However, SATTE has provided a meaningful forum for interaction between South Asian neighbours and creating greater awareness of the destinations.

Cultural Auditoria in Karnataka

7084.SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide funds to Karnataka Government for the construction of Cultural Auditoria in the State :

(b) if so, the number of auditoria proposed to be constructed in Karnataka during 2000-2001; and

(c) the amount proposed to be released for the above work during 200-2001?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. However a sum of Rs. 100 lakh has been released for setting up a Cultural Complex at Bellary and Rs. 40 lakh for Multi-purpose Cultural Complex at Hassan.

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

[Translation]

Disposal of Old Stock of Wheat

7085.SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of wheat, rice and sugar lying in the FCI godowns as on March, 2000 with breakup as procured two years to five years back and procured more than five years back;

(b) the additional economic burden on this account;

(c) whether the said foodgrains are not fit for human consumption; and

(d) if so, the policy chalked out to dispose of the old stock of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Stock position of wheat, rice and sugar lying in the FCI godowns as on 31st, March, 2000, is given as under :

(Figures in Lakh tones)

	Two to five years	Over five years back
Wheat	2.44	0.57
Rice	4.21	2.03
Sugar	Nil	Nil

(b) The estimated carrying cost of the surplus stocks over buffer stocking norms works out to Rs. 2100 crores for the year 1999-2000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Introduction of Local Trains

7086.SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce local trains for neighbouring cities like Ambala, Agra, Alwar Bhiwani and Hissar so as to connect these with Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been formulated in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) Ambala, Agra, Alwar, Bhiwani and Hissar are already connected with Delhi by direct train services. However, introduction of trains is an ongoing process subject to availability of resources, operational feasibility and traffic justification.

Railway Coupon Facility to Ex-MLAs

7087.SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Board has discontinued the facility of free railway coupons to Ex-MLAs; and

(b) is so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

BIS Benchmark to Electrical Items

7088.SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Many electrical items do not conform to BIS benchmark" appearing in the Time of India dated April 17, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps have been taken to implement strictly the Quality Control Order 1993 Passed under the Essential Commodities Act;

(c) whether sub-standards electrical items have on many occasions been responsible for fire accidents; and

(d) if so, the number of units sealed/raided for manufacturing and selling sub-standards electrical items in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The newsitem referred to in part (a) of the Question mentioned about the implementation of the Electric Wires, Cables, Appliances and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 1993 and the comparative testing of certain electric goods by the Consumer Education and Research Society, Ahmedabad.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Certification (ISI Mark) for electric items is voluntary. However, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1995, the aforesaid Quality Control Order was issued by the then Department of Industrial Development in the Ministry of Industry (now Deptt. of Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry) in 1993 with the objective of maintaining quality of the electric items being sold in the market. This Order, inter alia, provided that the following items cannot be manufactured sold or distribution in the market unless they conform to specified standards and bear Standard (ISI) Mark of the Bureau :-

1. Electric Immersion Water Heaters.
2. Electric Irons
3. Electric Stoves.
4. Electric Radiators
5. Switches for domestic and similar purposes.
6. 2 Amp Switches for domestic and similar purposes
7. 3 Pin plugs and socket outlets.

Under the aforesaid Quality Control Order, powers have been delegated to various State Governments to appoint "Appropriate Authorities" who will have powers to call for information, take samples of items from the market conduct raids seize items not conforming to specified standards, etc. for enforcement of the Order.

The quality of ISI-marked products of the licensees is monitored by BIS through its certification marking scheme

under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 and relevant regulations issued thereunder. Action, such as search and seizure prosecution etc. is also taken by the Bureau in case of complaints of misuse of its Standard Mark by non-licensees.

(c) Neither the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion nor the Bureau of Indian Standards have any specific information on this aspect.

(d) As regards action in this regard under the aforesaid Quality Control Order the various State Governments are the enforcement authorities and no centralized information about raids, etc. is maintained by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

The searches and seizures carried out by BIS under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986, against alleged misuse of BIS Standard Mark by non-licensees on electric goods during the last three years is as under :-

1997-98	Nil	
1998-99	3	(Karnataka-2-Chandigarh-1)
1999-2000	3	(Maharashtra-1 and U.P.-2)

[Translation]

Survey for Maksi-Dahod Rail Line

7089. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey for laying Maksi Dahod railway line.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that no work is being carried out to lay Indore-Dhar-Jhabua rail line; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Work in Godhra-Dahod-Jhabua-Dhar-Indore and Dewas Maksi new line project has been sanctioned and is being executed in phases. Work on the first phase between Dewas and Maksi is already in progress and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

The work on 2nd phase between Godhra and Indore via Dahod-Jhabua-Dhar will be taken up once the work on first phase has been got completed.

A BG line already exists between Indore and Dewas.

Import of Coaches from Germany

7090.SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have imported passenger coaches from Germany;
- (b) if so, the details and the number thereof along with its cost and capacity of each coach; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to manufacture these coaches indigenously;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A contract was placed on M/s Alstom-LHB, Germany in October 1995 for supply of 24 Nos. All Metal Light Weight High Speed coaches (Second Class AC Chair Cars-19 Nos., Executive Class AC Chair Cars-2 Nos. and Generator-cum Brake Vans-3 Nos.), The total FOB value is DM 52,663,500. The seating capacities of IInd AC Chair Car coach and Executive Chair Car are 78 seats and 56 seats respectively.

(c) Indian Railways have entered into a Transfer of Technology contract with M/s Alstom LHB, Germany for manufacture of this design of coaches at RCF, Kapurthala. The investment proposal for setting up of facilities for manufacture of this design of coaches at RCF, Kapurthala has already been sanctioned and the work on the above project has started.

Demand and Supply of Pulses

7091.SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the availability of pulses is less than its demand in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether this is the reason for its high sale price
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard.
- (e) whether pulses are imported to meet the gap between the demand and supply thereof;
- (f) if so, the quantum of pulses imported during each of the last three years;
- (g) whether it has reduced the price of pulses in the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The demand and supply gap in the availability of pulses in the country is around three million tonnes and this mismatch in the demand and supply exerts pressure on the prices of pulses in the lean supply season.

(d) to (f) The Government has permitted the import of pulses under OGL at zero import duty to bridge the gap between demand and supply in the country. In order to further augment its availability in the country, the Government had imported one lakh tones of different varieties of pulses, on Government account, during 99-2000, The import of pulses during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)
1997-98	10.84
1998-99	5.66
1999-2000	1.70 (Up to January, 2000)

(g) and (h) The import of pulses by private traders as well as Government has helped in containing the price rise of different varieties of pulses at reasonable levels. The non-availability of pulses in desired quantities in the international market coupled with their higher international prices have resulted in lower imports during last two year.

[English]

Cave Inscriptions and Temples In Tamil Nadu

7092.SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to preserve, protect and publish the cave inscriptions in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the research projects undertaken by the ASI or ICHR on Tamil Brahmi inscriptions and early palaeography of Tamil Nadu in the last three years and the projects currently in progress;
- (c) the early cave temples and monuments preserved by the ASI in Tamil Nadu, location-wise;
- (d) the amount spent on the renovation, restoration, protection and preservation of these monuments in Tamil Nadu, monument-wise; and

(e) the number of cave paintings founds in Tamil Nadu so far and whether there is any report site-wise describing these cave paintings of Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Cave inscriptions declared to be of national importance are protected, copied and published by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) No such project has been undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) A List is enclosed at Statement-I

(d) The details of expenditure incurred by the Archaeological Survey of India in this regard during 1999-2000 is given at Statement-II

(e) There are 27 cave/rock painting in Tamil Nadu, of which 5 have been protected by the Archaeological Survey of India. The details of publications in respect of three caves paintings are given in Statement-III

Statement-I

List of Cave Temples in Tamil Nadu under the Control of ASI

S.No.	Name of Monument	District
1	2	3
1	Kotikal Mandapa, Mamallapuram	Kancheepuram
2.	Mahishamardini rock-cut mandapa	Kancheepuram
3.	Rock-cut Varaha temple, Mamallapuram	Kancheepuram
4.	Triple called rock-cut shrine, Mamallapuram	Kancheepuram
5.	Two rock-cut cave temple at North-east corner of the Koneripallam tank, Mamallapuram	Kancheepuram
6.	Unfinished rock-cut cave temple north of Krishna Mandapa	Kancheepuram
7.	Tiger headed rock-cut temple Salavankuppam	Kancheepuram
8.	Rock-cut Siva temple with three lingas, Salavankuppam	Kancheepuram
9.	Orukkai Mandapa, Tirukkalunkundram	Kancheepuram
10.	Alagarmalai Cavern with Alagar Koil Pancha Pandava beds	Madurai
11.	Rock-cut bas relief of Jain images with inscriptions (cavern), Keelakuilkudy	Madurai
12.	Cave in Siddhamalai, Mettupatti	Madurai
13.	Cavern with pancha pandava beds, Tiruparankundram	Madurai
14.	Cavern with rock inscriptions and pancha pandava beds Kalluthu	Madurai
15.	Rock-cut cave inscription and Pancha pandava beds Kalluthu	Madurai
16.	Narasimhaswamy temple and Ranganathaswamy temple Namakkal	
17.	Cave with two Jain Figures, Ammachatram	Pudukottai
18.	Rock-cut Siva Shrine, Devamalai	Pudukottai
19.	Cavern, Kudimiyamalai	Pudukottai
20.	Rock- shrine called Melakkol, Kudumiyamalai	Pudukottai
21.	Eight natural caverns Jain Idols and inscriptions, Kulathur	Pudukottai
22.	Rock-cut Siva cave temple, Malayadipatti	Pudukottai
23.	Rock-cut Siva temple, Malayadipatti	Pudukottai
24.	Rock-cut Vishnu temple, Malayadipatti	Pudukottai
25.	Two rock-cut Siva Shrines, Malayakkovil	Pudukottai

1	2	3
26.	Rock-cut Siva temple Narthamalai	Pudukottai
27.	Rock-cut Vishnu temple, Narthamalai	Pudukottai
28.	Rock-cut Shrine of Pushvaneswara Puvalakkudy	Pudukottai
29.	Natural Cavern called Andar Matam Sembuthi	Pudukottai
30.	Natural cavern with stone beds and Brahmi and old Tamil inscriptions called Eladipattam Sittannavasal	Pudukottai
31.	Rock-cut Jain temple Sittannavasal	Pudukottai
32.	Rock-cut Siva temple Tirumayam	Pudukottai
33.	Rock-cut Vishnu temple Tirumayam	Pudukottai
34.	Stone bed and Brahmi Inscriptions on the hill and rock-cut temples with Inscriptions at the foot of the hill, Kunnakudy.	Sivaganaga District
35.	Lower cave and Upper Cave, Trichy	Tiruchy
36.	Natural Cavern Known as virupakshi guha and Skandashram	Tiruvannamalai
37.	Cave in the jain temple complex, Tirumalai	-do-
38.	Rock cut Shrine Koranganilmuttam	-do-
39.	Rock-cut Caves, Narasamangalam	-do-
40.	Rock-cut temple Siyamangalam	-do-
41.	Rock-cut temple Mahendravadi	Vellore
42.	Subramanya Swami Temple Vallimalai	-do-
43.	Cavern with Jain sculptures and Inscriptions on the hill	-do-
44.	Rock Sculptures and Caves, Vilapakkam	-do-
45.	Rock-cut Pallava temple, Dalavanur	Villupuram
46.	Pallava Rock-cut Shrine, Kilmaivilangai	-do-
47.	Rock-cut Shrine Mandagapattu	-do-
48.	Rock-cut cave temple	Kanyakumari
49.	Two rock-cut cave temples with inscriptions in Varunachimalai	Thirunelveli

