

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 1, 2002/Phalgun 10, 1923 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

11.00 hrs.

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh came and stood on the Floor near the Table.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There are Obituary References today. Please take your seats.

11.01 hrs.

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh went back to his seat.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : These rioters are burning the country...(Interruptions) No obituary, save the country (Interruptions).

11.01½ hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of three of our former colleagues, namely, Shrimati Kailash Pati, Shri S.B. Patil, and Shri Indernath Bhagat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH (CHHINDWARA) : Sir, Shri Jaffry was killed yesterday.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ) : Sir, former Member Shri Ehsan Jaffry was burnt alive yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Kailash Pati was a member of Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing Mohanlalgaon Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shrimati Kailash Pati was also a member of Rajya Sabha

from 1985 to 1994. Earlier, she was a member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1974 to 1977.

An able Parliamentarian, Shrimati Kailash Pati served as a member of various Parliamentary and Consultative Committees.

A dedicated social and political worker, Shrimati Kailash Pati worked for the welfare of women and weaker sections of the society. She was also associated with various organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

A widely travelled person, Shrimati Kailash Pati was a member of Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Geneva, Switzerland.

Shrimati Kailash Pati passed away on 9th November, 2001 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 58.

Shri S.B. Patil was a member of Third to Sixth Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1979 representing Bijapur South and Bagalkot Parliamentary Constituencies of erstwhile Mysore State and Karnataka.

Shri Patil was a veteran freedom fighter. He was imprisoned for participating in 'Quit India Movement' in 1942.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Patil served as a member of various Parliamentary and Consultative Committees.

Shri Patil was an active social worker. He worked relentlessly for reconstruction and all-round development of rural areas in his State.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Patil organised Farmer's Forum and agricultural cooperative societies. He had special interest for agrarian reforms and took keen interest in the welfare of farmers. He also worked hard for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, downtrodden and other weaker sections of the society.

A widely travelled person, Shri Patil was a member of Indian Parliamentary delegation to Romania and Bulgaria in 1979.

A man of letters, Shri Patil contributed a number of articles in Kannada papers.

Shri S.B. Patil passed away on 20th December, 2001 at Bagalkot, Karnataka at the age of 76.

Shri Indernath Bhagat was a member of Twelfth Lok Sabha during 1998-99 representing Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency of erstwhile Bihar State (now in Jharkhand).

An active parliamentarian, Shri Bhagat was a member of the Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests and Consultative Committee, Ministry of Coal during 1998-99.

Earlier, Shri Bhagat was a member of Bihar Legislative Assembly from 1977 to 1994. He ably served as the Cabinet Minister during 1985-86 and 1989-90 in the Bihar Government.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Bhagat was a well-known social and political worker. He worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the poor and downtrodden.

Shri Indernath Bhagat passed away on 29th December, 2001 at Lohardaga, Jharkhand at the age of 55, after a brief illness.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (AMROHA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please add the name of Shri Ehsan Jafari also in this list.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House may now stand in silence for a short while, as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.03½ hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we will take up Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No.21.

...(Interruptions)

11.04 hrs.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Medium Term Export Policy

*21. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised its medium term export policy to double its exports within the next few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it will boost the Indian export;

(d) whether several new items have been identified for export under this policy;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the policy would be WTO compatible;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government have received a number of representations on the inclusion of more ports as entry points for imports; and

(i) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Medium Term Export Strategy (MTES), for the period 2002-2007, has been announced. Focus products have been identified by examining the import basket of major trading partners and India's export basket. The Medium Term Export Strategy gives a road map for the export sector by giving macro & sector-wise strategies to increase India's share of merchandise exports to 1% of World exports by 2006-07.

(d) and (e) In all 220 items at 4 digit level have been identified which have potential for boosting Indian exports. These include potential items in the import basket of major trading partners as well as the export basket of India. The details of 220 items are given in the Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-2007 document, copies of which have been made available to Parliament Library.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) and (i) In general, imports into India are allowed from all customs ports unless otherwise specified on grounds of quality, standards etc.

Value Added Tax

*22. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision, taken earlier for introduction of uniform value added tax across the country from April, 2002, has been postponed;

(b) whether this is due to the differences between the Centre and the States with regard to the transfer of services to States for taxation purpose;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the steps being taken to resolve the differences; and

(d) the extent to which the deferment has affected the industry and the revenue of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. In a meeting held on 23rd January, 2002, Finance Ministers of States and Union Territories (UTs) decided to start implementation of the Value Added Tax (VAT) system in the States and the UTs with effect from 01 April 2003 instead of 01 April 2002. This was to enable completion of essential legislative measures as well as administrative action in areas like computerization, staff training, allaying apprehensions about the VAT system in certain sections of trade and industry, etc. It was also noted that this would help all States and UTs, including special category/newly formed States, introduce VAT simultaneously.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers is constituted to monitor the implementation of decisions, inter alia, relating to VAT and it has recommended, some measures to augment the revenues of the States for consideration of Government of India. The Government of India accordingly constituted two official level Committees, including senior representatives of various States, to look into some important issues, one of which related to assigning powers to States to tax services. The report of this Committee has been received. The Committee has made suggestions to allay

concerns of the States that introduction of VAT may lead to loss of revenue at the initial stages.

(d) There is no loss of revenue due to the deferment as the existing pattern of Sales Tax continues in all the States. However, Value Added Tax (VAT) system is acknowledged to be a more efficient and buoyant system of taxation than the existing system of Sales Tax in operation in the States and UTs.

Status of Indian Agriculture After Signing WTO Agreement

*23. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the Committee on Agriculture of the WTO met to discuss the problems faced by developing countries in the field of agriculture, after India has been a signatory to the WTO agreement;

(b) the issues discussed at the meetings;

(c) the problems being faced by the Indian farmers due to WTO agreement;

(d) the steps the Government are taking to safeguard the interest of the Indian farmers, especially those who are engaged in poultry and Dairy farming, growing of commercial, Horticultural and Foodgrain crops; and

(e) the actual relief provided or proposed to be provided to the affected Indian farmers to meet such situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Agriculture as a subject was brought into the multilateral trading system for the first time as part of the Uruguay Round Agreements (1994). The Agreement on Agriculture mandated that further negotiations would take place as per Article 20. Accordingly, negotiations began on 01.01.2000 and till date 12 Special Session meetings of the Committee on Agriculture have been held. During the first phase of negotiations, 121 member countries have filed 47 proposals. Discussions are being held on all these proposals. India in its negotiating proposal has sought flexibility to protect food and livelihood security of the country and demanded that the high domestic support and export subsidies provided by the developed countries should be substantially reduced so that the developing countries gain sufficient market access for their agricultural produce.

(c) Under the Agreement on Agriculture, India does not have any commitment to grant either minimum market access or reduce domestic support to the agriculture sector. While introduction of new export subsidies is prohibited under the Agreement, developing countries like India are permitted to subsidise the cost of International and internal freight and transport. All our developmental schemes as well as the operations of the Public Distribution System (PDS) can continue in an unhindered manner.

The removal of quantitative restrictions on imports has not led to any surge in imports. An analysis of the import data for agricultural products in 2000-01 reveals that imports were only US\$ 1.8 billion, far below the agricultural exports. Import data for the period April-Dec. 2001, for dairy and horticultural products as well as foodgrain crops reveals a negative trend as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The imports in the case of poultry products are also negligible.

(d) and (e) In order to ensure that Indian farmers are not put to any hardship, the Government have put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring of imports of sensitive items and are committed to providing adequate protection to domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within bound tariffs, imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances. Low tariffs on certain items have been raised pursuant to further negotiations. Further, applied tariffs on some items have also been increased.

Financial Crisis Faced by States

*24. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several State Governments are facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any specific proposals have been received from States to bail out the States from financial crisis;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the Government's response thereto;

(e) whether the Government have formulated a special package for revival of financial position of the State Governments which have nearly reached a state of bankruptcy; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Some States are facing financial problems because of mismatches in receipts and committed expenditure.

(c) and (d) State Governments periodically request Government of India to bail them out of their financial crises. Government of India has been releasing, where feasible, the monthly entitlements of the States in advance, apart from ways and means advances to improve their liquidity position.

(e) and (f) In pursuance of Eleventh Finance Commission's recommendations, a Fiscal Reform Facility with an Incentive Fund of Rs. 10607.72 crore, has been created by the Government of India. The Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme (MTFRP) of twelve States has been approved so far under this Facility and Rs. 1284.89 crore has been released to these States from the Fund. It is up to all States, to draw up sustainable Fiscal Reforms Programmes, as a solution to their financial crises.

[Translation]

Welfare of Destitute Children

*25. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented or propose to implement various schemes for the welfare of destitute children in every state;

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

(c) the type of assistance being provided by the Union Government for the implementation of the said schemes State-wise during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing a Scheme for the Welfare of Destitute Children.

(b) and (c) Details of the State/UT wise funds released to the Voluntary Organizations are enclosed as statement.

Statement

An Integrated Programme for Street Children :- This Ministry provides financial assistance to Voluntary organizations to prevent destitution of children and facilitate their withdrawal from life on streets under this programme. The target group of this programme is children without homes and families. Under this programme financial assistance is provided for shelter, nutrition, health care, education,

vocational training and recreation facilities to street children and seeks to protect them time exploitation. Under this programme financial assistance is provided to voluntary organization upto 90% of the cost of the project.

The details of the financial assistance provided to voluntary organizations under this programme during each of last three years are under :-

S.No. State/UT		Financial Assistance released to Voluntary Organizations during the last three years.					
		(Rs. in lakhs)					
		1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
		No. of Org.	Amount	No. of NGOs	Amount	No. of NGOs	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	50.81	18	103.75	7	29.62
2.	Assam	1	5.58	2	5.71	2	15.87
3.	Bihar	2	1.99	1	1.83	2	3.89
4.	Gujarat	10	55.74	14	91.41	11	76.06
5.	Goa	0	00	0	00	1	3.30
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	2.16	1	7.75	1	5.37
7.	Karnataka	1	7.19	4	12.37	3	27.85
8.	Kerala	2	6.56	2	14.00	4	8.29
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2	6.70	3	7.77	2	4.13
10.	Maharashtra	10	47.36	20	53.17	16	106.62
11.	Manipur	1	3.53	1	8.06	1	11.60
12.	Mizoram	0	00	1	1.79	1	1.06
13.	Orissa	2	5.10	1	7.93	5	14.30
14.	Punjab	1	7.05	2	8.55	1	6.38
15.	Rajasthan	2	14.78	6	25.67	6	17.68
16.	Tamil Nadu	9	66.55	12	83.46	11	66.80
17.	Tripura	0	00	1	0.50	0	0
18.	Uttar Pradesh	8	35.62	9	74.28	10	74.40
19.	West Bengal	24	147.95	26	195.62	24	167.52
20.	Chandigarh	1	1.85	1	8.59	1	9.00
21.	Delhi	9	48.66	9	71.66	8	76.26
Total		96	515.18	134	783.87	117	726.00

[English]

Adoption of Indian Children

*26. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several instances have come to the notice of the Union Government, where foreign nationals adopting Indian children, have dubious record;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have also received several requests to halt adoption of Indian children by foreign nationals till new guidelines are formulated to safeguard the interests of adopted children;

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the interest of Indian children are protected?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) A few allegations regarding unsuitability of some foreign nationals adopting Indian children have been received in the Ministry.

(c) No request has been received by the Ministry from any State Govt. or organization to halt adoption of Indian children by foreign nationals.

(d) Question does arise. All requests are attended to on a case to case basis.

(e) Inter country adoptions are governed by the Revised Guidelines for Adoption of Indian Children, 1995. No direct adoption of an Indian child by any foreign national is permitted.

World Bank Aid for Rural Road Connectivity Programme

*27. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to seek World Bank aid for implementing rural road connectivity;

(b) if so, the total amount of World Bank aid sought for implementing the above programme; and

(c) the details of the programme chalked out for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has recently forwarded a concept note for seeking World Bank support for the ongoing Government of India scheme on rural road connectivity, namely Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(b) and (c) The said proposal is at the stage of preliminary discussions with the World Bank. As such, presently there is no commitment from the World Bank on the funding of the said proposal.

Curb on Import of Indian Steel by Foreign Countries

*28. SHRI ADHIR CHOWHDARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of unfair curbs imposed on import of Indian steel by several countries;

(b) whether the developed countries are adopting new and innovative methods of restricting steel imports from India;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government on such methods being adopted by developed countries; and

(d) the extent to which the export of steel is likely to be affected?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) Under the WTO Agreement, no unfair curbs can be imposed by any Member Country on import of any product. However, trade defence measures like levy of Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties and Safeguard Action can be taken by the members under clearly specified circumstances. The Government of India is aware that some of the developed countries have initiated Anti-Dumping and Countervailing as well as Safeguard investigations against import of steel products from India which has to some extent affected its exports. The Government of India has been Supporting the cause of Indian exporters and has, in cases where it is deemed necessary, taken up the issues either bilaterally or through the Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO.