Statement-II		
<i>Details of expenditure on cave Temple in Tamil Nadu</i>		
S.No.	Name of cave temple	Amount
1	2	3
1	Rock-cut Siva temple	1,96,894/-
2.	Rock-cut (Pushpavaneswara) temple, Poovalakkudi	5,19,987/-
3.	Rock-cut Siva temple Tirumayam	5,77,589/-
4.	Rock-cut Jain temple Tirumalai	4,91,811/-

1	2	3
5.	Rock-cut Pallava Cave, Mandagapattu	837/-
6.	Rock-cut Pallava Cave, Dalavannur	977/-
7.	Rock-cut Shrine Keelmavilangai	478/-
8.	Rock-cut Cave, Mahendravadi	2,680/-
9.	Rock-cut Cave, Narasamangalam	2,880/-
10.	Rock-cut Cave, Mamandur	2,773/-
11.	Rock-cut Shrine Koranganilmuttam	4,100/-
12.	Rock-cut Shiva, Vishnu temple Malyadipatti	2,724/-

1	2	3
13. Rock-cut Jain temple Sitannavasal		4,330/-
14. Rock-cut Tiger-Headed Cave Salavankuppam		686/-
15. Rock-cut Shiva temple Salankuppam		786/-
16. Orukal Mandapa Tirukalikundram		249/-
17. Narasimhaswamy temple Namakkal		53,136/-
18. Ranganathaswamy temple, Namakkal		19,942/-
19. Lower Rock-cut Cave Trichy		1,353/-
20. Rock-cut Siva Shrine Devarmalai		759/-
21. Rock-cut Siva Shrine Malyakoil		1,894/-
22. Vishnu temple Tirumayam		₹ 97,139/-
23. Natural Cavern called Andarmadam, Sembuthi		854/-
24. Pancha Pandava beds and Inscriptions, Alagarkoil		229/-
25. Rock-cut bas relief of Jain images with inscriptions, Keelakudi		827/-
26. Rock-cut Jain Sculpture and Inscription, Kalluthu		453/-
27. Cave in Sitharmalai, Mettupatti		453/-
28. Cavern with Pancha Pandava beds, Tirupparankuntram		18,372/-
29. Skandashramam and Virupakshi Cave, Tiruvannamalai		4,341/-
30. Jain Sculpture and Inscriptions, Vallimalai		1,936/-
31. Rock-cut Cave, Vilapakkam		951/-
32. Rock-cut temple, Siyamangalam		5,102/-
33. Subramanyaswamy temple, Vallimalai		4,748/-
34. Rock cut cave temple, Thirunandikarai, Kanyakumari		5,13,763/-
35. Two rock-cut cave temples with inscriptions in Varunachimalai		7,591/-

Statement-III

Details of Published Cave/Rock Paintings

1. Rock-cut Jain temple, Sitannavasal, Pudikottai published by Jaina Art and Architecture (Vol.II), Edited by A Ghosh, Bharatiya Jnanpith, New Delhi - 1975.
2. Cave in the Jain temple complex, Tirumalai, District Tiruvannamalai published by Jaina Art and Architecture (Vol.II), Edited by A. Ghosh, Bharatiya Jnanpith, New Delhi- 1975

3. Rock-cut Varaha temple, Mamallapuram, cave temples of the Pallavas, K.R. Srinivasan, ASI, New Delhi-1974.

[Translation]

Flights on Calcutta-Ranchi-Patna Sector

7093.SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Calcutta Ranchi-Patna air service on daily basis.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Airlines are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which stipulate certain minimum operations on specified category of routes. Indian Airlines has no plans to restart operations on this route which was discontinued in December, 1998 due to inadequate passenger demand.

Seniority List of Clerks

7094.SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a common seniority list for booking Parcel, reservation and luggage clerks in each division;

(b) if so, whether the Northern Railways administration has also maintained a common seniority list for booking, parcel, luggage and other commercial clerks in Delhi division;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to maintain and implement common seniority list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) In terms of instructions issued by the Ministry in 1993, the three cadres of Goods, Booking, and Parcel Clerks, whether they were separate, have been ordered to be merged into a combined cadre of Commercial Clerks in the initial grade with effect from 1.11.93 with option to existing staff in the initial grade appointed thereto on regular basis upto 31.10.93 to come over to the combined cadre. However, the employees working in higher grades on regular basis in any of the separate cadres were allowed to progress in the respective stream. The reservation clerks do not form part of this combined cadre.

(b) to (d) The Northern Railways which had separate cadres of Goods, Parcel and Booking Clerks has implemented the Ministry's instruction in Delhi Division combining these cadres in the initial grade with effect from 1.11.93 with option to the existing staff in that grade to come over to the combined cadre and allowing the employees in the higher grades to progress in the respective stream.

[English]

Catering in Shatabdi Express Trains

7095. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to lease coaches of Shatabdi Express trains to hotel chains for providing exclusive catering facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Discounted Air Fare in Delhi-Mumbai Sector

7096. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines/Alliance Air announced discounted air fare on the Delhi-Mumbai sector last year on account of stiff competition from other private airlines.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some private airlines are still offering concessional fare on this sector;

(d) if so, whether Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are proposing to offer concessions this year also; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

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

(b) Indian Airlines had introduced the special fare on Delhi-Mumbai Sector to Counter the fare war initiated by the competitors on this sector.

(c) Fares (in Rupees) being levied by the airlines on Delhi-Mumbai sector are as follows :-

	Indian Airlines		Jet Airways		Sahara Airlines	
	Day Fare	Night Fare	Day Fare	Night Fare	Day Fare	Night Fare
Economy Class	5110	3615	5110	3865	4666	4666
Business Class	7605	7605	7855	5920	7605	7605

(d) and (e) At present there is no proposal to reduce the fare on Delhi-Mumbai Sector by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air. However, if at a later date the market situation demands, Indian Airlines may have to respond.

Impact of Hiked Insurance Cost on Domestic Airlines

7097. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Air India's reinsurance charge to go up by 30%" as appeared in the Financial Express dated March 27, 2000; -

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have analysed the impact of sudden hike in insurance cost on domestic airlines; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

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

(b) to (d) Air India is paying USD 5.721 million as premium for 2000-2001 against USD 5.335 million paid for the year 1999-2000. This is an increase of only 7.24% in dollar terms. In case of Indian Airlines, the next renewal falls due only on 1st October, 2000 and no assumptions can be made about the likely increase. Insurance premium for Indian Airlines have, indeed, been coming down. Insurance cost as a percentage of total cost in airline operation in India is between half to one percent.

[Translation]

Flights to Varanasi and Sarnath

7098. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to increase the number of flights to Varanasi and Sarnath in view of increasing number of tourists to these places;

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Airline operators are free to operate to any place/on any route with any frequency in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which stipulate certain minimum operations on specified category of routes. At present, Varanasi is well connected by air-Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines are operating regular flights to/from Varanasi.

[English]

Building of Fighter Aircraft by H.A.L.

7099. SHRI S.D.N.R WADIYAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) at Bangalore is engaged in building some fighter aircrafts;
- (b) if so, details of the aircrafts and other major project in hand as on date;
- (c) whether HAL is manufacturing any aircraft to meet the optimum requirement of civil, military and cargo transport; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Among the fighter aircraft in HAL's product range are MIG-27M, Jaguar Fighter Aircraft, Kiran Trainer Aircraft and Cheetah/Chetak helicopters. Major projects in hand are those of Intermediate Jet Trainer and the Advanced Light Helicopter.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) HAL is building the Dornier-228 aircraft for both civil and military transport.

Delayed Flights of Indian Airlines

7100. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA :
SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU :
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether flights of Indian Airlines destined to Calcutta and Mumbai ran late during the last week of March, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made to ensure that Indian Airlines business does not fall on this account?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last week of March, 2000, the incidence of flight delays was much higher than the average due to the "Quality Assurance Norms" followed by the engineers falling back on technicalities, as a tactic adopted by the All India Aircraft Engineers Association in the context of its demands related to higher wages and other service conditions.

(c) Negotiations are currently in progress between the Management and the representatives of the Engineer's Association, Management has also drawn up a contingency schedule to cater to eventualities.

C.S.D. Canteens in Kerala

7101. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of C.S.D. canteens functioning in the country, State-wise and location-wise, with special reference to Kerala;
- (b) whether the Government propose to set up some more C.S.D. canteens in the country particularly in Kerala; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) State-wise break-up of Unit Run Canteens (URCs), popularly known as C.S.D. canteens, including in the State of Kerala is given in Statement attached. The total number exceeds three thousand four hundred.

(b) and (c) The feasibility of opening Unit-run-canteens is a continuous process which is examined by the concerned Defence Headquarters, keeping in view the existing infrastructure, man-power strength of eligible consumers and the economic viability of the proposal. Moreover, the number and location of Unit-run-canteens keep on changing due to operational and administrative reasons.

Statement**List of Unit Run Canteens – Statewise
as on 3.5.2000**

Sr. No.	State	Army	Navy	Air Force	Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	101	34	7	–	142
2.	Bengal	181	5	9	7	202
3.	Bihar	49	–	3	9	61
4.	Delhi	100	3	12	–	115
5.	Gujarat	68	7	10	2	87
6.	Haryana	194	–	14	24	232
7.	J and K	434	–	10	107	551
8.	Karnataka	56	3	20	–	79
9.	Kerala	21	3	2	1	27
10.	Maharashtra	141	30	15	31	217
11.	MP	113	–	3	–	116
12.	NE Sector	238	–	16	114	368
13.	Port Blair	7	9	1	1	18
14.	Punjab	407	–	8	16	431
15.	Rajasthan	249	–	10	2	261
16.	Tamil Nadu	44	10	6	–	60
17.	UP	441	–	15	14	470
Total		2844	104	161	328 **	3437

**Others : Para Military Forces, Controller of Defence Accounts Staff/Establishment, Ordnance Factories Establishments.

[Translation]

**Heavy Rush on Delhi-Darbhanga
Route**

7102. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is heavy passenger traffic on Darbhanga-Delhi route and the passengers do not get reservation due to long waiting list;

(b) if so, the action is being taken by the Government to improve the reservation availability at Darbhanga for Delhi;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to extend the Swatantra Sainani Express and Lichchavi Express upto Darbhanga; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) There is a considerable passenger traffic on Delhi-Darbhanga route and some passengers remain on waiting list.

(b) In order to clear the extra rush of Passengers during summer months, special trains are being run.

(c) and (d) Train No. 5213/5214 New Delhi-Muzaffarpur Swatantra Sainani Express (bi-weekly) is being extended up to Darbhanga from 01.07.2000. There is no proposal to extend Lichchavi Express upto Darbhanga at present.

[English]

**National Gallery of Modern
Arts in Bangalore**

7103. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal of opening a National Gallery of Modern Arts in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof and investment to be made for the above project;

(c) whether the site has been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the date by which it is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The State Government of Karnataka has offered to provide "Manikyavelu Mansion" situated along Palace Road, Bangalore for setting up a branch of National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), at a token rent of rupee one per annum for a period of 30 years. The lease deed agreement is being entered into. The gallery can be started only after the vacant possession of the building is given and the Department takes up necessary renovation work at an approximate cost of Rs. 85 lakhs. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs has been earmarked for this purpose. The Chief Minister of Karnataka has again been requested to expedite handing over the vacant possession of the building.

Reservation Quota at Solapur Station

7104. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the quota allotted in Karnataka Express train for Solapur railway station does not fulfil the requirement of the passengers; and

(b) if so, the action likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A few passengers remain on the waiting list.

(b) 2627/2628 New Delhi-Bangalore Karnataka Express is a long distance well patronised train. The reservation quotas allotted to various stations are reviewed periodically. Consequently an additional quota of three sleeper class berths was allotted at Solapur Station by 2628 New Delhi-Bangalore Karnataka Express w.e.f. 26.10.1999. As regards, 2627 Bangalore-New Delhi Karnataka Express, due to full utilisation of quotas at the existing quota holding stations, it has not been found feasible to enhance the existing quota of 4 AC 2-tier and 26 sleeper class berths available at this station.

Posts Reserved for SC/ST

7105. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO :
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of SCs/STs and OBCs provide with jobs in his Ministry/Departments/autonomous bodies and subordinate offices during each of the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the number of posts reserved for SCs/STs and OBCs lying vacant in each of the above offices as on March 31, 2000; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken for filling up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Issue Price of Foodgrains for PDS

7106. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the market prices of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene oil; and

(b) the market price and central issue price under the public Distribution of these above items for the families living below and above poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The market prices of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene oil in the four metropolitan cities viz. Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Chennai, are given in the Statement-I.

(b) The central issue price and the Issue Prices at Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System of these items for the families living below and above poverty line are given in the Statements-II and III respectively.

Statement-I

The Market Prices of Wheat, Rice, Sugar and Kerosene Oil as in April 2000, in four Metropolitan Cities viz. Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Chennai

(Rs./Kg.)

Item	Delhi	Calcutta	Mumbai	Chennai
Wheat	7.50	N.R.	10.50	11.50
Rice	13.00	12.00	13.75	11.50
Sugar	17.00	16.50	16.75	16.00
Kerosene	14.00-	13.00-	11.00-	13.00-
Oil *(Rs/ltr.)	16.00	14.00	13.00	14.00

N.R. Not Reported

* The Parallel Marketing Scheme selling price of Kerosene Oil fluctuates depending on the market economies.

Statement-II

Central Issue prices of Wheat, Rice, Sugar and Kerosene Oil

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	BPL	APL
1	2	3
1. Wheat	450	900
2. Rice		
(i) Common	590	-
(ii) Grade 'A'	590	1180

1	2	3
(iii) Common Rice for families Above Poverty Line (APL) applicable to J and K. H.P., N.E. States, Sikkim and hilly areas of U.P.	—	1135
3. Sugar		1300
4. Kerosene Oil (Rs./ltr.)		4.50

Statement-III

Issue Prices at Fair Price Shops (Wheat and Rice)

(As on 8.5.2000)
(Rs. per Kg.)

City	BPL		APL		
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Common Rice	Gr 'A' Rice
Delhi	—	—	9.50	—	12.30
Calcutta	3.00	4.00	7.68	—	10.40
Mumbai	2.00	2.00	8.10	—	10.85
Chennai	2.00	3.50	7.75	—	NA

TPDS not launched in Delhi

NA-Not Available

Issue Prices of Sugar and Kerosene Oil at Fair Price Shops :

Item	Delhi	Calcutta	Mumbai	Chennai
Sugar (Rs./Kg)	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00
Kerosene Oil (Rs./ltr.)	5.55	5.87	5.57	5.64

[English]

Old Age Pension

7107.SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the eligible old persons in the country are getting old age pension;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) which department and the officer who is competent to grant such pension;

(d) the criteria for sanctioning of such pension;

(e) whether only the influential and rich persons get this pension sanctioned easily whereas poor people are ignored;

(f) whether land-owning persons are also entitled for the same; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) No, Sir. All the eligible old persons are not getting old age pension under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS).

(b) All the eligible beneficiaries are not being covered due to paucity of funds.

(c) The Nodal Department responsible for implementation of NOAPS varies from State to State. At District level, the District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner implements the scheme with the assistance from the District Level official of the State's designated Department. The District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner is accordingly the competent authority to sanction pensions. Sanctions may however, be accorded by another designated official in the district on the authority delegated to him by the District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner.

(d) The criteria for sanction of pension under NOAPS are :

(i) The age of the applicant-male or female, should be 65 years or above.

(ii) The applicant must be a destitute in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. In order to determine destitution, the criteria, if any, currently in force in the State/ UT Governments may also be followed.

(e) to (g) No, Sir. Rich people are not considered for pension under NOAPS. Pension under NOAPS is given only to those old destitute people who fulfill the criteria as laid down in the NSAP Guidelines.

[Translation]

Assistance for Maintenance of Red Fort

7108.SHRI MATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the assistance available from various sources for the maintenance of the Red Fort in Delhi;

(b) whether the assistance provided therefore is sufficient for the maintenance;

(c) if not, the additional amount of assistance required therefore; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to make its architecture worth viewing?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Archaeological Survey of India maintains of the Red Fort which are under its control.

As the financial resources with the Archaeological Survey of India are limited, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has been approached for assistance.

Efforts to seek assistance from the Corporate Sector have not materialised so far.

[English]

Post Based Roster

7109.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the strength of staff under his Ministry and Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous/Attached/Subordinate Organisations, category-wise and grade-wise;

(b) whether the Post Based Rosters have been introduced in place of Vacancy Based Rosters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hotel Management and Catering Technology

7110.SHRI BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved for SCs/STs in different faculties/disciplines in the Diploma in Hotel Management and Catering Technology in all the Hotel Management in Pre-Graduation, Graduation and Post Graduation Level Courses during the last three years; and

(b) the number of students from these communities admitted to the above referred courses in different faculties/courses including their percentage as compared to the total seats during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per norms, 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent seats are reserved each year for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students respectively for all the courses conducted by the

Institutes of Hotel Management and Catering Technology. The number of SC/ST students admitted in various Courses during the last three years is as under :

I. Admission in 3-Year Diploma Course

Year	No. of students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	2014	438	21.70%
1998-99	2185	460	21.05%
1999-2000	2245	424	18.90%

II. Admission in P.G. Diploma Courses

Year	No. of students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	250	28	11.20%
1998-99	290	31	10.11%
1999-2000	274	18	6.50%

III. Admission in Craft Level and Diploma Courses

Year	No. of students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	539	89	16.50%
1998-99	553	76	13.74%
1999-2000	610	79	12.95%

Shortage of Engineers in Indian Airlines

7111.KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines flights get delayed due to shortage of engineers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The delays in Indian Airlines flights in the past few weeks have been caused by the undeclared agitation launched by the Engineer's Association regarding higher wages and other service conditions. Negotiations are in progress and contingency plans have been drawn up.

[Translation]

Rural Development Schemes from Uttar Pradesh

7112.SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted some Rural Development Schemes for approval during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of schemes out of them approved so far, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (c) Government have received proposals

on Rural Development Schemes from the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the period 1997-98 to 1999-2000. These proposals pertain to Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development, Samagra Awaas Yojana, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The number of projects sanctioned, out of these proposals, is indicated in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of scheme	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Proposal Received	Sanctioned	Proposal Received	Sanctioned	Proposal Received	Sanctioned
Innovative Stream for Rural							
1.	Housing and Habitat Development	-	-	-	-	1	-
2.	Samagra Awaas Yojana					1	-
3.	Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana	-	-	-	-	6	3
4.	Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana	1	-	4	1	1	-
5.	Integrated Wasteland Development Programme	79	8	68	7	44	9
6.	Central Rural Sanitation Programme	-	-	-	-	4	4
7.	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme	-	-	-	-	5	5

Construction of an Airport at Palia Kalan

7113. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of the airport at Palia Kalan in Khiri district of Uttar Pradesh has been completed; and

(b) If not, the time by which the construction work of this airport is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The airstrip at Palia Kalan in Khiri District belongs to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. Airports Authority of India has no plans to upgrade this airports.

[English]

Construction of a Bridge in J and K

7114. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the bridge between the border road Sunderbani to Changer, District Rajouri of J and K State is too old to bear the heavy traffic and the buses passing through this bridge have to unload their passengers first, which is dangerous in emergent times;

(b) If so, whether the Union Government propose to construct a new bridge on this border road; and

(c) If so, the details thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The existing bailey suspension bridge at Beripattan is of load classification 18R. Therefore, the buses crossing this bridge have to unload their passengers and reload them on the other side. This road axis however has a limited traffic. There is an alternative route available very close to this road, which is via Siot-Niara.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to replace the existing suspension bridge with a permanent bridge. Sub-Soil investigations for constructing the permanent bridge are planned for 2000-2001. After completion of the Sub Soil Investigations, the technical and economic viability of the proposal will be examined and a decision to construct the bridge or otherwise will be taken.

**Transfer of Defence Land to M.M.C.
In Mumbai**

7115. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the defence land can be transferred to any other agency by any subordinate authority without the sanction of the Ministry of Defence;

(b) if not, the reasons as to how an area 15000 sq. metres of land in Mumbai was ordered to be transferred to Mumbai Municipal Corporation by the Headquarters Western Naval Command;

(c) whether an inquiry has been held in the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps taken to check such unauthorised transfer of defence land in future ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir. As per the extant instructions, no transfer/alienation of Defence land may take place without prior approval of Government.

(b) Headquarters, Western Naval Command has not transferred any Defence land to Mumbai Municipal Corporation. The Corporation has, however, been permitted to do black topping of a 15 meter wide strip of Defence land adjoining the main Municipal road leading to Defence civilian Housing colony at Pawai.