[Translation]

Handing Over of FCI Godowns to Private Sector

*29. YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the existing godowns of the Food Corporation of India to the private sector;

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

(c) the number of FCI godowns in each State alongwith their storage capacities?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The information is given in the statement attached.

Statement

(As on 31.12.2001)

S.No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Number of Godowns	Capacity (In lakh Tonnes)
1	2	3	4
East Zone			
1.	Bihar	43	5.28
2.	Jharkhand	14	1.09
3.	Orissa	57	5.51
4.	West Bengal	51	10.63
5.	Sikkim	2	
Total of East Zone		167	22.51
North East Zone			
6.	Assam	42	3.16
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	
8.	Meghalaya	5	0.19
9.	Manipur	4	0.19
10.	Mizoram	4	0.17
11.	Nagaland	6	0.31
12.	Tripura	7	0.32
Total of North East Zone		72	4.34

1	2	3	4
North Zone			
13.	Delhi	12	3.76
14.	Haryana	196	25.05
15.	Himachal Pradesh	15	0.23
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	20	1.18
17.	Punjab/Chandigarh	653	135.45
19.	Rajasthan	102	18.80
19.	Uttar Pradesh	243	40.10
20.	Uttaranchal	36	2.29
Total of North Zone		1277	226.86
South Zone			
21.	Andhra Pradesh	211	28.50
22.	Kerala	31	5.83
23.	Karnataka	80	8.24
24.	Tamil Nadu	44	11.63
25.	Pondichery	6	
Total of South Zone		372	54.20
West Zone			
26.	Gujarat	52	10.10
27.	Maharashtra	86	20.37
28.	Goa	1	
29.	Madhya Pradesh	84	10.11
30.	Chhattisgarh	63	8.08
Total of West Zone		286	48.66
Grand Total (All India)		2174	356.57

[English]

Corporatisation of Mints

*30. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to corporatise the four Government mints in Kolkata, Noitla, Mumbai & Hyderabad as per the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) with a view to meet the demand of coins;

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

(c) whether the Mint Employees Association have expressed their concern and opposed this move; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission, decision to corporatise the four India Government Mints has been taken with a view to providing greater operational freedom, financial autonomy and improving their efficiency.

(c) and (d) Some Employees Unions/Associations have represented against the decision of the Government to corporatise the India Government Mints. However, Government feels that employee interests will not be adversely effected by corporatisation of the Mints whose objective is to improve efficiency. Interests of the employees will also be kept in view while creating a Corporate Structure.

Indo-Pak Trade

*31. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether border trade between India and Pakistan has been affected due to disturbance in both the countries in the recent times;

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

(c) the infrastructure provided for regulation of the border trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No border trade agreement was signed between Indian and Pakistan to regulate the border trade between the two countries.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Committee on New Foodgrain Policy

*32. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :

SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI :

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

(a) whether a high-level Committee constituted for formulating new foodgrain policy was expected to submit its report to the Union Government by the end of September, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to implement its recommendation; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above.

(d) Since the Committee was to consult State Governments in order to get their views on various issues involved in framing the Foodgrain Policy, the Committee could not finalise its report. The Committee is expected to submit its final report in March, 2002.

Decline in Deposits

*33. DR. ASHOK PATEL :

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a sharp decline in deposits with scheduled commercial banks and post offices during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fall in deposits is the direct impact of recent decision to cut down the interest rates on deposits;

(d) if so, whether the Government will reconsider the interest structure in these banks and post office in order to attract more deposits, keeping in view the sentiments of pensioners and the depositors from the lower middle class; and

(e) if so, by when it is likely to be done? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Deposits of scheduled commercial banks and also deposits in Small Saving Schemes and Deposit Schemes for retiring employees have not recorded any decline. On the contrary, the outstanding position of these deposits during the last three years have increased as indicated below :

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Deposits in Scheduled Commercial Banks	Gross deposits in Small Saving Schemes and Deposit Schemes for Retiring employees
1998-1999	7,14,025	62,157
1999-2000	8,13,344	75,542
2000-2001	9,62,618	88,739
2001-2002 (Upto February 8, 2002)	10,78,971	

(c) Since deposits have increased, question does not arise.

(d) and (e) Interest rates on bank deposits have been deregulated to a large extent except for Savings Bank Deposits. Scheduled Commercial Banks are now free to determine their interest rate structure on Domestic Term Deposits of maturity of 7 days and above and offer both variable and fixed rate of interest. Interest rates on Savings Bank Deposits are regulated by Reserve Bank of India. From April 1, 2000, interest rate on Savings Bank Deposits of scheduled commercial banks was reduced by 0.5 percentage points from 4.5 per cent to 4.0 per cent.

The small saving schemes are reviewed by the Government from time to time and steps are taken for continued and enhanced mobilization of resources through small saving schemes. Considering the low rate of inflation and also tax benefits available under certain schemes, interest rate in real terms remains attractive for investors.

[English]

Closure of Textile Mills

*34. SHRI A. NARENDRA :

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of textile mills, both in handloom and powerloom sectors, closed down during each of last three years in each State/Union Territory;

(b) the reasons for their closure; and.

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reopen these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The State-wise details of cotton/man-made textile mills (Non-SSI) closed during 1-1-1999 to 31-12-2001 are given below :-

State/Union Territory	No. of Mills closed during		
	1-1-'99 to 31-12-'99	1-1-'00 to 31-12-'00	1-1-'01 to 31-12-'01
Andhra Pradesh	4	4	4
Bihar	2	1	1
Gujarat	8	5	2
Haryana	1	3	0
Karnataka	6	1	;
Kerala	1	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	2	0
Maharashtra	6	7	1
Orissa	3	3	0
Punjab	2	2	3
Rajasthan	1	1	0
Tamil Nadu	15	5	10
Uttar Pradesh	3	8	2
West Bengal	3	0	1
Total	55	42	25

Out of above 122 closed Cotton / Man-made fibre textile mill (Non-SSI) 2 spinning mills and 1 composite mills were closed under section 25 (O) of ID Act and 2 spinning and 1 composite mills were under official liquidator.

There are no Handloom units in the organized mill sector, Due to complex, diverse and widely dispersed nature of decentralised powerloom and handloom units, no precise

detail about the number of closed powerloom units is maintained.

(b) Closure of textile mills and powerlooms can be attributed to many factors including obsolete technology, increase in cost of inputs, difficulties in getting timely and adequate credit, mismanagement, labours' strike, recessionary conditions etc.

(c) The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the BIFR with a view to timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

[Translation]

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

*35. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH :

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banks provide loan under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details of loans given by the each public sector bank in each State under the scheme during the last three years; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government to simplify the procedure of providing loans under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is a centrally sponsored scheme in which no bank credit is involved. The scheme is administratively under the control of Ministry of Rural Development emphasizing generation of wage employment. JRY was restructured & renamed as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) emphasizing generation of wage employment leading to creation of need-based rural infrastructure at village level. While creating infrastructure the programme will also provide wage employment to the rural poor. The expenditure under the scheme is shared between the Centre and the State

in the ratio of 75:25 respectively. The JGSY came into effect from 1st April, 1999.

[English]

Hawala Funding

*36. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funding sources of terrorist organisations through hawala channels have been on the rise of late;

(b) whether hawala transactions are likely to escape criminal action after the replacement of FERA with FEMA;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to treat the same as a criminal offence;

(d) whether Federal Bureau of Investigation of USA and the serious fraud office of the United Kingdom have written to the Government of India inquiring about hawala and its ramifications;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government i.e., this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Investigations into some recent cases of hawala transactions have indicated terrorist linkages.

(b) and (c) FERA, 1973 has been repealed. FEMA, 1999 has come into force from June 2000 and provides for civil liability for violation of foreign exchange regulations. Government is taking, from time to time, various legal and administrative steps to deal with the situation.

(d) to (f) No such reference has been received by the Enforcement Directorate.

Post-Matric Scholarship

*37. SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

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

(a) whether a Centrally sponsored scheme of

Post-Matric Scholarship to the students, belonging to SCs and STs, is in operation;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme with financing pattern;

(c) whether the amount of scholarship is inadequate;

(d) if so, whether the State Governments have requested the Union Government to enhance the rate of scholarship and to release the remaining sanctioned amount to the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Scheme are enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) The request of some State Governments for upward revision of the maintenance allowance keeping in view the increased costs since the allowances were last revised, will be duly considered while revising the scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan period.

Statement

Salient features of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1. Objectives

The scheme provides financial assistance to such students belonging to SCs and STs who pursue recognised post matriculation courses in recognised institutions, including correspondence courses, within the country.

2. Elements of Scholarship

(i) Maintenance allowance

Group	Rates of maintenance allowance (Rs. Per month)	
	Hostellers	Day Scholars
A	425	190
B	290	190
C	290	190
D	230	120
E	150	90

(ii) Additional provision for students with disabilities

(A) Reader Allowance for blind Scholars varies from Rs. 150 to 100 per month.

(B) Transport allowance upto Rs.100 per month for day scholars

(C) Escort Allowance of Rs.100/- per month (for severely handicapped day scholars)

(D) Special Pay of Rs.100/- per month for an employee of the hostel for helping severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in a hostel.

(E) Allowance of Rs.150/- per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students.

iii) Fees : Students are paid enrolment/registration, tuition, games, Union, Library, Magazine, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the institution or University /Board

iv) Study Tours : Study tour charges upto a maximum of Rs.500/- per annum,

v) Thesis Typing/Printing Charges : Thesis typing/printing charges upto a maximum of Rs.600/-

vi) Correspondence courses including distance and continuing education : Rs.500/- per annum for essential/prescribed books.

3. Funding Pattern

100% Central assistance is provided to States/UTs over and above the committed liability. The Committed Liability of North Eastern States has, however, been dispensed with. Expenditure incurred in the last year of the 8th plan i.e. 1996-97 is taken as the committed liability, which is to be met by the States/UTs fully.

Supply of Poor Quality Foodgrains to States

*38. DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints during the last one year from various State Governments regarding supply of poor quality foodgrains to them by Central agencies;

(b) if so, the details of such States alongwith their complaints;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government with respect to such complaints; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Some complaints were received in this regard during the last one year.

While the complaints received from the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi related to the supply of lustre lost wheat, the complaints received from the State Governments of Goa and Kerala related to the quality of rice stocks.

(c) and (d) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is required to supply foodgrains conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act standards to the States for distribution under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes. The State Governments are free to inspect the stocks and satisfy themselves about their quality before lifting the same from FCI depots. The State Governments have also been advised to depute an officer not below the rank of Inspector to check the quality of stocks.

The lustre lost wheat is as good as sound wheat in terms of nutritional value. As regards the complaints received from the State Governments of Goa and Kerala regarding rice stocks, FCI has been asked to ensure the supply of good quality rice.

Procurement of Foodgrains

*39. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the FCI extended 100% procurement facilities at Minimum Support Price to the States of Punjab and Haryana;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted in the procurement of foodgrains by FCI;

(c) whether these facilities were not provided to other States as well; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof alongwith the details of corrective steps initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) In Punjab and Haryana, most of the procurement is done by

the State Governments and their agencies. Details of procurement made in these two States during the 2001-2002 Marketing Season are given below :

(In percent)

State	Commodity	Procured		Total
		FCI	State Govt. Agencies	
Punjab	Wheat	32.03	67.97	100
	Paddy	25.27	74.73	100
Haryana	Wheat	12.98	87.02	100
	Paddy	12.30	87.70	100

The procurement is also being made in many other States. FCI, along with the State Governments and their agencies, undertakes procurement of food grains conforming to Fair Average Quality Specifications at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for the Central Pool. All the food grains conforming to prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by FCI and State agencies. FCI also collects rice by way of statutory levy on rice millers/dealers. The procurement level in a State depends, inter alia, upon the capacity of the State Government and its agencies and the infrastructure available.

In order to ensure, inter alia, that the benefit of MSP reaches the farmers, the Government had, in 1997-98, introduced the scheme of Decentralised Procurement. This scheme is now in operation in three States, namely, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Efforts are being made to encourage other States to adopt the scheme.

Recovery of Bank Loan

*40 SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level meeting was held recently in which it was felt that faster recovery of bad debts needed more active and closer cooperation between banks and debt recovery tribunals;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made in the meeting; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) In a meeting held in the Ministry on 2nd July, 2001 for faster

recovery of debts the need was felt for better follow up of cases by banks in Debts Recovery Tribunals. The suggestions made in the meeting interalia included :

(i) Each Bank/FI should nominate one nodal officer for each Debts Recovery Tribunal to ensure that required documents are produced in time and follow up action taken.