(c) to (e) The matter has been brought out in audit, in the report of the C and AG for the year ended 31.3.1998 and the same is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

**Abolition of Toll-tax in Cantonment
Areas**

7116. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many State Governments have abolished toll-tax in their respective States;

(b) if so, the reasons for continuation of the same in the cantonment areas of these States;

(c) whether the Government propose to discontinue the collection of toll-tax from vehicles passing through the Cantonment areas;

(d) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to come in force; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cantonment Boards in some of these States are continuing to levy toll tax in cantonment areas as it constitutes a legitimate and important source of their revenues.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

**Process of recovery of Rice from
Paddy**

7117. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to send a delegation of rice mill owners to foreign countries to study the process of recovery of rice from paddy;

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

(c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken to devise machines for better recovery of rice from paddy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) The average recovery of rice from paddy in our country is 67% as against 70-72% in the case of developed countries, resulting in less recovery of rice. The Government of India is mooting a proposal for sending a delegation consisting

of Government officials, rice technologists and prominent rice millers from the country to visit Korea, Thailand and Vietnam for a study visit so that a blue print for modernization of rice mills in the country can be prepared. However, this proposal is in a very early stage and is yet to be examined from different angles.

[Translation]

Storage facilities near Railway Terminals

7118.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action plan has been formulated/proposed to be formulated to encourage the private companies to start storage facilities near the railway terminals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the senior officers of railways had participated in the conference of Confederation of Indian Industries during January, 2000; and

(d) if so, the details of the suggestions made and the decisions taken therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A decision has been taken to provide Warehousing facilities to the customers at identified rail terminals. Negotiations have been held with M/s. Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) for setting up such facilities at a few locations. Railways are open to consider proposals from private companies as per norms.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Senior officers of Railways had participated in the conference organised by Confederation of Indian Industries during January, 2000. The proposal to start storage facilities near Railway Terminals was discussed in the conference and the delegates suggested to encourage private participation for this venture.

[English]

Special Gallery of Paintings

7119.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to preserve a special gallery of paintings made by leading artists of Shanti Niketan Kala Bhavan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No proposal has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Procurement of Foodgrains by FCI in Andhra Pradesh

7120.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of procurement of Paddy, rice and other foodgrains made in Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years and till March, 2000;

(b) the number of procurement centers, opened, expanded and expenditure incurred thereon during the said period;

(c) the extent of surplus foodgrains which could not be procured in the State at present and main reasons therefor; and

(d) the schemes/strategy chalked out by the Government for future procurement of foodgrains in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The details of procurement of Paddy, rice and coarse grains in Andhra Pradesh for the last three years and till March, 2000 are indicated below :

(in lakh tonnes)			
Marketing season	Rice	Paddy	Coarse grains
1996-97	45.04	0.32	-
1997-98	38.55	-	0.02
1998-99	50.52	0.16	-
1999-2000 (till 31.3.2000)	34.56	-	-

(b) Mill levy rice is delivered by the Millers at the FCI designated depots. Procurement Centres are opened/ set up for procuring Paddy or Coarse grains only at places where the prevailing market price is below the MSP. This is done in consultation with the State Government to avoid distress sale by the farmers. The details of procurement centers and expenditure incurred thereon is given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) FCI is procuring levy rice as per the targets fixed in the Levy Orders issued by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. The targets set in the Levy Orders issued by the State Government have been exceeded by FCI consistently during the past four years. Rice of FAO standard only offered by the Mills, is being accepted.

Statement

Year	Godown Points		Other than Godown Points		Total		Expenditure Incurred (Rs.)
	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi	
1996-97	93	93	34	52	127	145	5,45,040
1997-98	95	62	82	—	177	62	64,15,020
1998-99	97	98	42	75	139	173	36,28,643
1999-2000	81	81	—	—	81	81	•

*Accounts are yet to be audited.

Dismissal of Squadron Leader on Medical Grounds

7121. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Squadron Leader of Indian Air Force has recently been dismissed/terminated from his service on medical grounds after successful operation in Kargil;

(b) If so, whether the medicine which was given to him was reportedly the cause of his mental worries as diagnosed by another very qualified doctor;

(c) whether the cause of his mental worries has been examined by any board of directors;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The officer was examined and treated for his illness by a qualified specialist of the Armed Forces and the medicines were given to him as dictated by his clinical condition.

(c) and (d) The officer was invalided out by a duly constituted Medical Board of Officers.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Visits by General Manager

7122. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the General Manager, Western Railway made inspection visits to Agra in a saloon during each of the last two years;

(b) the criteria for paying such visits in a Saloon;

(c) the number of times usually a General Manager makes inspection visits to a particular place in a year;

(d) whether the visits to Agra by the General Manager are justified and permitted by the rules;

(e) if not, the reasons for the excessive visits; and

(f) the total amount spent by the Railways on these visits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The General Manager made 3 inspections at Agra during 1998-2000 as under :

(i) General Manager's Annual inspection at Jamuna Bridge/Agra Fort and trailing window inspection of Agra Fort – Gangapur City – Sawai Madhopur on 24.2.1998 Arr: Agra Fort 08.10 hrs. and Dep: 09.00 hrs.

(ii) General Manager's Annual inspection of Kota Division on Agra Fort–Bayana–Sawai Madhopur on 5.3.1999 Arr. Agra Fort 10.00 hrs. and Dep. 11.00 hrs.

(iii) General Manager's inspection of Jamuna Bridge/ Agra Fort and trailing window inspection at Agra Fort–Gangapur City section on 2.8.1999 Arr. Agra Fort 08.00 hrs. and Dep: 16.00 hrs.

(c) No norm has been fixed in this regard.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No separate account for inspection is maintained.

Random checking by Railway Officers

7123. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Railway officer can travel in any higher class coach of any train without getting tickets reserved and conduct random checking of the tickets while travelling in this manner;

(b) if so, the details of the instructions issued to such officers in this regard;

(b) if not, whether the Government have received some complaints regarding boarding of railway officers without reservation in Kashi Vishwanath Express on April 7, 2000 and random checking of tickets; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Railway officers can travel in different classes with a proper travel authority. Instructions exist that officers during the course of their journey should check various aspects of railway working. As per extant practice, railway officers, while on duty, can supervise ticket checking.

(c) and (d) A complaint was received which is under investigation.

Attachment of more Coaches

7124.SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of General coaches in all the trains;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which over crowding in general compartment is proposed to be reduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) Augmentation of trains including with general second class coaches is an ongoing process depending upon traffic demand, availability of coaches and operational feasibility.

[English]

International Flights of I.A.

7125.SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines flights across the country have been delayed and the flights schedule disrupted

because of a go-slow adopted by its engineers during the month of March, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of losses suffered by Indian Airlines on this account;

(c) the reasons for adopting such an attitude by the engineers of Indian Airlines; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) During the last week of March, 2000, the incidence of flight delays was much higher than the average, due to the "Quality Assurance Norms" followed by the engineers falling back on technicalities, as a tactic adopted by the All India Aircraft Engineers Association in the context of its demands related to higher wages and other service conditions. There was no noticeable decrease in the utilization of seats in Indian Airlines.

(d) Negotiations are currently in progress between the Management and the representatives of the Engineer's Association. Management has also drawn up a contingency schedule to cater to eventualities.

Corruption charges against Official of AAI

7126.DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
DR. S. VENUGOPAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether disciplinary inquiry and several corruption charges are pending against Shri K. Tekchandani, former Executive Director (Consultancy and Coordination) of Airport Authority of India Ltd. (AAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether he is holding any post in AAI Ltd. and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A proposal for grant of vigilance clearance in respect of Shri K. Tekchandani, Executive Director, Airports Authority of India, for his appointment as CMD in the Cement Corporation of India Ltd. is pending consideration in the Central Vigilance Commission.

(c) and (d) At present he is holding the post of Executive Director (Consultancy and Coordination) in Airports Authority of India.

Recovery from Sahara Airlines

7127. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and Airports Authority of India (AAI), have to recover a heavy amount from the Sahara Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to recover outstanding dues early ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) While there is no outstanding dues/ payments to be made by M/s Sahara Airlines in respect of Inland Travel Tax (IATT), Rs. 2.08 crores is due from this airline to the Airports Authority of India.

(c) AAI has withdrawn credit facility granted to the Airlines and has introduced "cash and carry" system. Existing security deposit has been encashed and adjusted against dues and the amount of security deposit for this airline has also been enhanced.

[Translation]

Compensation for Land Acquired for setting up of Naseerabad Cantt.

7128. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Naseerabad Cantonment was setup and the area of land acquired by it;

(b) whether any terms and conditions were settled with the villagers, whose land was acquired while setting up of the cantonment;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether notices have recently been served on behalf of the Cantonment Board to the villagers of Diliwara Gram Panchayat in the name of recovery for utilisation of wells, cultivable lands etc. by them;

(e) if so, the reasons and basis thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to ensure that the villagers settled there prior to the setting up of the said cantonment are exempted from such penalties ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Nasirabad Cantonment was set up in the year 1818 and its area at present is 5665 acres.

(b) and (c) The details of the terms and conditions of settlement with villagers are not available.

(d) and (e) Defence land measuring 1129.52 acres inside Nasirabad cantonment were given on lease to 152 lessees for agricultural purposes. The leases have since expired in May 1964. The leases have not been renewed since then, nor are the cultivators paying lease rent. Their occupation of land is thus unauthorised. The Defence Estates Officer, Jaipur has issued notices to all such ex-lessees for recovery of outstanding dues for cultivation of the land since 1964.

(f) The land is under unauthorised occupation and hence the payments due cannot be waived.

[English]

International Status of Airports

7129. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have finally decided to accord international status to six airports;

(b) if so, the total amount to be spent thereon Airport-wise; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The Government has declared seven existing domestic airports at Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Goa, Amritsar, Guwahati and the new Cochin airport at Nedumbassery as international airports. These airports already have facilities for operations of Medium Capacity Long Range (MCLR) and Small Capacity Long Range (SCLR) aircraft used by most of the foreign airlines.

(b) and (c) Details in this regard are being worked out.

Facilities to Retired Railway Personnel

7130. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether retired railway personnel are allowed certain free journeys in a class of their entitlement;

(b) if so, whether such retired railway personnel are allowed a companion to accompany them on journeys;

(c) if so, whether they are entitled to travel by the same class as the retired person; and

(d) if not, the reasons for discriminating against the attendant or companion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Retired railway employees holding 1st/IA post-retirement complimentary pass are entitled to carry an "attendant" (i.e. a person exclusively employed on salary in the personal service of the retired railway servant) in second/sleeper class. However, retired railway servants who are more than 65 years of age and hold 1st/IA post-retirement complimentary pass have been allowed an option, subject to certain conditions, to carry a "companion" (i.e. anybody, not necessarily a person exclusively employed on salary in the personal service of the retired railway servant) in second/sleeper class if they themselves travel in second/sleeper class.

(d) There is no discrimination as "attendant or companion" and "retired railway servants" belong to two separate categories and are not comparable.

Building of Missile Destroyers by Navy

7131.SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Navy has decided to build-up more guided missile destroyers;

(b) whether any concrete scheme in this regard is being worked out; and

(c) if so, the details of the projects that are being considered?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) With a view to achieve the desired force level, series production of warships is being contemplated. A proposal for construction of three follow on ships of Delhi Class is presently under consideration of the Government.

Computer and Vocational Education to Women

7132.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Construction Management and research (NICMAR) has undertaken a

programme to train rural women in computer and other vocational education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NICMAR is also providing training to women in skills of plumbing, wiring, white washing and plastering etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government to provide job opportunities to these trained women?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (e) No such training programme has been organized by this Ministry through the National Institute of Construction Management and Research (NICMAR).

[Translation]

Allotment of Funds for NCES

7133.SHRI SUNDAR LAL TIWARI :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

SHRI TARUN GOGOI :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry sets annual targets to the State-level nodal agencies and the State Governments for various systems/mechanisms for the use of non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the targets set and the funds allocated for Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make it popular in villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) State-wise targets are not allocated by the Ministry under its major Non-conventional energy programmes except for biogas, improved chulha and solar photovoltaic programmes. Targets fixed, achievements made and funds released for the last three years under biogas, improved chulha and solar photovoltaic programmes in the State of Madhya Pradesh and the target fixed for 2000-2001 are given in the Statement attached.

(c) The Ministry is implementing various programmes/projects such as national project on biogas development, national programme on improved chulhas, integrated rural energy programme, special area demonstration programme,

national biomass gasifier programme, small hydro power and solar photovoltaics by providing various fiscal and financial incentives to make non-conventional energy

popular in rural areas of the country. These programmes are partially meeting the cooking, lighting and electricity needs of the rural people in the country.

Statement

Details of targets fixed/achievements made and funds allocated during the last three years (1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000) in the State of Madhya Pradesh and the target fixed for 2000-2001.

Sl. No.	Name of Programme	Targets fixed and Achievement Made during last three years.						Funds Released (Rs. in crores)			Target Fixed during 2000-2001 (Nos.)
		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.				
1.	Biogas (Nos.)	18000	16033	13000	14137	15000	14434	4.23	3.74	5.97	16,000
2.	NPIC (Nos. in lakhs)	2.50	2.57	0.96	1.00	2.50	0.48	1.10	0.82	0.75	50,000
3.	Solar Photovoltaic							0.60	0.93	0.25	*
	(i) Solar Lanterns (Nos.)	2000	0	2000	513	2100	740				
	(ii) Home Lighting Systems (Nos.)	2100	0	2000	0	50	49				
	(iii) Street Lighting Systems (Nos.)	208	50	200	0	100	77				

*Targets for 2000-2001 are under finalisation.

Arrangements for Procurement of Wheat

7134. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :
SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made arrangements for the procurement of wheat as per its support price particularly in the wheat procuring States; and

(b) if so, the targets fixed and the quantum of wheat estimated to be procured during the period of the new crop. State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) As the procurement operations are voluntary in nature and the farmers have the choice to sell their

produce to State Government, Food Corporation of India; or in the open market, as is advantageous to them, no targets are fixed for procurement of wheat. However, based on the estimated production and availability of wheat, procurement estimates are given by the State Governments prior to the commencement of each Marketing Season. The estimated procurement of wheat during the current Rabi Marketing Season, 2000-2001 in the different procuring States is as under :

(Lakh Tonnes)	
State	Estimated Procurement
Punjab	90
Haryana	30
Madhya Pradesh	6
Rajasthan	5
Uttar Pradesh	20
Total	151

Amount spent on Passenger Facilities

7135. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) The amount spent on providing passenger facilities in trains during 1999-2000 and the amount proposed to be spent in this regard during 2000-2001;

(b) whether Government propose to provide more facilities to the passengers of second class; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The passenger facilities in trains being a part of the cost of the coach, is not available separately. However, during 1999-2000 Rs. 122.51 crore has been spent by the Railways on overall passenger facilities (the figures are provisional as accounts for 1999-2000 are yet to be closed). Rs. 205.97 crore is likely to be spent during 2000-2001 under the Plan Heads Passenger Amenities and Computerisation.

(b) and (c) Provision/augmentation of various facilities for passengers, including second class passengers, and improvement in the design of second class sleeper coaches etc. is a continuous process.

[English]

Additional Flights to International Airlines

7136. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have extended the facility to international airlines for providing additional flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) With a view to meet the current traffic requirements, the Government had allowed foreign airlines to bring additional flights or bigger aircraft, outside their traffic entitlements, from 15th March to 15th April, 2000. This helped bring the desired relief to passengers.

(c) Does not arise.

Alliance Regarding Civil Aviation

7137. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have alliances with any country in the civil Aviation sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) India has been an active member of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and elected to its Governing Council since its inception in 1944. As of now, India has entered into bilateral air services agreement with 96 countries.

Water Pollution under South Central Railway Stations

7138. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bad sanitation has led to pollution of the underground water resources at the railway stations under South Central Railways;

(b) if so, whether the medical officers of the South Central Railways identified sources of impure water at the railway stations;

(c) if so, the names of railway stations where such inspections and tests have been done; and

(d) the steps proposed to start a campaign for sanitation and hygiene in the areas of South Central Zone ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) South Central Railway is already doing special cleanliness Drives and Health Education Campaigns in addition to day to day station sanitation.

Identification of New Peaks

7139. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified and thrown open some 20 virgin peaks to mountaineers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the arrangements made/being made to promote mountaineering with respect thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per the information made available by Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) which promotes mountaineering

expeditions, 18 Not yet Climbed Virgin peaks in open area are available to mountaineers for climbing.

(c) The steps taken by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation to promote mountaineering in the Indian Himalayas include; making available of information on mountaineering on website, providing grants/scholarships to Mountaineering Expeditions going to Himalayas as well as to the students for doing mountaineering courses, production of publicity literatures on mountaineering including those Do's and Don'ts in Himalayas, participation in international conferences to promote mountaineering in India; providing mountaineering equipment on hire basis and publication of Indian Mountaineer Journal which is circulated all over the world.

Settlement of Problems

7140. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the practice of inviting the Members of Parliament once in a quarter to discuss and settle various problems related to Railways of their areas is being followed by the General Manager, Southern Railway or the Divisional Railway Manager, Chennai;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to follow the above practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance to States for Tourism Projects

7141. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for providing central financial assistance for tourism related projects to the States;

(b) whether the State Governments have demanded to increase the Central allocation during the Ninth Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided for the said period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State Govts./ Union Territories for the development of tourist infrastructure for projects prioritised every year for that year in consultation with them. The assistance is provided based on number of destinations/circuits in a particular State, volume of tourist traffic and capacity to utilise the assistance.

The funds are allocated to State Govts/UTs for prioritised projects in consultation with them. During the 1st three years of Ninth Plan, an amount of Rs. 228.14 crores was sanctioned for 1009 projects to State Governments/ UTs. A Statement showing no. of Projects and amount sanctioned to various State Govts./UTs is attached. The Plan allocation of Ministry of Tourism is meagre and requirement of plan funds including demands from State Governments is more.

Statement

*Projects sanctioned and amount sanctioned during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000
(including Fairs and Festivals)*

(Amount Rs. in lakhs)

Sr. No.	State	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		No. of projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned	No. of projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned	No. of projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	206.70	12	304.08	14	222.22
2.	Assam	12	288.88	8	166.64	17	357.35
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	271.00	4	178.30	11	239.28
4.	Bihar	11	233.07	10	237.29	4	209.71
5.	Goa	8	144.62	15	333.98	14	309.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Gujarat	7	111.84	15	449.57	26	533.77
7.	Haryana	6	108.24	12	333.93	10	225.22
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	119.00	10	318.00	12	645.29
9.	J and K	10	293.35	6	192.85	18	342.08
10.	Karnataka	10	130.78	12	389.82	38	856.40
11.	Kerala	11	282.00	13	653.05	21	870.01
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9	119.31	19	454.39	16	402.85
13.	Maharashtra	12	169.84	17	493.77	29	954.43
14.	Manipur	5	186.11	9	99.48	10	229.00
15.	Meghalaya	5	85.70	7	121.99	5	30.72
16.	Mizoram	6	142.45	9	175.16	13	292.17
17.	Nagaland	4	116.90	11	223.64	16	291.80
18.	Orissa	28	557.05	6	178.60	20	346.90
19.	Punjab	6	52.87	7	242.14	8	175.00
20.	Rajasthan	13	107.33	23	445.48	12	131.12
21.	Sikkim	10	65.20	19	238.58	13	118.98
22.	Tamil Nadu	7	59.74	17	316.20	26	493.85
23.	Tripura	8	126.68	8	81.25	7	340.76
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13	221.10	32	869.85	36	755.45
25.	West Bengal	6	157.76	11	211.13	6	194.01
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	1	60.00	4	162.50	1	32.37
27.	Chandigarh	1	3.00	3	55.18	4	69.59
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1	5.20	2	20.00	—	—
29.	Delhi	7	229.43	13	223.89	5	24.50
30.	Daman and Diu	4	60.17	—	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	1	5.00	1	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	4	35.64	2	15.00	10	178.74
Total		252	4755.96	337	8185.74	420	9872.80

**Foreign Partners in Civil Aviation
Sector**

7142. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow private sector participation in the aviation sub-sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Chamber of Commerce have strongly opposed the idea of allowing foreign partners having more than 25% stake; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Civil Aviation Policy under formulation, *inter alia*, seeks to set up a policy framework for private sector participation. The draft has been widely circulated for views/comments before finalisation. The draft is also available on Ministry's website.

Suggestions of NIRD

7143. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have seen the suggestions published by the National Institute of Rural Development in its first report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement some of these suggestions in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The salient features of suggestions given in the Report are furnished below:

(i) Improvement in irrigation facilities, land productivity and agricultural wages will improve the levels of living of rural people. The key to poverty reduction lies in efforts to raise agricultural growth, investments in social and other infrastructure and human capital formation.

(ii) Social development and Infrastructure development help in reducing poverty and therefore investments in such areas should be stepped up.

(iii) Environmental degradation contributes to poverty and therefore people's involvement in management of environment is essential for ecological restoration.

(iv) Government of India allocation for Rural Development has been steadily increasing over the years and Centre has taken leadership role in rural development, while investments in State budgets have shown decline.

(v) In order to improve the efficiency of implementation of programmes, there is a need to decentralize the development system and rightly so Panchayati Raj Institutions should be strengthened.

(vi) There is a need for revamping the existing programmes of Ministry of Rural Development in order to provide focussed approach for poverty alleviation.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Rural Development has already taken measures for alleviation of poverty in all the States including Maharashtra. As a measure of remedial steps towards alleviation of poverty, the Government have already started various restructured programmes. Some of the programmes are as follows :-

(a) Restructured self-employment programmes - Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana;

(b) Employment Assurance Scheme;

(c) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana;

(d) Prime Minister's Gramodaya Scheme;

(e) National Social Assistance Programme, etc.

(e) Does not arise.