(ii) The nodal officer for each bank for each Debts Recovery Tribunal may be given the responsibility to ensure that frequent adjournments are not sought and that instructions are given to the bank lawyer(s) in time.

(iii) Nodal banks for individual Debts Recovery Tribunals may constitute a coordination committee having representation from major banks/financial institutions in the area and they should meet the Presiding Officer of the Debts Recovery Tribunal at regular intervals to sort out any infrastructure and administrative problems faced by the Debts Recovery Tribunals. Nodal banks for individual Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunals should constitute a similar coordination committee at a reasonably senior level to interact with Chairperson of Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal at regular intervals for removing any infrastructure and administrative problems.

Setting up of Export Oriented Sugar Mills

159. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

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

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka have come out with a novel concept of allowing hundred per cent export oriented sugar mills for the first time in the country;

(b) if so, whether the main purpose of having a hundred per cent export oriented unit for sugar is to ensure higher returns to the producers and earn foreign exchange by clearing excess production of sugar;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka is waiting Union Government's clearance for its proposal to allow private sector sugar mills in the State to set up Export Oriented Units sugar mills; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Union Government will give its clearance to the proposal of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V .SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) Government of Karnataka had made a proposal in December, 2001 regarding the possibility of extending Export Oriented Unit (EOU) status to sugar Industry. The State Government has been informed by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Commerce), in January, 2002 that EOU status is not given to any Industry. Individual proposals fulfilling the parameters of the Export Oriented Units scheme are given approval for setting up units under the scheme. In view of the foregoing the suggestion for grant of EOU status for sugar Industry has not been accepted.

Loan Through Regional Rural Banks

160. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan disbursed by each Regional Rural Banks in various States during the last two year, State-wise;

(b) whether growing corruption in Rural Banks has deprived the farmers of availing benefits from the banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Assistance for Industrial Parks

161. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any schemes to assist State Governments to set up various kinds of Industrial Parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of assistance provided to various State Governments for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP

RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, a scheme to assist the establishment of Exports Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIPs) is presently being implemented by Department of Commerce, Government of India. The details of the Scheme are given as statement-I enclosed.

(c) The details of assistance provided to various State Governments for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise are given as statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Details of the Scheme

Central assistance is available for creation of infrastructural facilities upto 75% of the total cost. This grant is ordinarily limited to Rs.10 crores per park. The Central grant may be excluded while working out the sale price/rent for allotment of plot/shed in the EPIP in order to make the EPIP attractive to the entrepreneurs.

The State Governments are to arrange land for establishing the industrial park. The size of each industrial park shall not be less than 100 acres. Central assistance would not be available for meeting the cost of land.

Industrial Parks set up under this Scheme should adequately provide for power, water, roads (including the approach road), sewerage and drainage, telecommunication and other requisite facilities. Such facilities shall be high standard to ensure that the units established in the park are able to function efficiently.

Only those units shall be allowed to be established in the park that give legal undertaking to the State Government to export not less than 33% of their total production in value terms.

The location of the industrial Park will be such that it is

conducive to the establishment of Export Oriented Units in terms of its access to ports, airport, railheads etc. availability of raw materials and the general level of other infrastructural facilities.

The park shall be owned, managed and maintained by the State Government either directly or through a State Government undertaking/autonomous corporation. The revenue from allotment of plots/factory buildings etc. will accrue to the State Government or the State Government undertaking;

The Central Government shall provide a grant of 2% on 33% of the total exports effected from the Parks for a period of 5 years beginning from the financial year in which the EPIP has been commissioned, for the purpose of maintenance of the Park.

Only those proposals which are approved by the Central Government will be eligible for assistance under the Scheme.

No State Government will be sanctioned a second Park under the Scheme unless the first park has been established and is found to be operating successfully.

The Scheme will be administered by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) and the Central grant to the State Governments for the Scheme will be provided from the Plan outlay of the Ministry.

The project proposals under the Scheme would be approved by the Inter Ministerial Steering Committee constituted for this purpose by the Ministry of Commerce. Due weightage would be given to the manner in which establishment of a Park is proposed to be funded as also involvement of private investors in India and from abroad. Factors such as economic viability of the Park, volume of exports envisaged and implementation time schedule would also be looked at.

Statement-II

EPIPs approved, location and Central grant released upto 2000-2001

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Name of State	Location of EPIP	Date of Approval	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Kerala	Kakkanad, Distt. Emakulam	28.09-94	5.89	-	-	2.60	-	1.51	-	10.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2.	Maharashtra	Ambamath, Distt. Thane	28.09.94	3.75	0.90	2.10	3.25	-	-	-	10.00
3.	H.P.	Baddi, Distt. Solan	28.09.94	3.00	-	-	-	-	4.00	2.70	9.70
4.	Rajasthan	Sitapur, Distt. Jaipur	28.09.94	4.00	2.00	4.00	-	-	-	-	10.00
5.	Haryana	Kundli, Distt. Sonipat	28.09.94	2.00	2.00	-	1.00	2.50	-	2.50	10.00
6.	Karnataka	Hoodi, Distt. Bangalore	28.09.94	5.00	-	5.00	-	-	-	-	10.00
7.	U.P.	Surajpur, Distt. Gautambudhnagar	20.12.94	5.00	0.91	4.09	-	-	-	-	10.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	Gummidipoondi, Chengalpattu	20.12.94	2.37	-	-	1.00	4.75	0.74	1.14	10.00
9.	Punjab	Dhandari Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana	28.09.94	5.00	0.90	-	-	-	-	1.76	7.66
10.	A.P.	Pashamylarram, Distt. Medak	20.12.94	2.25	-	-	4.80	1.95	-	-	9.00
11.	Gujarat	Savli, Distt. Baroda	14.03.95	-	5.20	-	2.00	-	-	1.00	8.20
12.	Bihar	Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali	28.04.95	-	3.00	-	-	-	2.00	-	5.00
13.	Meghalaya	Byrnihat	28.04.95	-	2.34	2.16	-	3.00	2.50	-	10.00
14.	M.P.	Pithampur, Distt. Dhar	24.07.95	-	4.50	-	-	-	4.50	-	9.00
15.	W. Bengal	Durgapur, Distt. Burdwan	20.09.95	-	3.75	0.40	1.60	1.50	-	1.10	8.35
16.	Orissa	Bhubneshwar, Distt. Khurda	20.09.95	-	4.50	-	-	3.05	-	2.45	10.00
17.	Assam	Amingaon, Guwahati	08.02.96	-	5.00	-	1.75	3.25	-	-	10.00
18.	J&K	Samba, Distt. Jammu	12.02.96	-	-	2.25	2.00	-	2.75	3.00	10.00
19.	Nagaland	Ganeshnagar, Dimapur	19.05.99	-	-	-	-	-	1.00	0.61.28	1.61
20.	Manipur	Khunuta Chingjin, Distt. Thoubal	22.09.98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
21. U.P.*	Agra	18.01.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.70	2.70
22. Tripura	Bodhjungnagar	11.04.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Karnataka*	Manglore	22.06.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Rajasthan*	Boranada, Distt. Jodhpur	02.08.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. Mizoram	Lengate, Alizawl	02.08.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total			38.26	35.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.00	20.00	171.22.28	

Revamping of Statistical Wings

162. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the production coverage of the monthly index of Industrial Production (IIP) and the administrative and institutional frame work for primary data collection are much below the desired standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by the Government for revamping the statistical wings of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The scope of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) as recommended by United Nations Statistical Office should include mining, manufacturing, electricity and construction. The Current IIP (base year 1993-94) does not capture construction sector, which has a contribution of 6.1 % in the GDP (at current prices) during the year 2000-01. It is estimated that non-inclusion of construction in the IIP has decreased the coverage of IIP by about 22%.

The issue to include construction sector in the IIP at the time of proposed revision of base year of IIP is under consideration of CSO.

The institutional framework and administrative structure for the collection of primary data for IIP are provided by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and various source agencies respectively. These agencies are continuously engaged in improving the standards of primary data collection for the purpose of IIP.

(c) Improvements in the quality and response rate of industrial production data are being achieved in the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) by constant interaction with the units and other agencies like the State Governments and Industry Associations. As a result of this the response rate in terms of production data has improved significantly.

Excess Stock of Foodgrains

163. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total stock of rice, wheat and other cereals in the Central pools as on December 31, 2001;

(b) whether the availability of these cereals in the Central pool is comparable to meet the domestic demand for 2002-2003 financial year;

(c) if not, the contingency plan formulated, if any; and

(d) what specific steps have been taken for the proper utilization of cereals, if the bufferstock is surplus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The stock of rice, wheat and coarsegrains available in Central Pool as on 31st December, 2001 is indicated below :-

(In lakh tonnes)

Rice	Wheat	Coarsegrains	Total
256.17	324.15	0.80	581.12

(b) The stocks of rice, wheat and coarsegrains available in the Central Pool is sufficient to meet the demands for 2002-2003 Financial Year.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken by the Government for utilization of stocks of foodgrains are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government of India to utilise Stocks of Foodgrains

- (i) The allocation of foodgrains for Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families was revised w.e.f. 1.12.2000 on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. As a result, the number of BPL families eligible for subsidised foodgrains has increased from 5.96 crores families to 6.52 crore families.
- (ii) The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 10 kg. per family per month to 20 kg. per family per month from April 2000, and further to 25 kg. per family per month from July 2001.
- (iii) The Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice was reduced as under with effect from 12.7.2001, which will be valid till 31.3.2002 :

(Rs. per quintal)

	BPL	APL
Wheat	415	610
Rice	565	830

- (iv) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana was announced on 25.12.2000 for the one crore poorest of the poor BPL families. The scheme is now under implementation in all States/UTs. Each of the Antyodaya families is given 25 kg. of foodgrains @ Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg. for rice.
- (v) Foodgrains are made available at BPL rates for allotment to State Governments @ 5 kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions, such as beggar homes, orphanages/Nari Niketans, etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministry of the Government of India.
- (vi) Foodgrains at CIP applicable for BPL families are

being allocated for all the welfare schemes including SC/ST/OBC hostels scheme, implemented by the various Ministries of the Government of India.

- (vii) Foodgrains are being allocated at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by NGOs, sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme.
- (viii) Government has allocated 38.33 lakh MTs of foodgrains, free of cost, from January 2001 to 12.2.2002 for undertaking Food for Work programmes in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. Besides, Government had allocated one lakh MTs of foodgrains for distribution in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat in January 2001.
- (ix) Government of India has decided to give additional allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to the drought affected States for distribution to all the drought affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg per family per month for a period of three months in the current financial year. The Govts. of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have already been allocated additional foodgrains. The Govt. of Bihar has been given additional allocation of 1.80 lakh MTs of wheat at BPL rate for flood relief
- (x) In November 2000, it was decided to permit FCI to make wheat available from the Central Pool for the purpose of export. A quantity of 42.96 lakh tonnes of wheat has been exported so far. With effect from the current financial year i.e. 2001-2002, FCI has also been making available rice for the purpose of export. The quantity lifted so far is 14.03 lakh tonnes.
- (xi) The Ministry of Rural Development has launched the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) on 25th September 2001 based on the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 15th August 2001. Under the programme, it is envisaged to utilize 50 lakh MTs of foodgrains every year. The allocation of foodgrains under SGRY upto 13.2.2002 has been 26.41 lakh MTs.

- (xii) The Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat was continued during the current financial year 2001-2002. The quantity sold from April 2001 to 15.2.2002 was 37.87 lakh tonnes.

Textiles Research Laboratories

164. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of the textiles research laboratories opened in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government have assessed the tests conducted in these laboratories;

- (c) if so, the outcome thereof, laboratories-wise;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to open more such laboratories in the near future; and
- (f) if so, the States where such laboratories are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Three laboratories were opened in the country during the last three years. The laboratories opened State wise, their date of functioning and number of tests carried out are given below:

Name of the laboratory	State	Date of functioning	Number of tests carried out on various parameters
Textiles Committee, Jodhpur	Rajasthan	1.4.2000	1717
Tripura Apex Weavers Co-operative Society, Handloom, Handicrafts & Sericulture Dept. Agartala	Tripura	24.10.2000	150
Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Shantipur	West Bengal	3.11.2000	56

The performance of these laboratories in terms of tests carried out and revenue generated is assessed by the Empowered Committee set up under the chairmanship of Textile Commissioner.

- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) At present no proposal for setting up a new laboratory is under consideration.
- (f) Does not arise.

Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987

165. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to introduce an amendment to Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on jute industry;
- (c) whether out of 73 Jute mills in our country, 59 are located in West Bengal;

(d) whether according to the Working Group related to Jute, out of total Jute production of 105 lakh bales during 2001-2002 West Bengal will produce 88-92 lakh bales of raw Jute which will fetch 16.5 lakh ton Jute;

- (e) whether the Government are considering to move out of its preservation policy; and
- (f) if so, the details of the impact of the removal of the preservation policy on the jute growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) 59 out of 76 jute mills in the country are located in West Bengal.
- (d) The Jute Advisory Board has estimated production of raw jute in the year 2001-02 at 105 lakh bales of 180 kg each out of which 73.20 lakh bales (13.17 lakh tons) are expected to be produced in West Bengal.
- (e) and (f) The Government has constituted an Inter

Ministerial Committee consisting of the Minister of Textiles, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution to consider all relevant issues and to formulate a road map for the progressive dilution of compulsory packaging norms under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. The Inter Ministerial Committee has not yet submitted its report.

Advance Tax Deducted at Source

166. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) the amount of advanced tax deducted at source in Karnataka by Income Tax Authority during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, till date;

(b) the amount out of the collected Income tax earmarked to the Karnataka government; and

(c) the steps taken by the government to implement the objectives of TDS in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The amount of advance tax deducted at source collected in Karnataka by Income tax, Authority during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto Jan., 2002) is Rs.1857.19 crores and Rs. 1183.25 crores respectively.

(b) The amount out of the collected Income tax earmarked to the Karnataka Government during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto Jan., 2002) is Rs.419.44 crores and Rs.498.74 crores respectively.

(c) Wide publicity of the provisions relating to TDS has been given through electronic and Print media to create awareness among the tax payers. Workshops and Seminars are also being organised for those dealing with taxation matters in companies. Surveys are being conducted to detect defaults in deduction of tax at source.

ADB Loan to Kerala

167. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The present status of the proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala regarding ADB loan assistance;

(b) whether the change in modalities as mentioned in the proposal is applicable to all States who avail to ADB loan assistance; and

(c) If so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The proposal submitted by Government of Kerala is currently under discussion. ADB has indicated that a loan for Kerala Public Resource Management Programme is in the pipeline for calendar year 2002. However, the components and other details of the loan including the modalities would be known after appraisal and negotiations and approval of the Loan by the Board of Directors of ADB.

[Translation]

Special Grants to States

168. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds made available in the financial year 2001-2002 as a special grant for various items, programmes or projects or for any other subject by his Ministry, State-wise;

(b) whether all accounts of expenditure incurred from the said funds have timely been submitted by the each State Government to the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action taken or being taken by the Government against the erring State Governments?

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

[English]

Assistance to Handloom Weavers

169. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central assistance is being extended to State Governments for the welfare of handloom weavers;

(b) if so, the fund allocated for the purpose during last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the fund released for the benefit of handloom weavers in 2001-2002, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No funds are allocated State-wise. Assistance is provided to the State Governments out of the overall budgetary provision under the schemes based on the viable proposals received from the State Governments in conformity with the guidelines.

(c) The State-wise funds released for the benefit of handloom weavers during the year 2001- 2002 are as under :

Name of the State	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh) (as on 26.2.2002)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	877.55
Arunachal Pradesh	342.40
Assam	55.96
Bihar	6.50
Chhattisgarh	42.78
Delhi	19.29
Goa	--
Gujarat	151.31
Haryana	30.06
Himachal Pradesh	61.65
Jharkhand	--
Karnataka	332.72
Kerala	166.87
Madhya Pradesh	60.66
Maharashtra	94.26
Manipur	22.04

1	2
Meghalaya	12.74
Mizoram	3.00
Nagaland	24.71
Orissa	45.34
Pondicherry	1.23
Punjab	28.86
Rajasthan	64.23
Sikkim	3.99
Tamil Nadu	1399.63
Tripura	16.39
Uttar Pradesh	605.39
Uttaranchal	--
West Bengal	41.49

Registration Fee of Merchant Banks

170. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the merchant bankers were registered for one year only against payment for one year only;

(b) if so, the reasons for registering the merchant banks for three years against payment of registration fee only for the first year;

(c) whether any inquiry conducted by Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the further steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Interest of Investors

171. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the objective of SEBI was to protect the interest of the investors in securities by promoting the development of regulation of securities market;

(b) if so, the extent in which and how far SEBI has succeeded in attaining the objectives;

(c) the specific policy reforms and programmes have been pursued by SEBI during the preceding two years for regulating the securities market; and

(d) the extent in which these programmes have succeeded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was established to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote the development of, and to regulate, the securities market and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(b) to (d) Since its establishment, SEBI has taken several measures towards the objectives for which it was set up, including strengthening of entry and disclosure norms; screen-based nation-wide trading; dematerialisation and electronic transfer of securities; rolling settlement; risk management measures; derivatives trading etc.

SEBI has initiated a number of regulatory measures to enhance investor protection and to bring more transparency in market operations. SEBI and stock exchanges have set up investor grievance redressal cells and exchanges maintain investor protection funds to take care of investor claims. SEBI has prescribed uniform client codes for all clients to be used by all brokers. All deferral products have been banned from July 02, 2001.

With a view to enhancing the level of disclosures by listed companies, SEBI has made it mandatory for all listed companies to comply with the new accounting standard issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Disclosure norms for mutual funds have also been strengthened. Guidelines have been issued for investment/trading in securities by employees of asset management companies and mutual fund trustee.

The market has become wider with a greater choice of instruments and deeper in terms of liquidity and the number of investors over the years. Settlement practices have improved considerably. The reforms introduced over the last few years have enhanced the integrity, transparency and efficiency of operation of capital markets.

Advance Development Cess on Air Passengers

172. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh has demanded that the State Government be allowed to levy as Rs.200 advance development cess on all passengers flying out of Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the action taken on the request;

(c) whether the amount collected would be exempted from income tax; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the matter is under consideration in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(c) and (d) As per article 289 of the Constitution of India, the property and income of a State shall be exempt from Union Taxation unless and to the extent provided otherwise by the law of Parliament.

Export of Tea to Afghanistan

173. SHRI M.K.SUBBA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the change in regime in Afghanistan, prospects of Indian Tea exports to that country has brightened;

(b) if so, the estimated likely exports of tea to that country during the ensuing year and the steps taken and being taken to tap full export potential, including the steps to give Assam Tea its due place in the exports to that country; and

(c) the exports of Assam and other Indian Teas to that country during the past three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, it is as yet too early to be able to estimate the likely increase in exports to Afghanistan. The opening of the Indian Mission in Kabul and availability of suitable trade finance would provide an opportunity to rebuild the tea trading links to promote exports of Indian tea, including Assam tea, to that country.

(c) The export of tea, including Assam Tea, to Afghanistan during the last three years is given below :-

(Quantity in Th. Kg.)

[Translation]

(Value in Th. Rs.)

2000-2001		1999-2000		1998-1999	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
268	26406	210	23245	263	31203

Vacant Key Posts in IDBI

174. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI :

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the key posts like Chairman and CMD in IDBI are lying vacant since February, 2001; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for filling of these key posts in IDBI at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The post of CMD, IDBI has been filled up since 4.9.2001. The post of Dy MD has been filled up on 18.2.2002.

Export of Fruits and Vegetables

175. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names, value and quantum of fruits and vegetables exported during the last three years;

(b) the major fruits and vegetable producing States alongwith their percentage in total export of fruits and vegetables;

(c) whether the export performance of some major fruits and vegetable producing States like Bihar is not up to the satisfactory;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the special schemes being formulated by the Government for these States to increase the export of fruits and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The major fruits and vegetables exported during the last three years include fresh onions, other fresh vegetables, fresh mangoes, fresh grapes and other fresh fruits. The value and quantum of exports of these items are as follows :

(Qty. in MTs)

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Item	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Fresh Onions	215693.61	176.05	260475.27	202.70	343253.69	276.22
Other Fresh Vegetable	64654.63	102.33	11562.37	144.15	13992.02	190.85
Dried Nuts (Walnuts)	5327.90	68.92	4992.83	60.56	7742.44	109.94
Fresh Mangoes	45407.59	79.14	34631.18	71.55	37109.7	68.61
Fresh Grapes	11525.41	37.89	14802.58	55.54	20647.58	82.98
Other Fresh Fruits	44820.43	71.72	72969.80	112.72	81243.00	115.50
Total for Fruits and Vegetables	387429.57	536.05	502778.03	647.22	623988.40	844.09

*Source : DGCI&S

(b) to (d) Data on export of fruits and vegetables are maintained only on an all India basis.

(e) Government provides financial assistance under various schemes specially formulated for promotion of

export of fruits and vegetables such as schemes for infrastructure development, packaging, improvement, quality upgradation etc. through agencies such as Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority.

*[English]***C&AG Report on MODVAT**

176. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in para 4.5 of C&AG report 11 of 2001 (Indirect Taxes - Central Excise and Service Tax) the C&AG has held that MODVAT credit has not been reversed on inputs used in exempted final products;

(b) if so, whether the Chief Commissioner of Central Excise, Jaipur stated rule 57D was involved under which credit of duty was not to be denied even though irregularly availing MODVAT credit and as such responsibility of the officials cannot be fixed;

(c) if so, the manner in which Rule 57D is obstructive to rule 57C;

(d) whether there is any proposal to review all the existing rules that obstruct the other rule and cause loss to the financial interest of the State;

(e) if so, whether it is further a fact that it is the responsibility of the Government to safeguard the financial interest of the State; and

(f) if so, the reasons for his Ministry not safeguarding the financial interest of the State in one case or the other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Finance has furnished the Action Taken Note to C&AG confirming the raising of demands and adjudicated the same with interest and penalty. C&AG have since treated the para as settled.

(b) Chief Commissioner of Central Excise, Jaipur has reported that during the discussion in the PACs visit to Jaipur on 12th November, 2001, (minutes of which have not been received from the Lok Sabha Secretariat), the Chief Commissioner had stated the legal position with regard to the provision of Rule 57D (as it was at the relevant time) of the Central Excise Rules, 1944, that MODVAT credit should not be denied on the ground that part of the input was contained in any waste, refuse or by-product arising during the manufacture of the final product.

(c) Rule 57D of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 was not obstructive to Rules 57C.

(d) to (f) The rules are reviewed from time to time on

need basis. There is no rule which obstructs other rules(s) causing loss to the financial interest of the State.

*[Translation]***NABARD Funding**

177. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) the amount allocated by NABARD to Rajasthan for implementation of various projects in the State since April 1, 1998, project-wise; and

(b) the criteria for selection of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has furnished purpose-wise sanctions accorded under I to VI tranches (as on 31 March 2001) of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to the State Government of Rajasthan are given below :

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Purpose	Amt. Sanctioned
1.	Irrigation	601.08
2.	Rural Roads	369.37
3.	Bridges	27.86
4.	Primary Schools	36.09
5.	Others	145.83
	Total	1180.23

(b) Projects are prioritized by the State Government for availing loan from RIDF. Eligible activities for which loans are sanctioned relate to major, medium and minor irrigation, rural roads, bridges, watershed management, floor protection, rural market yards, command areas development, drainage, cold storage, fish jetties, forest development, inland waterways, building for primary schools, primary health centres, rubber plantation, rural drinking water supply, soil conservation, citizen information centres, agro forestry system, improvement and mini-hydel projects in power sector, etc.

*[English]***Funding Through Banks to Corporations**

178. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have directed all nationalised banks to fund corporations which are buying public sector units;

(b) if so, the details of such guidelines and the reasons for such a policy;

(c) whether easy credit targeted for PSU acquisitions will lead to speculations by corporations;

(d) if so, the safeguards inherent in this new policy; and

(e) the response of banks to this policy change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

LIC and GIC Investment in Stock and Shares

179. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No.3134 dated August 10, 2001 regarding LIC and GIC investment in stock and shares and state :

(a) whether the said information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The assurance as given with regard to part (e) of Unstarred Question No.3134 has already been fulfilled. Details are given in the statement-I and II enclosed.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement-I

LIC of India

As on 31.3.2001, the equity portfolio of LIC comprised of holdings in companies with Book Value of Rs. 14024.28 crore and Market Value of Rs. 16809.16 crore. The number of scrips in the Corporation's portfolio is very large. Major equity holding is, however, confined is about 300 companies. A list of holdings in the top 25 companies on the basis of Market Value as on 31.3.2001 and details of secondary equity market operations for the last five years are given below :-

S.No	Company Name	Book Value (In lakh Rs.)	% of Holding	Market Value (In lakh Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	ITC Ltd.	28791.33	9.45	190828.10
2.	ICICI Limited	45080.98	12.27	89572.91
3.	Larsen & Toubro Limited	29367.33	13.75	79527.37
4.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	17735.59	0.48	74534.22
5.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	74477.61	7.42	67266.96
6.	Hindustan Petroleum Corp.	61502.50	11.43	64382.94
7.	State Bank of India	52678.96	5.00	57294.46
8.	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	22317.02	11.57	55657.96
9.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	43578.67	7.67	52920.78
10.	Reliance Petroleum Ltd.	41898.51	1.99	38897.66
11.	BSES Ltd.	12942.61	13.88	37115.47
12.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation	14305.06	5.18	30334.57

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Glaxo India Ltd.	21634.70	9.62	24735.75
14.	Grasim Industries Ltd.	14908.27	9.25	23065.41
15.	Associated Cement Companies	9499.70	9.38	22948.53
16.	Hindalco Ind. Ltd.	16599.74	3.84	22434.33
17.	Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.	18735.35	8.47	20667.60
18.	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd.	9559.42	5.99	20486.09
19.	INFOSYS Technologies Ltd.	30402.95	0.69	20100.76
20.	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.	14499.10	13.99	19326.33
21.	Britania Industries Ltd.	1401.34	9.40	18705.90
22.	Indian Oil Corp. Ltd.	27004.12	1.46	18620.73
23.	Tata Tea Ltd.	21657.19	13.65	18553.50
24.	Tata Engineering & Locomotive	14950.37	9.32	16714.68
25.	Corporation Bank	13069.75	12.17	16505.46

Secondary Equity Market Operations

Year	Purchases	Sales	Profits
2000-2001	4186.09	1632.64	836.79
1999-2000	3459.98	1440.78	843.85
1998-1999	1794.60	359.55	289.12
1997-1998	1090.30	121.12	92.88
1996-1997	488.80	148.25	113.58

Statement-II

GIC of India

As on 31.3.2001, the equity portfolio (provisional) of GIC comprised of holdings in 661 companies with Book Value of Rs. 1363 crore and Market Value of Rs. 2934 crore. The Major Equity holdings of the Corporation is, however, confined to about 100 companies having Book Value of Rs. 1067 crore and Market Value of Rs. 2552 crore. A list of holding in top 25 companies on the basis of market value as on 31.3.2001 and details of secondary equity market operations for the last 5 years are given below :-

S.No.	Company Name	Book Value (In Lakh Rs.)	% of Holding	Market Value (In Lakh Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Hindustan Lever Ltd.	1609.88	1.17	44345.04
2.	ITC Ltd.	431.17	0.31	42023.66

1	2	3	4	5
3.	ICICI Limited	7649.62	5.58	18391.75
4.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	3135.50	2.29	15503.07
5.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	2663.91	1.94	11749.33
6.	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.	4054.54	2.96	11326.98
7.	HDFC Ltd.	769.50	0.56	9335.35
8.	Tata Power Company Ltd.	2909.06	2.12	7231.82
9.	Smithline Beecham Consumer Healthcare Ltd.	712.47	0.52	5746.79
10.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	635.92	0.46	4882.85
11.	BSES Ltd.	1479.46	1.08	4129.71
12.	Motor Ind. Com. Ltd.	145.37	0.11	4111.72
13.	Elh Ltd.	841.76	0.61	3459.10
14.	Indian Hotels Co. Ltd.	2040.13	1.49	2672.18
15.	Morepen Laboratories Ltd.	2622.48	1.91	2662.51
16.	Grasim Industries Ltd.	853.15	0.62	2657.57
17.	Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	2060.35	1.50	2607.68
18.	Punjab Tractors Ltd.	1533.24	1.12	2447.32
19.	Britania Ind. Ltd.	199.19	0.15	2415.79
20.	Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	871.08	0.63	2132.16
21.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	1836.44	1.34	2116.71
22.	Cadbury India Ltd.	592.73	0.43	1989.95
23.	Indian Oil Corp. Ltd.	2347.62	1.71	1773.51
24.	Bajaj Auto Ltd.	2118.78	1.54	1747.57
25.	State Bank of India	1518.46	1.11	1703.50

Secondary Equity Market Operations

Year	Purchase	Amount Realised	Profit on Sale
2000-2001	481.34	262.46	147.06
1999-2000	193.88	134.23	101.26
1998-1999	108.32	62.93	54.29
1997-1998	45.01	30.39	26.62
1996-1997	22.52	16.73	14.99

Foreign Visit of Ministers

180. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question No.3163 dated August 10, 2001 regarding foreign visit of Ministers and state :

(a) whether the said information has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of amount spent on their visit till 31st January, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Information is awaited from a few States.

Absorption of Employees of GIC in IRDA

181. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 975 on November 23, 2001 regarding absorption of employees of GIC in IRDA and state :

(a) whether the information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information; and

(d) the time by which the information is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The requisite material in fulfilment of the Assurance given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Number 975 has since been furnished to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 22.02.2002.

Statement

(a) and (b) GIPSA has reported that Para 14 of the General Insurance Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 read with para 30 (1) and proviso thereto of the said scheme provides for pensionary benefits under voluntary retirement from service for being absorbed permanently in an autonomous body or a Public Sector Undertaking while on deputation to it.

The paras 14 to 30 are read as under :-

Subject to other conditions contained in this Scheme an employee who has rendered a minimum 10 years of service in the Corporation or a company, on the date of retirement, shall qualify for pension.

At any time after an employee has completed twenty years of qualifying service, he may, by giving notice of not less than ninety days, in writing to the appointing authority, retire from service.

Provided that this sub-paragraph shall not apply to an employee who is on deputation unless after having been transferred or having returned to India he has resumed charge of the post in India and has served for a period of not less than one year.

Provided further that this sub-paragraph shall not apply to an employee who seeks retirement from service for being absorbed permanently in an autonomous body or a public sector undertaking to which he is on deputation at the time of seeking voluntary retirement.

(c) The following employees of GIC have been granted voluntary retirement in the last two years for absorption in IRDA :-

S/Shri

1. Prabodh Chander, Manager	New India Ass.Co.Ltd
2. Mukesh Sharma, AAO	-do-
3. Rakesh Bajaj, AO	-do-
4. Suresh Mathur, AM	-do-
5. R.S.Jagpal, AM	National Ins. Co. Ltd

The following officers resigned and joined I.R.D.A..

S/Shri

1. Arup Chatterjee, A.O.	Oriental Ins. Co. Ltd.
2. B.Raghvan, Steno	Oriental Ins. Co. Ltd.,
3. K.K. Chaudhary, A.O.	New India Ass. Co. Ltd.

(d) and (e) Government, Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority, and Insurance Companies have received representations made by All India National General Insurance Assn. alleging violation of General Insurance Employees Pension Scheme 1995 in employment of former general insurance company's employees in IRDA. The New

India Assurance Company from which maximum employees joined IRDA as per details given in (c) above, IRDA has informed the Association that applications of eligible employees for voluntary retirement from the service have been considered as per existing rules and there have been no violation of service rules. Other employees, who were not eligible for voluntary retirement under the service rules, have resigned from the service and have joined IRDA.

Vacant Posts in the Ministry

182. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise, number of posts lying vacant in his Ministry/ Departments and subordinate offices under his Ministry as on December 31, 2001 alongwith the date since when these are lying vacant;

(b) the reasons for keeping these posts vacant; and

(c) by when these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) All vacant posts are required to be filled up, either by direct recruitment through Service Commissions/ Employment Exchange, or through departmental promotion, in compliance with the instructions in this behalf issued by Govt. from time to time.

Statement

Category-wise/ date-wise number of posts lying vacant in Ministry of Textiles as on December 31, 2001 are as under :

Sl. No.	Group	No. of vacant Posts	Date of vacancy
1	2	3	4
1.	Group A	30	1991(1 post), 1996(5 posts), 1997(2 posts), 1999(3 posts), 2000(8 posts), 2001(11 posts).
2.	Group B	31	1994(1 post), 1995(2 posts), 1996(1 post), 1997(1 post), 1998(3 posts), 1999(4 posts), 2000(9 posts), 2001(10 posts).

1	2	3	4
3.	Group C	328	1988(68 posts), 1994(10 posts), 1995(15 posts), 1996(7 posts), 1997(22 posts), 1998(31 posts), 1999(70 posts) 2000(33 Posts), 2001(72 posts)
4.	Group D	105	1992(1 post), 1993(8 posts), 1994(5 posts), 1995(9 posts), 1997(3 posts), 1998(11 posts), 1999(25 posts), 2000(18 posts), 2001(25 posts).

Sales Centres of NTC

183. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sales centres of the National Textiles Corporation alongwith their locations in the country, State-wise particularly of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more sales centres of NTC in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan period particularly in the rural areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As on 31.12.2001, 285 sales centres are running under NTC out of which 6 are in Madhya Pradesh. The State-wise list alongwith location are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

State/U.T.	Location	No. of Showrooms in the State
1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	Indore, Dewas, Ujjain, Bhopal, Burhanpur, Ratlam	6
Jharkhand	Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Chas, Ramgarh	4

1	2	3
Bihar	Patna, Patna City, Danapur, Muzzaffarpur, Purnia, Chhapra, Darbanga, Begusarai, Nawadah, Munghyr, Bihar Shariff, Sasaram, Sitamari, Madhubani, Jehanabad, Gaya	16
Orissa	Angul, Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Katak, Dhanknal Joypore, Behrampur	7
Assam	Guwahati, Shillong, Dibrugarh, Pandu	4
West Bengal	Asansole, Arambagh, Belgharia, Budge-Budge, Belia Ghat, Bardwan, Bolepur, Bongon, Barasat, Bihala, Bankura, Chandan Nagar, College St., Park St., Durgapur, Dimand Harbar, Dhaniakhali, Gariahat, Grey St., Habra, Ichhapur, Koo Nagar, Kalyani, Kalna, Khagra, Krishna Nagar, Kankurgachi, Kadamtola, Lake town, Midnapur, Mahesh, Nagar Bazar, Palta, Ranaghat, Rasbihari, Rishra, Raniganj, Siliguri, Shyambazar, Singur, Sreeampore Shyamnagar, Tollyganj, Tumluk, Salt Lake	45
Tamil Nadu	Attur, Bhavani, Coimbatore(6), Coonoor, Gobichettipalayam, Nammakal, Ootacamund, Salem, Mettupalayam, Chennai(4), Chengam, Cuddalore, Kalpakalam, Kanchipuram, Tirupathur, Trichy, Kumbakonam, Maduri, Nagerchoil, Pattukottai, Paramakkudi, Mayiladuthurai, Shivganga, Thiruthurapoondi, Thirumanglam, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi, Trukoilur, Neyveli, Finlay Chennai	38
Pondicherry	Pondicherry	1
Delhi	Arya Samaj Road, N.D.S.E., Shanker Road, Tagore Garden, Greater Kailash, Tilak Nagar, Khan Market, Paharganj, Delhi Cantt., East of Kailash, A.T.M., Laxmi Nagar, Kendriya Bhandar, Moti Nagar	14

1	2	3
Haryana	Sonepat, Panipat, Hissar, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Ambala, Karnal	7
Punjab	Amritsar, Ludhiana, Patiala, Kharar	4
J&K	Jammu, Srinagar	2
Chandigarh	Sector 17, Madhya Marg	2
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Bhiwara, Bharatpur, Beawar, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Sikar, Ganga Nagar, Udaypur	10
Maharashtra	Mumbai (13), Nagpur (2), Hingharghat, Yeotmal, Achhalpur, Pune, Bharat, Parel (3), Chowpati, Nanded, Chalisgaon	26
Gujarat	Ahmedabad (2), Baroda, Godhra, Junagarh, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surat	8
Daman	Daman	1
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur (6), Lucknow (2), Allahabad (4), Jhansi, Bareilly, Rai-Bareilly, Akbar Pur, Balia, Chowkaghat, Deoria, Goleghar, Gazipur, Gyanvapi, Lahurabir, Maya Bazar, Maunathbhanjan, Shakti Nagar, Sultanpur, Agra, Ghaziabad, Modi Nagar, Muradabad, Narora, Roorki	33
Uttanchal	Dehradun, Haldwani	2
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad (5), Anantapur, Cuddapah, Eluru, Guntur, Hanumakonda, Vishakhapatnam, Kakinada, Krimnagar, Kurnul, Machilipatnam, Nellore, Tirupathi, Vijayawada, Vishakhapatnam	19
Kerala	Alwaye, Quilon, Cannanore, Callicutt, Chittur, Changana, Cherry, Ernakulam, (2), Kasargod, Kunnamukullam, Palai, Palghat, Trichur, Tellicherry, Trivendrum	15
Karnataka	Bangalore (8), Mysore, Elgaum, Chickmagalur, Davangere, Dharwar, Hassan, Mysore, Mandya, Mangalore, Tumkur, Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur	21

Tax Deductions at Source

184. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether TDS deductions now constitute nearly 50% of all tax collections of the CBDT;
- (b) if so, the details of percentage and amounts collected through TDS in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 upto December 2001;
- (c) whether the Income Tax Department does not refund even small TDS amounts;
- (d) if so, the steps taken to ensure that the spirit of the law and policy is genuinely implemented; and
- (e) the measures proposed by the Government to ensure that TDS refund are sent without unusual hardship and delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The TDS constituted 41.30% of all Direct Tax collections made during the 2000-2001.