Excesses/Shortages of Staff

7144. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether while introducing "Post Based Rosters" in place of "Vacancy Based Rosters" the process of identifying excesses/shortages in Class I, II, III and IV category of services under his Ministry and all the Autonomous/Statutory Organisations, Attached/ Subordinate Offices and Public Sector Undertakings was undertaken; and

(b) if so, indicate excesses/shortages found in all the above categories of services as on July 2, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SC/ST Quota in Foodcraft Institutes

7145. SHRI BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved for SC/ST candidates in different faculties/disciplines in all the Foodcraft Institutes functioning under his Ministry in Diploma, Pre-Graduation, Graduation and Post Graduation Level courses during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of students from SC/ST community admitted to the above referred courses in different faculties/ courses including their percentage as compared to the total seats during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No Foodcraft Institute is currently functioning under the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. All the Foodcraft Institutes stand transferred to the respective State Governments. Admissions and reservation policy is, therefore implemented as per the norms of the concerned State Government.

Lowering of Fuel Price

7146. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether domestic airlines have suggested the Government to lower the fuel price;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to Government's decision on the phased programme of dismantling of Administered Price Mechanism, the pricing of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), is to be deregulated in the year 2000-01.

Further, for encouraging small turbo-prop aircraft operations to connect small and non-metro cities, it has also been decided to provide ATF to such aircraft operator, at international Prices and notify ATF as 'declared good' under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 Limiting the sales tax rate at 4%.

Change in use of Gymnasium at Naval Station, Visakhapatnam

7147. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Eastern Naval Command Headquarters had sanctioned a sum of Rs. 66.80 lakh for the construction of an additional gymnasium at naval station, Visakhapatnam for sailors and officers of the Navy but the flag officer commanding-in-chief Eastern Navy Command changed the use as "integrated welfare complex" i.e. for running restaurant, bank, ice-cream parlour, beauty parlour, health club, telephone booth etc. by private parties on rental basis;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken, if any, against the persons found responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Headquarters, Eastern

Naval Command had accorded administrative approval for construction of Gymnasium at Nausenabaugh, Visakhapatnam at an estimated cost of Rs. 66.80 lakhs in February 1996 for sailors and officers of the Navy at the station under delegated powers. The station had a gymnasium, which was not found sufficient for the strength of the sailors and officers at the station. Chief Engineer (Navy), Visakhapatnam concluded a contract in August 1996 for the construction of gymnasium at a cost of Rs. 69.23 lakhs. The work was completed in October, 1997 at a total cost of Rs. 73.29 lakhs.

FOC-in-C, Eastern Naval Command had issued order in October, 1997 declaring the gymnasium as an "Integrated Welfare Complex" under the name and style of 'Avantika'. The complex is being used for providing education, health, recreation amenities like restaurant, bank, telephone booth, health clubs (gents and ladies), beauty parlour, ice-cream parlour, creche, saloon etc. mostly through private parties on rental basis.

In its report for the year 1997-98 the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has observed that the facility created for use as a Gymnasium is not being used for the intended purpose. The matter is under examination.

[Translation]

Water Supply in Naseerabad Cantt.

7148. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the quantum of drinking water being procured by MES (Water Supply) of Naseerabad Cantonment from the Bisalpur along with the rate thereof;
- (b) the quantum of water being supplied to the civilians of Naseerabad along with the rate thereof and the reasons for the increased rates for them;
- (c) whether the Public Health Engineering Department of Rajasthan have made any proposal for taking over this water supply work;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) MES receives 12.15 lakh gallons of water per day from Bisalpur water supply scheme for which it pays Rs. 6.54 per kilo litre for the first 6 lakh gallons and Rs. 6.98 per kilo litre for water above 6 lakh gallons.

(b) The civilians of Nasirabad are being supplied water by the Cantonment Board which receives water in bulk from Public Health Engineering Deptt. of Govt. of

Rajasthan. The Cantonment Board pays Rs. 5.58 per kilo litre to the Public Health Engineering Deptt. and charges a flat rate of Rs. 15/- per month per connection from individual consumers.

(c) There is no proposal from the Public Health Engineering Deptt. of Govt. of Rajasthan to take over the water supply in the cantonment.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Provision of Lounge type Facility at Railway Stations

7149. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide lounge type facility at the railway stations;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Waiting halls have been provided at most of the stations on Indian Railways. In addition, the facility of waiting rooms and retiring rooms is also available at important stations. Provision of lounge type facility at the railway stations is not contemplated at present.

[English]

Integration of various Drama Divisions

7150. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to integrate the National School of Drama, Drama Division of Rabindra Bharati University, Calcutta and Drama Faculty of Shantiniketan (Vishwa Bharati University) under one umbrella to intensify research and presentation of Drama; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Institutions Registered with CAPART

7151. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of institutions registered with CAPART (Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology) to seek assistance, State-wise;

(b) the amount of financial assistance provided to these institutions during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the institutions which have not been audited;

(d) whether the amount of financial assistance has not been properly utilised by some institutions; and

(e) if so, the institutions against which action has been taken ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Regularisation of Ticket Checkers

7152. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has ordered to regularise the services of ticket checkers working on daily wages after completion of 120 days service;

(b) if so, whether the Government have regularised the services of these ticket checkers;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to regularise the services of these ticket checkers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Building of Stealth Warships by Navy

7153. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI Y. S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Navy is embarking on an ambitious project to build stealth warships indigenously;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its main features;

(c) the time by which these ships are likely to join the Naval fleet; and

(d) the extent to which the Naval force is likely to be strengthened therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The Government have approved the construction of three frigates, which will have stealth features. These frigates will be armed to carry out offensive and defensive tasks against enemy ships, submarines and aircraft and possess three dimensional warfare capability.

The ships are likely to join the naval fleet by the year 2006-07.

Bilateral Air Services Agreement

7154. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI R.S. PATIL :
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Singapore International Airline sought a revision of the bilateral air services agreement between India and Singapore to add flights and serve Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kochi;

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

(c) whether there is a proposal for joint venture with the Airport Authority of India for the setting up of cargo houses and providing cargo service in the metro cities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Singapore International Airline (SIA) is keen on entering the Indian market but a little cautions now after the SIA-TATA domestic airline project failed to take off; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) At the last Inter-Governmental talks held in July, 1997 the Government of Singapore had requested for Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore and Hyderabad as new points of call for their designated airline. As part of the Package agreed at the talks, Thiruvananthapuram was granted as an additional point to the designated airline of Singapore.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has plans to appoint a consultant to advise on the modalities of setting up a joint Venture Parallel Cargo Terminal at Delhi Airport and development of this airport as a major transshipment hub.

(e) and (f) The Government has no information on SIA business strategy.

Storage of Foodgrains in Open Godowns

7155. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India stores huge quantities of foodgrains in open godowns and abandoned aerodromes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Only wheat and paddy stocks are temporarily kept in Covered Area and Plinth (CAP) storage. FCI has a total storage capacity of 254.08 lakh tonnes (Owned and Hired/ Covered and CAP), which includes 45.54 lakh tonnes of CAP (Open) including abandoned Airstrips hired from State/Defence Authorities.

A Statement showing State-wise CAP (Open) storage capacity (Owned and Hired) and stocks held as on 01.04.2000 is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise covered Area and Plinth (Open) Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired), Stocks held with the Food Corporation of India as on 1.4.2000

(Fig. in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	CAP (Open) Capacity			Total Stocks
		Owned	Hired	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	0.40	—	0.40	0.02
2.	Delhi	0.34	—	0.34	0.22
3.	Haryana	2.78	0.09	2.87	0.36
4.	Punjab	4.67	16.58	21.25	9.26
5.	Chandigarh	0.08	0.29	0.37	0.02
6.	Rajasthan	1.54	0.92	2.46	1.44
7.	Uttar Pradesh	3.30	0.49	3.79	1.40
8.	Andhra Pradesh	2.51	1.20 (*)	3.71	3.61
9.	Kerala	0.13	—	0.13	0.19

1	2	3	4	5	6
10. Karnataka		1.25	0.04	1.29	1.17
11. Tamil Nadu		0.69	—	0.69	0.52
12. Pondicherry		—	0.57 (*)	0.57	0.57
13. Gujarat		1.95	1.57	3.52	3.40
14. Maharashtra		1.14	0.57	1.71	1.24
15. Madhya Pradesh		0.96	1.48	2.44	1.70
Total		21.74	23.80	45.54	25.12

(*) Air Strip : 1. Tadepalligudem = 1,20,000 MT

2. Ulundurpet = 57,110 MT

Off Loading of Air Passengers

7158. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 5054 on April 27, 2000 and state :

(a) the reasons for making overbooking of seats by the airlines officials;

(b) whether the passengers will be compensated if they do not get seats in a particular flight even after having the confirmed tickets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Some overbooking is an industry practice to provide for no-show passengers and thus maximise the utilization of seat capacity.

(b) and (c) offloaded passengers are given boarding passes on the immediate next flight and provided boarding and lodging at Air India's cost or taxi fares to their places of residence. They are also permitted to make STD/ISD Local calls. There is no provision for cash compensation.

Storage of Foodgrains

7157. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of the sugar and foodgrains transferred from sound to damaged account during storage in the godowns of Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of the foodgrains stock affected due to cyclone and rains in the country during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for proper maintenance of foodgrains stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The position of sugar and foodgrains transferred from sound to damage account during storage in Food Corporation of India (FCI) (including stocks stored with Central Warehousing Corporation) (CWC) on FCI account) during last three years is as under :

(Figures in lakh tonnes)
(Provisional)

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Foodgrains	0.648	0.757	1.476
Sugar	0.045	0.037	0.048

(b) The quantum of foodgrains stock affected due to cyclone and rain during the last three years is 0.162 lakh tons.

(c) Adequate steps are taken to preserve foodgrain stocks during storage in FCI both in Covered and CAP complexes, as detailed below :

- periodic maintenance of the godowns to avoid damage through leakages, flooding etc.
- Use of monofilament nets, cover-tops, nylon ropes etc. to protect the LDPE covers used in the CAP storage to cover each stack.
- Periodical turnover of stocks, timely segregation salvaging/reconditioning of affected foodgrain stocks and retrieving food grain stocks thus avoiding further damage/deterioration to the foodgrains.

Violation of Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952

7158. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of items in which the Government have permitted trading; and

(b) the measures taken to punish the violators of the Advance Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Futures trading is permitted in the following commodities :

1. Pepper (both Domestic and International)
2. Turmeric
3. Castor Seed
4. Castor Oil (International)
5. Gur
6. Potato
7. Hessian
8. Sacking
9. Cotton
10. Coffee
11. Soyabean
12. Soya oil
13. Soyabean oilcake

In addition recently, the Govt. have permitted futures trading in the following additional commodities.