(b) The requisite details in respect of year 2000-2001 are as under:-

Head of Account	Total Collection	Amount of TDS	TDS as % of total collection (Rs. in crores)
CT	35696.27	5982.28	16.76%
IT	31763.98	22230.98	69.99%
OT	845.14	0	0%
Total	68305.39	28213.26	41.30%

The figures for the year 2001-2002 are under compilation.

(c) to (e) Refunds are made by the Income Tax Department as per tax laws promptly without distinction whether the amount is small or big. With the restructuring of the Income Tax Department recently, the system is expected to be more prompt and efficient.

Revival of Textile Mills of Maharashtra

185. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of textile mills in public and private sectors working in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of these mills which have been closed down and the number of affected workers;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to revamp the closed mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the details of the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of textile mill workers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The details of management-wise cotton/man-made textile mills (Non-SSI) working in Maharashtra as on 31-12-2001 are as follows:

Management	No. of Mills
Public	40
Private	101
Co-operative	67
Total	208

(b) The details of closed mills and the workers on roll in the State of Maharashtra as on 31-12-2001 are as follows :

Management	No. of mills	No. of workers on roll
Public	2	256
Private	27	38689
Co-operative	18	16081
Total	47	55026

(c) and (d) The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the BIFR with a view to timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

Out of the 47 cotton/man-made textile mills (Non-SSI), 14 cases are registered with BIFR as on 31-10-2001. The status of these 14 cases is as follows :

Status	All Textile Cases
Declared no Hunger Sick	3
Rehabilitation Scheme failed & Case reopened	1
Non-Maintainable	1
Scheme Sanctioned under Section 18 (4)	1
Under Enquiry	2
Winding Up recommended	6
Total	14

Government has also set up Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme to provide interim relief to workers rendered unemployed as a consequence of permanent closure of textile units.

Request for Additional Market Borrowing

186. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government for allowing additional market borrowing; and

(b) if so, the details with the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Government of Kerala had requested for additional market borrowings of Rs.300 crores to finance the requirements for meeting development expenditure. As per the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, additional borrowings to any State over and above the approved borrowing under the Plan is linked with the Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme (MTFRP). On receipt of the requisite material relating to MTFRP from the State Government, the same was examined and considered in this Ministry. An agreement between the Government of India and Government of Kerala was accordingly finalised. Based on the MTFRP of the State Government, additional allocation of Rs.200 crores for Market Borrowing Programme has been allowed to the Government of Kerala for the year 2001-02.

[Translation]

Housing for Weaker Sections

187. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought assistance from the National Housing Bank and other financial institutions engaged in housing sector in order to meet the target of constructing twenty lakh additional dwelling units every year for the weaker sections and lower income group people; and

(b) if so, the response received by the Government from the National Housing Bank in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) According to the information furnished by the National Housing Bank (NHB), the Government has not sought any assistance from the NHB in implementing the 2 Million Housing Programme under the National Agenda for Governance.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Adoption of Children

188. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether embassies of several countries are requesting to take steps to speed up the process for finalising the cases of inter-country adoption of children;

(b) if so, the cases of delay in such cases; and

(c) the action proposed to simplify the procedure for adoption of children from orphanages?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Revised Guidelines for Adoption of Indian Children-1995 governs such adoptions and these are reviewed from time to time as and when required.

Adoption Racket in A.P.

189. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inter-country adoption racket has been reported especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ease adoption procedure to prevent sale of children illegally?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) While no inter-country racket has been reported as such, action has been taken by the Government against Agencies found to be indulging in irregularities both in Andhra Pradesh and other States. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment which deals with adoption matters has advised all State Government and its recognized Agencies to strictly adhere to the Guidelines issued by it on inter-country adoptions and other adoption matters from time to time. These include mandatory licensing of all orphanages and Agencies and monitoring of adoption activities in order to ensure that all adoption are legally done. The State Governments ensure that incidents of sale of children, if any, are prevented by strict enforcement of the relevant laws.

Textile Policy

190. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to bring about changes in the textile policy;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Union Government to promote textile industry in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Since the National Textile Policy has been announced only in November, 2000, it is too early to bring out any changes in the Policy.

(d) Government has been taking several steps to strengthen and promote textile and clothing industry in the Country including Rajasthan. Some of the important initiatives are :

- (i) Government has dereserved the woven segment of ready-made garment industry from the SSI sector.
- (ii) A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the B.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e. apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 15 crores has also been made in B.E. 2001-02 for scheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centers.
- (iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years, i.e. up to 31.03.2004 to facilitate the modernization and upgradation of this sector. An Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted. Progress of the TUFS as on 31.12.2001 is given below :

	No. of Applications Received	Total Cost of Project	Sanctioned		Disbursed	
			No. of Applications	Amount	No. of Applications	Amount
All India (including Rajasthan)	1402	13464.15	1171	5012.25	892	3166.62

(iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

(v) To improve the availability of cotton at reasonable prices, the Government has launched Technology Mission for Cotton consisting of 4 mini missions during 1999-2000 for a period of five years.

(vi) Government has set up 44 Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) to provide training, consultancy,

design development support, textile testing and information about the latest technology in weaving etc. for the benefit of the powerloom sector. Out of these 44 PSCs, 21 PSCs are presently under modernization of their loom and other training facilities at an estimated cost of Rs. 16 crore during the 9th Five Year Plan period for better training on hi-tech looms to powerloom weavers/owners.

(vii) Government has taken up a programme of setting up of CAD Centres to provide design development

and support to powerloom sector. So far, 17 such CAD centers have been set up under different Textile Research Associations.

- (viii) Under the scheme of setting up/ up gradation/ modernization/ strengthening of laboratories launched from 1995-96, a total of 41 laboratories have been modernized/ strengthened so far.
- (ix) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.
- (x) Foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions, has been allowed.
- (xi) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalized.
- (xii) Relaxations under the Quota Policy have been recently announced to help exporters.

[Translation]

Prices of Essential Commodities

191. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

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

(a) the difference between the existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities per kilogram in the Metropolitan Cities;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in regard to the maximum permissible difference between the wholesale and retail prices of the essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the system of monitoring the prices of the essential commodities particularly the retail prices by the Government so as to protect the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) A statement showing the wholesale and retail prices of selected essential commodities as on February 20, 2002 at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is enclosed.

(b) No.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The retail and wholesale prices of 12 essential commodities of mass consumption are monitored by the Central and State Governments at the highest level through the high powered Committees regularly. The daily retail prices and weekly wholesale prices of 12 selected essential commodities of mass consumption are being monitored by the Price Monitoring Cell in the Department. Daily retail prices are monitored in respect of 18 State Capitals and weekly wholesale prices for 37 centres spread all-over the country through the State/UT Civil Supplies Departments. Analysis of the data is made and definite measures are taken to safeguard the interests of the consumers from time to time.

Statement

Wholesale and Retail prices of Selected Essential Commodities in the four Metropolitan cities as on 20.2.2002

Item	Delhi		Mumbai		Chennai		Kolkata	
	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rice	9.25	12.00	10.75	11.50	9.50	10.50	9.00	10.00
Wheat	6.35	7.50	9.25	10.25	9.50	11.00	NR	6.75
Gram	23.50	26.00	24.00	28.50	22.00	25.00	21.50	26.00
Tur	21.50	26.00	23.00	25.00	22.00	25.00	21.50	25.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sugar	14.50	15.00	15.25	16.25	14.30	14.50	14.90	16.50
Groundnut oil*	67.73	74.00	41.00	42.00	40.00	42.00	46.67	53.00
Mustard oil	38.40	40.00	NR	60.00	NR	NR	33.25	38.00
Vanaspati	37.00	38.00	37.33	40.00	34.35	42.00	30.00	33.00
Onion	3.82	7.00	2.50	4.50	4.00	5.00	3.88	6.00
Potato	3.40	6.00	6.60	9.00	4.00	5.00	2.60	3.00
Tea (loose)	100.0	115.00	NR	130.00	116.00	120.00	NR	80.00
Salt (packed)	4.60	6.00	6.40	7.00	5.20	6.00	NR	6.00

Note Wholesale Prices are originally reported per quintal and have been converted to Rs. Per kg.

* : Retail prices relate to premium brand of 1 kg. in Delhi and Kolkata and Wholesale prices are in respect of 15 kg. in common brand. In Mumbai and Chennai retail and wholesale prices pertain to loose variety.

Source : State Civil Supplies Departments NR. Not Reported

Evasion of Income Tax

192. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Income Tax detected tax evasion to the tune of Rs.100 crore during the raids conducted at HCL Group premises in January, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action so far or proposed to be taken against the HCL Group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Income Tax Department conducted a search on 24th January, 2002 at HCL Group and seized certain documents. Investigation is in progress to determine the exact nature and amount of tax evasion.

Closure of Akaltara Plant of CCI

193. DR. CHARANDAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cement factory of Cement Corporation of India at Akaltara, district Janjgir Champa

(Chhattisgarh) has been closed due to recurring losses and non-payment of electricity bills;

(b) whether the employees of Akaltara plant are being paid their salary regularly at the time of closure and the "operating loss" of the plant was more than the monthly salary of the employees;

(c) if not, the actual reasons for closure of the said plant;

(d) whether the CCI has requested the State Government of Chhattisgarh which has surplus electricity to provide electricity at lower rates to Akaltara and Mandhar plant in order to revive these plants;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Operations in Akaltara unit of CCI have remained suspended from 9.12.1996 due to various reasons including recurring losses, high cost of production and non-payment of electricity bills. The operating losses of the unit during 1996-97 were Rs.1289.58 lakh much higher than salary & wage bill of Rs.350.91 lakh. Salary/wages have been paid to the employees upto the month of August, 2001.

(d) to (f) CCI is a sick undertaking under reference to

BIFR, a quasi judicial body, since 8.8.1996. After having come to the conclusion that no viable rehabilitation scheme has emerged, the BIFR in its hearing held on 27.3.2001, directed IFCI, the Operating Agency to process the sale of CCI as a whole on a going concern basis or its plants, individually or collectively including Akaltara and Mandhar.

[English]

De-Listing of UTI Schemes

194. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India has de-listed all the schemes from the bourses, including tile US 64 and the popular Master Share Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Unit Trust of India (UTI) has intimated that all the listed schemes have not been delisted from stock exchanges. The list of delisted schemes is given in the statement enclosed. US-64 and Master Share Scheme have not been delisted.

(b) UTI has intimated that listing is provided as an exit facility for the benefit of investors requiring liquidity when the scheme is within the lock-in period or when repurchase option by UTI is not available. However, when NAV linked repurchase facility is made available to investors, then listing does not seem to be beneficial to investors as it was observed that units of listed schemes were more often traded at discount to their NAV linked repurchase price and further listing also involves expenditure to th schemes in terms of payment of listing fees. According to UTI, delisting of such schemes is done in the interest of investors.

(c) UTI has intimated that delisting has not in any way adversely affected investor interest. On the contrary, as mentioned at (b), the investors have been able to realise the full value of the NAV through the repurchase route.

Statement

Delisted Schemes

S.No.	Scheme	Delisting date	Repurchase facility available at UTI from
1.	Grandmaster 93	26.04.2000	01.08.1996
2.	Index Select Equity Fund	20.11.2000	01.08.2000
3.	Master Growth Unit Scheme 1993	21.03.2000	01.12.1999
4.	Mastergain 1992	26.4.2000	01.08.1995
5.	Mastergain Plus Unit Scheme 1991 (Masterplus)	26.04.2000	01.10.1998
6.	Unit Scheme 92 (US-92)	26.06.2000	01.02.1996
7.	Unit Scheme 95 (US-95)	01.08.2000	02.04.1995
8.	Master Equity Plan 1993	26.06.2000	01.04.1996
9.	Master Equity Plan 1995	26.06.2000	01.04.1998
10.	Master Equity Plan 1996	26.06.2000	01.04.1999

[Translation]

Foreign Visits of Officials

195. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials of the Ministry who visited abroad between the period from April 01, 2001 to January 31, 2002;

(b) the countries to which they visited alongwith the reasons therefor;

- (c) the total expenditure incurred on these tours;
- (d) whether the visits were essential; and
- (e) if not, the details of reasons for which these tours were conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) 11 (Eleven)

(b)

Country Visited	Reason
1. Netherlands 2-7th April, 2001	- 33rd session of Codex Committee on Pesticides Residue.
2. Nepal 10-11th April, 2001	- 8th meeting of SAARC Food Security Reserve Board
3. U.K. (London) 8th May, 2001	- International Grains Council (IGC) Executive Committee Meeting
4. Iraq 17-25th May, 2001	- Discussion with Grain Board of Iraq as member of Indian delegation
5. U.K. (London) 11-14th June, 2001	- 13th Session and Annual Conference of International Grains Council (IGC)
6. Thailand (Phuket) 25-27th June, 2001	- Conference on South Asian Wheat Buyers
7. Switzerland (Geneva) 2-7th July, 2001	- 24th session of Codex Alimentarius Commission
8. U.K. (London) 9-10th July, 2001	- Special Meeting of Administrative Committee International Sugar Organisation (ISO)
9. Nepal (Kathmandu) 3-4th November, 2001	- India Nepal JS level talks for review of the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty
10. Italy (Rome) 5-7th November, 2001	- FAO (Food & Agriculture Organisation) Conference
11. U.K. (London) 30th November, 2001	- International Sugar Council Session

(c) Rs. 10.96,686.00 (Excluding accommodation, transport charges etc. debit claims of which are yet to be received from the Ministry of External Affairs).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

National Commission for Backward Classes

196. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA :

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

(a) the number of applications received by the National Commission for Backward Classes for fresh inclusion under the category of backward classes, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications cleared so far, State-wise;

(c) the number of applications still pending with the commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) since its inception has received requests in respect of 1137 castes/sub-castes/synonyms/communities for inclusion in the Central Lists of Other Backward Classes (OBCs). State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) In view of the provision made under Section 9 (1) of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) Act, 1993, the NCBC has tendered advice to the Government in respect of 1102 castes/sub-castes/synonyms/communities till date. Out of these 1102, 669 are for inclusion in the Lists and 433 are for rejection of request for inclusion. State-wise breakup is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Request for inclusion in respect of 35 castes/sub-castes/synonymous/communities are still pending with the Commission. Out of these 35, enquiry/public hearing has already been completed in respect of 30 castes/communities, enquiry on 5 castes/communities received recently is yet to be completed. The Commission will tender the advice on pending cases as soon as the enquiry is completed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of castes/sub-castes/synonyms/communities for which :-			
		Request received in the Com.	Advice tendered to the Govt.		Total
			For inclusion	For rejection	
1	2	3	4	5	6 (Col.4+Col.5)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66	42	13	55
2.	Assam	1	-	1	1
3.	Bihar	37	10	22	32
4.	Delhi	26	13	12	25
5.	Goa	18	12	6	18
6.	Gujarat	48	26	16	42
7.	Haryana	35	27	8	35
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	2	1	3
9.	Karnataka	133	106	27	133
10.	Kerala	59	35	24	59
11.	Madhya Pradesh	61	42	19	61
12.	Maharashtra	34	18	15	33
13.	Orissa	91	46	41	87
14.	Punjab	11	8	2	10
15.	Rajasthan	63	32	30	62
16.	Sikkim	6	3	3	6
17.	Tamil Nadu	116	81	35	116
18.	Tripura	23	15	8	23
19.	Uttar Pradesh	149	93	52	145
20.	West Bengal	60	44	16	60
21.	Chandigarh	7	6	1	7
22.	Pondicherry	89	8	81	89
23.	D&N Haveli	1	-	-	-
Total		1137	669	433	1102

[English]

Import of Agricultural Commodities

197. SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of agricultural commodities is permissible under Open General Licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the agricultural commodities imported along with their quantity and value during the current financial year till December 31, 2001;

(d) whether the Government have assessed the effect of such import on domestic price of agricultural commodities;

(e) if so, the details; and

(f) the steps taken / being taken to curb the adverse effect of import of agricultural commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (f) Import restrictions on items including agricultural products are being removed as a part of economic liberalization programme of the Government and also in terms of our International obligations. At present, all the items on which import restrictions were maintained on account of balance of payment reasons are freely importable.

A statement showing import of major agricultural commodities during April-October, 2001, for which data is available, compared with April-October, 2000 is enclosed. As can be seen from the import data, this level of imports may not have any serious impact on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities.

The removal of restrictions has not altered the overall rate of growth of imports of the country. The growth rate of imports was 15.3% in 1993-94, 23.1% in 1994-95, 36.4% in 1995-96, 13.2% in 1996-97, 11% in 1997-98, 14.2% in 1998-99 and 13.6% in 1999-2000 (in rupee terms). The import growth rate during the year 2000-2001 was only 5.59% in rupee terms and 0.27% in US dollar terms. The growth rate of imports during the first nine months of this financial year was

only 0.31 % in Dollar terms and 4.55% in Rs. terms, compared to the same period last year. The import data for 714 items, QRs on which were removed on 31.03.2000, for the year 2000-2001, indicates a growth in import of these items by less than 6%. Similarly, the import of 300 sensitive items, which is being monitored by a Standing Group of Secretaries, has also not indicated any unusual surge in the first nine months of this financial year.

However imports are being closely monitored and the Government is determined to ensure through appropriate use of tariff and other mechanisms that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic farmers. Towards that end, import duties on a number of items, where increases in imports were noticed, have already been increased. In the budget for the year 2000-2001, import of duties on many of the agricultural items, (Chapter 1 to 24 of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items, 1997-2002), have been increased to provide further protection to domestic farmers, e.g. duty on rice has been increased from 0% to upto 80%, on maize from 0% to 50%, on apples from 35% to 50%, on wheat raised to 50%. Similarly, in the budget for the year 2001-2002, the custom duty on coconut, copra, tea and coffee has been raised from 35% to 70%. The import duty on various refined edible oils excepting soyabean oil has been raised upto 85%. Similarly, the import duty on crude palmolein oil has been raised to 65% and on other crude edible oils excepting soyabean oil duty has been raised upto 75%.

Statement

Import of major agricultural commodities during April-October, 2000 & April-October, 2001

		Qty. in tonnes			
		Value in Rs. Crore.			
Sl.No.	Items	Apr-Oct. 00		Apr-Oct. 01	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Wheat	3353	2.26	1351	0.84
2.	Rice	5890	7.83	62	0.06
3.	Other Cereals	29991	14.96	3849	2.00
4.	Pulses	146663	234.21	1165044	1685.37
5.	Tea	6068	11.63	6218	35.98
6.	Cashew Nuts	18867	75.12	78.77	18.88

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Fruits & Nuts Excl. Cashew Nuts	N.A.	420.63	N.A.	353.40
8.	Spices	23345	140.48	36899	232.27
9.	Sugar	22313	20.96	26529	32.43
10.	Oil Seeds	N.A.	4.25	N.A.	0.98
11.	Natural Rubber	6722	23.40	25104	76.97
12.	Jute, Raw	34031	38.74	33558	38.90
13.	Silk, Raw	2722	262.45	5177	317.23
14.	Cotton, Raw/ Comb./Uncom. B./Waste	177147	964.45	236721	1329.49

Export of Leather and Leather Products

198. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total export of leather and leather goods from India during each of the last three years against the target fixed;

(b) the policies announced by the Government to improve the leather trade in India;

(c) whether there has been steady decline in leather industry due to environmental threat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The total export of leather and leather goods from India during each of the last three years against the target fixed is as follows :

Value in US M\$		
Year	Target	Export
1998-1999	1777	1654.89
1999-2000	1724	1576.12
2000-2001	1760	1970.99

(b) Government has taken various policy initiatives for export promotion of leather and leather products. These include implementing export promotion scheme like Duty Exemption Pass Book Scheme and Duty Drawback Schemes; Tannery Modernisation Scheme; de-reservation of tanning and footwear sector from small scale industry; providing financial assistance to exporters through Marketing Development Assistance and Marketing Access Initiatives Schemes for marketing of export products outside the country; and assisting in design and product development through Institutes like Footwear Design and Development Institute and Central Leather Research Institute.

(c) No, sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Income Tax Officers in Kerala

199. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to open new Income Tax Offices in the country particularly in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per available record, there are various proposals for opening of new Income Tax Offices in the country. There is, however, no specific proposals in respect of Kerala State.

(b) The details of proposals pending with CBDT for opening of new IT offices at various places are as under :-

In Uttranchal : Khatima and Haridwar;

In U.P. : Khatauli, Baraut and Deoband;

In Goa : Vasco;

In Karnataka : Chamranj Nagar, Channarayana, Haveri, Hannavar, Tiptur and Bhadravati.

Pending Compensatory Appointment in Income Tax Department

200. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of appointments on compassionate grounds pending in the Income Tax Department;

(b) the category-wise details thereof;

(c) the break-up of duration for the pending applications pending for more than two years, five years and 10 years etc. and

(d) the reasons for pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Six cases are pending at Board level. The information with regard to the entire Department will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Fake Currency Notes

201. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated January 26, 2002 under the caption " Real dilemma; No authority to authenticate fake currency notes";

(b) If so, whether it is a fact that certification of the Bank Note Press, Dewas regarding authenticity of a currency note is not admissible in the court of law;

(c) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) The fresh steps taken by the Government to set up an authority to authenticate fake currency notes in order to dispose-off a large number of cases of fake currency pending trial in various courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Under Section 292 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973 only the Gazetted Officers of the Mint or of the India Security Press (including the office of the Controller of Stamps and Stationery) are notified for the purpose of authenticating currency notes in courts of law. For enabling the Gazetted Officers of Note Printing Presses or Security Printing Presses or Forensic Science Laboratories or Government Examiners of Questioned Documents (GEQDs) or State Examiners of Questioned Documents (SEQDs) to authenticate fake currency notes in court trials, the Government has initiated action to amend Section-292(1) and 292(3) of the CrPC.

Corruption in FCI

202. SHRI Y.V. RAO :

SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Swindlers force FCI to halt transport subsidy for rice exports", appearing in 'Economic Times', dated 15th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein;

(c) whether action has been taken against those officers/employees involved in the fraud and also to stop recurrence of such incidents in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item *inter alia* refers to alleged diversion of rice meant for export into the domestic market and bogus freight claims.

(c) to (e) On receipt of allegations about malpractices in export of rice from the Central Pool, the reimbursement of transport subsidy was suspended. The matter was examined and thereafter the transport subsidy was resorted with additional safeguards. There is no report of involvement of FCI officers/employees.

Privatisation of Mutual Fund

203. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the privatization of India's largest mutual fund, the Unit Trust of India has clearly been put on the backburner;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering various measures whereby the ownership would remain in the hands of the Government-owned undertakings;

(c) if so, whether the UTI Board has already rejected the Malegam Committee recommendations, which has favoured privatisation by roping in a strategic partner with 60 percent equity in the sponsoring company;

(d) if so, whether the Government have considered the report of the Board of UTI which was presented to them in the month of December, 2001; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) Government is examining various options to restructure UTI with a view to enabling it to fully meet with the mutual fund regulations of SEBI and enhancing the competitive positioning of UTI.

UTI has intimated that the UTI Board has not rejected the recommendations of the Malegam Committee. The Board has discussed the various issues raised in the report.

Payment of Dividends

204. SHRI G. J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the profit making Public Sector Undertakings are not following the directives of the Government to pay dividends;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the role of the Government nominees on the Board of Directors of those PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Krushi Urban Co-operative Bank, Hyderabad

205. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA :

SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some depositors of Krushi Co-operative Urban Bank have been over-compensated thereby flouting RBI guidelines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in the fresh scam of the said Co-operative Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) As per information furnished by the Liquidator of the Krushi Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd., Secunderabad, six depositors were over compensated to the total extent of Rs.43717/-. Notices for recovery of the excess amount paid have been sent to the depositors. No action against officials in this regard has been reported to the Reserve Bank of India.

Investment by Overseas Corporate Bodies

206. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has called for a rethink on the policy regarding Investments in India by Overseas Corporate Bodies to ensure the presence of only genuine players;

(b) if so, whether It has suggested to the Government after a sample study done by the RBI which showed a net outflow of \$ 230 million as per the accounts of OCBs maintained by their designated banks;

(c) if so, the main points suggested by the RBI for OCB policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The issues regarding possible misuse of the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) by certain Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) was considered by the High Level Committee on Financial and Capital Markets and in the light of recommendations made by the Committee it has been decided that with effect from 29.11.2001 OCBs shall not be permitted to invest under the PIS in India.

Shares of MNCs

207. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the past decade many multi-national companies have permitted to set up operations in India on the conditions that they would make a certain percentage of their shares available to the public after some time;

(b) if so, whether many of the MNCs have not honoured such conditions;

(c) If so, the names of such MNCs;

(d) the action being taken by the Government against those MNCs; and

(e) the action has been suggested by the SEBI's primary market advisory Committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) FDI up to 100% is allowed in certain sectors subject to the condition of compulsory divestment of certain percentage of equity in favour of Indian public within a specified period of time. The sectors attracting this condition include ISPs (Internet Service Provider) without gateways, infrastructure Providers providing dark fibre (Infrastructure Provider - IP Category I), e-mail, voice-mail and B2B (Business to Business) e-commerce.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) The Primary Market Advisory Committee of SEBI at its meeting held on 21.1.2002 had recommended that SEBI should take up with the authorities to ensure that the condition of public offering by MNCs is honoured. SEBI has accordingly requested Government to consider suitable measures in this regard. Approvals granted with the condition of compulsory divestment in favour of Indian public are intimated to SEBI from time to time to enable monitoring of compliance.