1. Rice bran, its, oil and oilcake
2. Rapeseed/mustard seed, its oil and oilcake
3. Groundnut, its oil and oilcake
4. Cottonseed, its oil and oilcake
5. Sunflower, its oil and oilcake
6. Safflower seed, its oil and oilcake
7. Copra/Coconut, its oil and oilcake
8. Sesamum, its oil and oilcake and
9. RBD Palmolein.

(b) Measures have been taken to control unauthorized/illegal futures trading through State Police Authorities who are vested with the powers of search and seizure and taking enforcement action under the Act. Forward Markets Commission assists such authorities in curbing unauthorized/illegal trading by surprise checks and arranging raids.

Closing Down of Hindustan Aeronautic Airport

7159.SHRI S.D. N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken decision to close down the Airport of Hindustan Aeronautic Airport at Devanahalli in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government has given approval for a new airport at Devanahalli to be developed by the State Government with private sector participation at Bangalore. On its commissioning, the existing HAL airport at Bangalore shall be closed for civilian operations. The techno-economic study shows that the present HAL airport shall not be able to meet the future air traffic demand and two civilian airports in close vicinity can not be viable.

Introduction of Inter City Train between Gwalior and Indore

7160.SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision was taken to start an inter-city train No. 1141.1142 to and fro, between Gwalior and Indore, with effect from July 1999;

(b) if so, whether the same was deferred consequent on need for additional rakes, engines and services in connection with Kargil operations last year; and

(c) if so, the time by which the said decision is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) It was proposed to introduce 1141/1142 Indore-Gwalior Express (tri-weekly) during 1999-2000. As the matter regarding change in timings of this train is under adjudication in High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Gwalior Bench, this train has not yet been introduced.

Cancellation of Summer Special Train

7161.SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Summer Special Train between Bangalore and New Delhi has been cancelled abruptly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether her Ministry will make any special efforts to clear the Summer rush to Bangalore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) 413/414 Nizamuddin-Bangalore Express (Weekly) is being run from 3.5.2000 to 15.7.2000 and

2429/2430 Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express has been augmented by one AC 3-tier coach from 10.4.2000 to 2.7.2000 to clear the summer rush. A Special train between Nizamuddin-Bangalore was also run to clear the extra rush of students travelling to Bangalore to attend the Medical/Engineering College examinations held on 2-3 May 2000.

SC/ST Quota in Hotel Management Institutes

7162.SHRI BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved for SCs/STs in different faculties/disciplines in all the Hotel Management Institute functioning under his Ministry in Diploma, Pre-Graduation, Graduation and Post Graduation level courses during the last three years; and

(b) the number of students from these communities admitted to the above referred courses in different faculties/ courses alongwith their percentage as compared to the total seats during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per norms, 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent seats are reserved each year for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students respectively for all the courses conducted by the Institutes of Hotel Management and Catering Technology. The number of SC/ST students admitted in various Courses during the last three years is as under :-

I. Admission in 3-Year Diploma Course

Year	No. of Students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	2014	438	21.70%
1998-99	2185	460	21.05%
1999-2000	2245	424	18.90%

II. Admission in P. G. Diploma Course

Year	No. of Students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	250	28	11.20%
1998-99	290	31	10.11%
1999-2000	274	18	6.50%

III. Admission in Craft Level and Certificate Courses

Year	No. of Students admitted	No. of SC/ST students admitted	Percentage of SC/ST students admitted
1997-98	539	89	16.50%
1998-99	553	76	13.74%
1999-2000	610	79	12.95%

Upgradation of Agra Airport

7163.SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop the Agra Airport as an International Airport with a view to encourage tourism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame fixed, if any, therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Spread of AIDS in Army

7164.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported spread of AIDS in Indian Army;

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

(c) the number of personnel in Indian Army suffering from this disease as on date?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Government are aware of some cases of AIDS in the Army.

(b) A well laid down policy in consonance with the National Policy on the subject, is being followed in the Armed Forces to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS infection among service personnel.

(c) There is no active Service personnel suffering from ADIS. However, the cumulative number of Service personnel found positive for HIV infection during the period from 1990-1999 was 2527. Out of this, 233 Service personnel were diagnosed as suffering from AIDS and were invalided out of service.

Import of Foodgrains

7165.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale imports of sugar, wheat, rice and palm oil took place to crush the market price etc. during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry recommended the Cabinet for imposition of duty on these items; and

(c) if, so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The following quantities of sugar, wheat, rice and palm oil were imported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 :-

	(Quantity in tonnes)	
	1998-99	1999-2000
Sugar	901169	1083367
Wheat	1803699	689756
Rice	6636	22904
Palm Oil	1608057	Not Available

Source : DGCI and S Calcutta.

(b) and (c) Government has imposed a duty of 50% on import of wheat with effect from 1.12.1999 and a duty of 60% along with countervailing duty at the rate of Rs. 850/- per metric tonnes on Import of sugar with effect from 9.2.2000 Further, with effect from 5.4.2000, Government has imposed the following duty on import of rice:

- (i) Rice in the husk (paddy ro rough) - 80%
- (ii) Husked (brown) rice - 80%
- (iii) Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed - 70%
- (iv) Broken rice - 80%

The import duty from 30.12.1999 on refined oils has been raised from total 16.5% to 32% However, the import duty on crude oil remain unchanged at 16.5%

Meeting of Indo-Malaysian Defence Panel

7166. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the third meeting of the Indo-Malaysian Defence Panel was held in the month of April, 2000;
- (b) If so, the main points discussed therein;
- (c) the extent to which Malaysia has agreed to set up joint projects in India;

(d) whether any agreement in this regard has been signed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Storage of Coarse Grains

7167. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government stores a large quantity of coarse grains in different parts of the country;

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

(c) whether there is any export market for such grains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present there are no stocks of coarse grains in the Central Pool.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The total quantity and value of coarse grains exported during the last three years is indicated in Statement attached.

Statement

Total quantity and value of Coarse grains Exported during the last three years.

Sl. No.	Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1.	1997-98	15350	12.59
2.	1998-99	15094	15.54
3.	April-December, 98	7720	6.87
4.	April-December, 99	5464	5.56

New Air Links for JET Airways

7168. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether JET Airways has offered flights containing 24,000 seats capacity daily to cater to summer rush;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sectors on which air links are proposed to be provided by the JET Airways; and

(d) the time by which the offer of JET Airways likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) M/s Jet Airways with its present 25 Being 737s and 4 ATR-72-500 aircraft provides on an average, 23,3000 seats daily. After the 5th ATR-72-500 aircraft to be inducted in its fleet shortly, the airlines would offer around 24,000 seats daily.

(c) and (d) M/s Jet Airways has provided the following new links w.e.f. April, 2000 :

- Bangalore-Cochin-Bangalore
- Bangalore-Goa-Bangalore
- Bangalore-Coimbatore-Bangalore
- Bangalore-Mumbai-Bangalore (additional frequency)
- Mumbai-Mangalore-Mumbai

The following services would be operated after the induction of 5th ATR-72-500 aircraft:

- Chennai-Hyderabad-Vishakapatnam-Hyderabad-Chennai
- Chennai-Bangalore-Chennai (additional frequency)
- Hyderabad-Tirupati-Hyderabad

These flight schedules have already been approved by the DGCA.

Alliances with Foreign Countries in Civil Aviation Sector

7169. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have gone in for more alliances with foreign countries in Civil Aviation sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) India has been an active member of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and elected to its Governing Council since its inception in 1944. As of now, India has entered into bilateral air services agreement with 96 countries.

SC/ST Officers Posted under UNO and its Organisations

7170. SHRI BUTA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the number of officers deputed/posted under UNO and its affiliated Organisations in India and abroad from his Ministry as on January 1, 1996 and January 1, 2000 and persons belonging to the SCs/STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total posts, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : No employee of the Ministry of Tourism has been posted/deputed to UNO and its affiliated Organisations in India and abroad as on 1.1.1996 to 1.1.2000. Therefore the question of the number and % of SCs/STs amongst such personnel does not arise.

[Translation]

Tapping of Energy Sources

7171. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare any programme for tapping of alternative energy sources keeping in view the energy crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose for the next Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources has been implementing a wide range of programmes/schemes such as biogas, improved chulha, integrated rural energy programme, special area demonstration programme, small hydro power, biomass gasifier, wind power, solar power, biomass/co-generation power, solar photovoltaics, solar thermal and solar cookers, solar photovoltaic pumps, windmills and urban and industrial waste etc. throughout the country for promotion and utilization of Non-conventional Energy Sources.

(b) and (c) The programmes/schemes including Physical and financial targets have not yet been fixed for the next Five Year Plan. In the current Ninth Five Year Plan the Ministry has earmarked an outlay of Rs. 3800.14 crores which includes Rs. 2122.14 crores as Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) and Rs. 16.78 crores as Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR) for various Non-conventional Energy Programmes. Details of Physical and financial allocation for various programmes are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Programme-wise allocation and Physical Targets during 9th Plan Period

Sl. No.	Programme/Scheme	(Financial) (Rs. in crores) 9th Plan Allocations	(Physical) Units	9th Plan Physical Target
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Biogas (NPBD)	286.00	No. in lakhs	10
2.	CBP/IBP/NBP	30.00	Nos.	800
3.	Improved chulha	84.00	No. in lakhs	150
4.	Biomass/Gasifier	25.00	MW	40
5.	IREP	53.00	Block Nos.	660 (Old) 200 (New)
6.	Urjagram	1.00		
7.	SADP	8.00	Nos. (Energy Parks)	200
8.	Animal energy Programme	2.14		
9.	SPV Demo	219.00		
	SPV Home Light		Nos.	2,00,000
	SPV Lanterns		Nos.	3,00,000
	SPV Power Plants		MW	1.6
10.	SPV Pumps	46.50	Nos.	4000
11.	SPV R and D	25.00		
12.	ST Energy	34.00		
	Solar Water Heating Systems		M2 collector area	1,50,000
	Solar Cooker		Nos.	1,50,000
13.	Solar Energy Centre	24.00		
14.	Wind Pumps and Hybrid System	8.00	Nos.	1000
			KW	250
15.	Wind Power	63.00	MW	1000
16.	Small Hydro	187.00		
	(SHP)		MW	130
	(Water Mills)		Nos.	700
	(R and M)		MW	65
17.	Biomass Power	226.00	MW	314
18.	ST Power/SPV Power	63.00		
	ST Power		MW	140
	SPV Power		MW	1.5
19.	U and I and NBB	62.00	MW	42

1	2	3	4	5
20. New Technology				
a. Chemical sources		7.00		
b. Hydrogen Energy		4.50		
c. Alternate Fuels		7.50		
d. Ocean Energy		3.00		
e. Geo-Thermal		3.00		
21. I and P		15.00		
22. International Cooperation		9.00		
23. Project Preparation Assistance		2.00		
24. TIFAC		6.00		
25. Seminars		2.50		
26. Regional Office		4.00		
27. NIRE		20.00		
28. State Nodal Agencies		15.00		
29. Rural Energy Entrepreneurship/Institutional Development		5.00		
30. Market development and Export Promotion		5.00		
31. Women and Renewable Energy Development		1.00		
32. HRD and Training		6.00		
33. IREDA				
a. Equity		25.00		
b. Technology Commercial Funds		10.00		
Total (DBS)		1822.14		
34. Counterpart funding to IREDA (EAP)		300.00		
Total (GBS)		2122.14		
35. IEBR		1678.00		
Total outlay		3800.14		

Rs. 65.50 crores in NPBD and Rs. 23.00 crores in NPIC programmes would be needed in addition to the above allocation to meet the physical targets. This would be met though saving during the remaining period of the 9th Plan.

[English]

Cash Crunch in Wheat Procurement Scheme

7172.SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Cash crunch eats up U.P. Government's wheat procurement scheme" appearing in the Indian Express dated April 20, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government of U.P. is not offering more than Rs. 500 for a quintal of wheat against the official

price of Rs. 580 and sending it to Assam, Gujarat and some Southern States at a profit of Rs. 100 per quintal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to the State Government of U.P., they have released enough money/cash for procurement of wheat during the current Rabi Marketing Season.

The State Government/Agencies are procuring all the quantities of wheat conforming to FAQ specifications offered for sale by the farmers at Minimum Support Price rate of Rs. 580/- only per quintal on cash payment basis, in order to enable the farmers to avail remunerative prices for their produce.

The State Government is not sending any wheat to Assam, Gujarat and some Southern States at a profit of Rs. 100/- per quintal.

Monitoring of Rural Development Programmes

7173.SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of agencies including States are unable to implement programme of rural development due to lack of proper monitoring and coordination amongst them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The major rural development schemes are Centrally Sponsored Schemes, which are implemented by the States/UTs through District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Panchayati Raj Institutions. The funds for implementing these schemes are mostly shared between the Centre and the States and the schemes are being implemented with the active cooperation of the Central Government and the State Government concerned. The Ministry has also evolved a comprehensive Monitoring Mechanism for effective monitoring of the Programmes/Schemes. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State/District/Block levels have also been set up in the States/UTs with representation from elected representatives, political parties, State Government, Central Government and NGOs, among others.

Re-opening of Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Ltd., Amritsar

7174.SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Limited, Amritsar has been closed since 1992-93;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to re-open the unit; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate the employees of this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SRINIVASA PRASAD) (a) : No, Sir. However, at present, there is no production in the Amritsar Unit of Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation.

(b) and (c) The HVOC has been declared a "Sick" industry by the BIFR. The recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission regarding HVOC are also under process.

Training in Foreign Institutions

7175.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India nominates persons for training in the reputed Foreign Institutions for improving their academic managerial, technical and administrative capabilities in various fields and disciplines at the cost of the public exchequer and by-way of sponsorships;

(b) if so, the number of persons from the Ministry of Rural Development sent abroad for both the short term and long term training courses during the last five years;

(c) the number of persons belonging to SC/ST category among such persons and their percentage to total such persons; and

(d) reasons if adequate number of SCs/STs Officers have not been nominated for the said training?

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

(b) Eight Officers have been sent aboard for short term training courses during the period April, 1995, to April, 2000 at the cost of the public exchequer. Only a nominal expenditure on account of 1/4th DA was borne by this

Ministry/State Governments. Rest of the expenditure was borne by the sponsoring organisation and the host countries. This does not include officers sponsored by foreign agencies whose final selection is done by the Departments of Economic Affairs and Personnel and Training, nodal Departments for the purpose.

(c) Two Officers belong to SC category, The percentage is 25.

(d) While attempting to ensure that due representation is given to SC/ST Officers, the requirements stipulated for different programmes are also kept in view.

Strength of Armed Forces

7176.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Air Force, Army and Navy personnel in India separately;

(b) the total number of commissioned officers in each of the above three services;

(c) the average strength of the de-mobbed Jawans every year; and

(d) the strength of doctors as on March 31, 2000 in the Army Medical Corps ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The total number of personnel in the Army as on December 31, 1999 was 10,66,171 including those employed in Rashtriya Rifles and outside the Army i.e. NSC, NCC, Assam Rifles, etc. The strength of personnel in the Air Force and Navy stood at 1,33,038 and 46,585 respectively.

(b) The total number of Commissioned Officers in the Army, Air Force and Navy was 38,171; 10,252 and 6,683 respectively.

(c) The average strength of the de-mobbed jawans/airmen/sailors every year is approximately 54,448.

(d) The strength of doctors as on March 31, 2000 in the Army Medical Corps was 5,278 including those seconded to Navy and Air Force.

Fare Structure of Rajdhani Express

7177.SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fare structure of the Rajdhani Express trains has been so structured keeping in view the speed of the train as compared to other trains running on the same sector and also provision on other facilities;

(b) if so, whether in cases where the Rajdhani Express Originating late, does not adhere to the speed set for it and takes more time than other trains running on the same sector, the Railways allows refund of the difference in fare; and

(c) if not, the reasons for disallowing the difference in fare ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The fares of Rajdhani Express trains are fixed keeping in view high speed, less journey hours, and on board comforts including catering services.

(b) and (c) Full refund of fare is admissible when Rajdhani train is late by more than 3 hours provided passenger does not undertake journey and surrender the ticket before the actual departure of the train.

Construction of Halt Station between Panvel and Mumbai

7178.SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the needs of a halt station for local trains running in between Panvel and Mumbai C.S.T. harbour line;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from local public, Members of Parliament and other organisations to create a new railway station namely "New Panvel" in between Panvel and Khandeshawar;

(c) if so, whether the Government had conducted any survey to find out the feasibility of the said new station;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (e) Representations have been received for opening of "New Panvel Halt Station" between Panvel and Khandeshawar stations. The proposal has been examined but not found operationally feasible.

Diversification Plan of B.E.M.L.

7179.SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to diversify the activities of Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. (BEML);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a plan to float full-fledged IT company to take up software services;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the project finance and capital requirements for the new ventures have been tied up with the Financial institutions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) BEML has diversification plans in the field of port equipment, road construction machinery, surface miners and a few defence products.

(c) to (f) Preliminary internal exercises have been undertaken but no formal plan exits.

[Translation]

Subsidy to Flying Clubs

7180. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have extended subsidies to the flying clubs for imparting training to the students want to become pilots;

(b) if so, whether the subsidy is likely to be withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) and (c) The subsidy (subvention) was being provided to the flying clubs, to subsidise the flying activity of the students and the rate was fixed taking into consideration the cost of operation of the training aircraft. In 1994, a decision was taken to increase the student's share of the training cost and reduce the subsidy progressively. Accordingly, the subsidy (subvention) scheme will come to an end by 01.04.2001.

Drought affected Areas

7181. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in the country particularly in each district of Bihar regarding drought affected areas 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 RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Drought Prone Areas Programme was reviewed in detail including identification of drought prone areas for coverage under the programme by a High Level Technical Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao, Ex-Member, Planning Commission in 1994. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, 121 Blocks in 16 districts (which have now become 18 on account of bifurcation of Hazaribagh and Sahibganj districts) of Bihar have been included for coverage under the programme. Further, on the recommendations of the Committee, detailed guidelines for watershed development under the programme have been issued by the Ministry in October, 1994, which became effective from 1st April, 1995. As such, no further survey has again been conducted afterwards for drought affected areas.

[English]

Maintenance of Bahu Fort, J and K

7182. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4161 dated April 20, 2000 and state :

(a) whether the priests of Maha Kali Mandir Bahu Fort, Jammu has demolished all the rooms of the Bahu Fort;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government are going to improve the conditions of the Forts of the J&K State especially Bahu Fort and take it back from ASI because ASI has been unable to improve/protect/repair this Fort; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for removal of unauthorised encroachments from inside and outside of Bahu Fort, Jammu ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The Bahu Fort, Jammu is under the charge/occupation of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir and not under the Ministry of Defence or Archaeological Survey of India. Therefore action for removal of unauthorised encroachments, improvement and repair of the fort and its protection is to be taken by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 P.M.

11.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the clock*

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Science Museum, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1901/2000]
3. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English Versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1902/2000]

- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the India Tourism Development Corporation, Limited and the Ministry of Tourism for the years 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1903/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the Container Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2000-01.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1904/2000]

[English]

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 :

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Goa shipyard Limited and the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production and Supplies for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1905/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production and Supplies for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1906/2000]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production and Supplies for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1907/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sharad Yadav, I beg to lay on the Table :-

[Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar]

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Airlines Limited, and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1908/2000]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Airports Authority of India, for the year, 1998-99, alongwith audited Accounts under sub-section (4) of section 28 of the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994.
- (ii) A copy of the Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Airports Authority of India, for the year, 1998-99.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1909/2000]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi-for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (4) above :-

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1910/2000]

- (6) A copy of the Airports Authority of India (Transaction of Business) Regulations, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 348 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1995, under section 43 of the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994, together with an Explanatory Note.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 19011/2000]

14.01 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th May 2000, has adopted the following motion regarding appointment of Members of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999 :-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do appoint two Members of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill, to provide for the constitution of a Central Vigilance Commission to inquire or cause inquiries to be conducted into offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1998 by certain categories of public servants of the Central Government, Corporations established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies and local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, in the vacancies caused by retirement of two Members namely Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj and Shri Sanjay Nirupam from Rajya Sabha on the 2nd April, 2000 and resolves that Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj and Shri Sanjay Nirupam elected to the Rajya on the 3rd April, 2000 be appointed to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

(Interruptions)

14.01½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

First Report

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (Adilabad) : Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

(Interruptions)

14.01½ hrs.

**MOTION RE: REPORT OF THE JOINT
COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF PLANT
VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS
BILL – EXTENSION OF TIME**

[English]

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do extend the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 1999 upto the last day of the last week of the Monsoon Session, 2000."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do extend the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 1999 upto the last day to the last week of the Monsoon Session, 2000."

The motion was adopted

14.02 hrs.

At this stage, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri Ramdas Athawale and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

14.02 hrs.

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

14.02 hrs.

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

[English].

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

14.03 Hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Sixteen of the Clock.

16.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-one Minutes past Sixteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

16.31 hrs.

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

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record now.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR.. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, we have an important business today. Please understand.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Prime Minister is going to make an important statement in the House. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, Please understand. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 12th May, 2000 at 11 a.m.

16.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 12, 2000/Vaisakha 22, 1922 (Saka)

*Not Recorded.

**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)**

Thursday, May 11, 2000/Vaisakha 21, 1922 (Saka)

...

<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
73/16	(a),(b) and (c)	(a) to (c)
80/5	(a) and (c)	(a) and (b)
82/28	(c) and (f)	(e) and (f)
100/7	(b)	(c)
113/11		
173/30		
198/35	SHRI BUTA SINGH	SARDAR BUTA SINGH
209/10		
214/3		
136/33	THE MINISTER CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)	THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHR) SHARAD YADAV)
163/8 (from below)	(f)	(e)
198/17	(e)	(f)
205/12	7158	7156

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