Surplus Foodgrain Stocks

208. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS,

FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country's foodgrain stock is likely to increase from the present six crore tonnes to 6.6 crores tonnes by the end of April, 2002;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken effective measures for the management of this stock;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The stocks of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool were 5.63 crore tonnes as on 1 February 2002. As per the procurement and offtake trends the stocks are not likely to increase by end April 2002.

(b) and (c) Government of India has taken a number of steps to increase the offtake of foodgrains to liquidate the excess stocks. The details of the steps taken are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government of India to increase offtake of foodgrains to liquidate the excess stocks

- (i) The allocation of foodgrains for Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families was revised w.e.f 1.12.2000 on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. As a result, the number of BPL families eligible for subsidised foodgrains has increased from 5.96 crores families to 6.52 crore families.
- (ii) The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 10 kg. per family per month to 20 kg. per family per month from April 2000, and further to 25 kg. per family per month from July 2001.
- (iii) The Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice was reduced as under with effect from 12.7.2001, which will be valid till 31.3.2002 :

(Rs. per quintal)

	BPL	APL
Wheat	415	610
Rice	565	830

- (iv) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana was announced on 25.12.2000 for the one crore poorest of the poor BPL families. The scheme is now under implementation in all States/UTs. Each of the Antyodaya families is given 25 kg. of foodgrains @ Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg. for rice.
- (v) Foodgrains are made available at BPL rates for allotment to State Governments @ 5 kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions, such as beggar homes, orphanages/Nari Niketans, etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministry of the Government of India.
- (vi) Foodgrains at CIP applicable for BPL families are being allocated for all the welfare schemes including SC/ST/OBC hostels scheme, implemented by the various Ministries of the Government of India.
- (vii) Foodgrains are being allocated at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by NGOs, sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme.
- (viii) Government has allocated 36.33 lakh MTs of foodgrains, free of cost, from January, 2001 to 12.2.2002 for undertaking Food for Work programmes in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. Besides, Government had allocated one lakh MTs of foodgrains for distribution in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat in January 2001.
- (ix) Government of India has decided to give additional allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to the drought affected States for distribution to all the drought affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg per family per month for a period of three months in the current financial year. The Govts. of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have already been allocated additional foodgrains. The Govt. of Bihar has been given additional allocation of 1.80 lakh MTs of wheat at BPL rate for flood relief.
- (x) In November 2000, it was decided to permit FCI to make wheat available from the Central Pool for

the purpose of export. A quantity of 42.96 lakh tonnes of wheat has been exported so far. With effect from the current financial year i.e. 2001-2002, FCI has also been making available rice for the purpose of export. The quantity lifted so far is 14.03 lakh tonnes.

- (xi) The Ministry of Rural Development has launched the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) on 25th September 2001 based on the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 15th August 2001. Under the programme, it is envisaged to utilize 50 Lakh MTs of foodgrains every year. The allocation of foodgrains under SGRY upto 13.2.2002 has been 27.46 lakh MTs.
- (xii) The Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat was continued during the current financial year 2001-2002. The quantity sold from April 2001 to 15.2.2002 was 37.87 lakh tonnes.

[Translation]

**Assistance to Backward Classes
for Higher Education**

209. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA :

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

(a) whether the Government is providing economic assistance to backward classes for higher education through National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons benefited by it annually during the last three years and the amount of funds made available for this purpose, State-wise;

(d) the criteria adopted for selection of people for the assistance; and

(e) the total number of applications received during 1999-2000 in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the 'Educational Loan Scheme' through the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC). As per guidelines of the Scheme, the eligible student submits loan

application to State Channelising Agency (SCA) of the State to which he/she belongs and the proposal to draw funds from NBCFDC is submitted by the SCA. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to the students of Backward Classes living below double the poverty line to meet the admission fee, tuition fee, examination fee and expenses on books, stationery and other instruments required and boarding & lodging etc. for pursuing general/professional/technical courses or training at graduate and/or higher level.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) The eligibility conditions for obtaining loan under the scheme are as under :

1. The student should belong to Backward Classes as notified by the Central or State Governments from time to time.
2. The family income of the applicant should not exceed Rs. 42,412/- (double the poverty line).
3. The applicant should have obtained the admission during current session in the course and the institute approved by AICTE, Medical Council of India, etc., as the case may be.

(e) During the year 1999-2000, proposals only from the SCAs of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu were received by the NBCFDC for disbursement of funds to provide financial assistance to 1, 2, and 8 students respectively.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
		Amount	Beneficiaries	Amount	Beneficiaries	Amount	Beneficiaries
1.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	0.55	1	0.31	1
2.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.75	1
3.	Madhya Pradesh	0.59	2	0.33	2	0.15	2
4.	Pondicherry	0.11	1	Nil	Nil	4.81	20
5.	Tamil Nadu	2.45	8	0.72	8	0.48	8
	Total	3.15	11	1.60	11	6.50	32

[English]

Shortage of Stamp Papers

210. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a shortage of adhesive stamps of denominations upto Rs.5/- and other stamp papers in Southern States and particularly in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open a unit of Central Security Press in Mysore to print such stamps to tide over the shortage of stamp papers in Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the other alternative steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Government has not received any complaint from the Treasuries of Southern States including Karnataka regarding shortage of stamp papers. There is, however, some shortage of adhesive stamps of denominations upto Rs. 5 in some of the Southern States.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The capacity of the India Security Press (ISP), Nashik to print adhesive stamps has been recently upgraded with the installation of two sophisticated printing presses. These new machines have been installed to meet the complete demand for adhesive stamps in the country.

Price of Aluminium

211. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No.1072 dated November 23, 2001 regarding import duty on aluminium and state :

(a) the cost of production per tonne of aluminium in the country; and

(b) the average price per tonne of aluminium in international market and the import duty imposed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The average cost of production of aluminium ingots varies from manufacturer to manufacturer, and in the Financial Year 2000-2001 it varied from Rs. 47983 per tonne to Rs. 72029 (provisional) per tonne.

(b) The average price per tonne of aluminium in international market (London Metal Exchange Prices) for the year 2000-2001 was US\$ 1444.05. With effect from 1.3.2002, the rate of basic customs duty on aluminium has been fixed at 15%.

Banking Services Recruitment Board

212. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Banking Services Recruitment Boards are being wound up and individual public sector banks are being authorised to recruit directly;

(b) if so, the reasons for decentralising the recruitment procedure; and

(c) the reasons for creating the banking services boards in the past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) were set up in the year 1978 with a view to make recruitments to various posts for meeting the requirements of the Public Sector Banks in Clerical/Officers' Cadre. At that stage the requirement of the banks for making recruitment in Clerical/Officers' Cadre

was very high. With greater emphasis on computerization and mechanization and rapidly changing economic scenario, the requirement of the banks with regard to their manpower has declined and also undergone a change. Banks now require specialized officers more in number as compared to the past. Keeping in view the changed scenario, BSRBs have been closed down and banks have been advised to frame their own recruitment strategy with the approval of their boards to meet their future requirements. Banks have further been advised to ensure that recruitment policy is transparent, the process of selection is fair, just, objective and unbiased and takes care of the reservation policy for SC/ST/OBCs as per Government guidelines.

NABARD Loan

213. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loans sanctioned and distributed by NABARD during the last three years; State-wise;

(b) whether the Government received any complaint from any State Government against NABARD for not sanctioning loans to any particular State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it provides refinance facilities to banks for short-term (ST), medium-term (MT) and long-term (LT) loans besides providing loans to State Government. ST loans are provided to State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) for seasonal agricultural operations (SAO) and other than SAO including weavers etc. It also provides refinance to commercial banks for providing loans to weavers selectively. Medium and Long Term loans (Investment Credit) are provided to SCBs, RRBs, State Cooperative Agriculture Development Banks. NABARD also provide long term loans to State Governments for (i) share capital contribution of cooperative credit institutions and (ii) for development of rural infrastructure projects. State-wise financial assistance provided by NABARD for all the above purposes for all agencies during the year 1998-99 to 2000-01 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (b) above.

Statement*NABARD's Support during 1998-99 to 2000-01*

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-01	
		Limit Sanctioned @	Max. O/s./ Drawal #	Limit Sanctioned @	Max. O/s./ Drawal #	Limit Sanctioned @	Max. O/s./ Drawal #
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Chandigarh	0.03	0.03	0.10	0.10	65.55	65.55
2.	Haryana	1125.84	999.49	1183.69	1182.90	1493.28	1407.28
3.	Punjab	943.87	921.84	1012.44	986.50	1068.39	997.37
4.	Delhi	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.00	6.69	6.89
5.	Himachal Pradesh	109.78	107.97	136.02	135.71	200.35	198.83
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	34.49	34.78	88.89	87.49	107.39	108.22
7.	Rajasthan	909.58	804.26	984.13	913.21	1139.63	1069.33
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.60	4.60	10.64	11.17	35.02	35.02
9.	Assam	140.98	141.13	145.46	145.68	128.76	130.49
10.	Manipur	3.25	9.39	2.03	8.17	1.87	1.87
11.	Meghalaya	13.13	11.68	21.33	20.74	26.15	28.55
12.	Mizoram	3.51	3.51	13.86	13.86	18.14	18.14
13.	Nagaland	3.19	3.19	10.32	10.32	13.42	12.94
14.	Tripura	20.13	22.99	27.10	29.46	35.61	35.67
15.	Sikkim	1.67	1.67	15.00	14.00	9.77	10.77
16.	Bihar*	284.93	280.85	282.25	287.67	271.51	264.36
17.	Orissa	587.21	538.77	854.92	776.24	807.54	798.31
18.	West Bengal	453.49	395.19	552.82	480.65	675.54	654.32
19.	A&N Islands	2.69	2.65	2.87	2.76	3.29	3.24
20.	Madhya Pradesh*	1100.93	832.85	1209.58	965.19	1248.63	1107.15
21.	Uttar Pradesh*	1633.74	1421.26	1804.82	1648.77	1918.79	1843.73
22.	D & N Haveli	0.03	0.03	0.24	0.24	0.07	0.67
23.	Gujarat	759.17	498.35	800.33	630.84	1062.73	791.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Goa	14.02	14.02	19.10	19.10	20.05	20.05
25.	Maharashtra	789.33	812.79	1096.81	868.38	1391.97	1258.85
26.	Andhra Praedsh	2479.62	2305.46	2315.38	2151.12	2637.41	2357.68
27.	Karnataka	1211.06	1177.34	1255.94	1239.13	1440.63	1354.41
28.	Kerala	552.42	428.87	647.51	520.52	719.60	518.70
29.	Lakshadweep	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.09	0.09
30.	Pondicherry	2.47	2.47	8.44	8.09	9.12	8.78
31.	Tamil Nadu	1293.94	1049.69	1451.49	1206.59	1608.30	1355.26
Total		14460.35	12607.97	15954.72	14345.81	18166.89	16461.41

* Including new States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal

Note

@ Limit Sanction includes - Short term refinances for SAO, weavers, others, Medium term refinances for conversion, others Loans to State Government for share capital contribution. Refinance to RRBs for ST (SAO) and ST (OSAO) Medium Term / MT (Conversion to RRBs, Medium Term/Long Term, RIDF.

Maximum outstanding/drawal includes - Max O/s. under short term refinances for SAO, weavers, others, Medium term refinances for conversion, others, loans to State Government for share capital contribution. Refinances to RRBs for ST (SAO) and ST (OSAO) Medium term/ MT (Conversion to RRBs, disbursement under Medium Term/ Long Term, RIDF.

[Translation]

Safeguarding Interests of Bank Employees

214. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited suggestions from the US company Gartner to improve the working of banks;

(b) if so, whether the implementation of recommendations of this company will render thousands of bank employees jobless; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Food Security of FCI

215. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

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

(a) whether achieving food security was main objective behind setting up of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether Food Corporation of India has failed to achieve the said objective;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether in view of the failure of the Food Corporation of India the Government propose to take concrete steps to ensure the food security;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (f) The Food Corporation of India has been established under the Food Corporations Act, 1964 (37 of 1964). Section 13 of the said Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be the primary duty of the FCI to undertake the purchase, storage, movement, transport, distribution and sale of foodgrains and other foodstuffs. By

maintaining adequate stocks, FCI is fulfilling one of the basic conditions for food security. Procurement, storage, movement and distribution of foodgrains among the consumers through PDS and other welfare schemes, particularly among the poor and disadvantaged. All these functions of FCI cater to the needs of food security in the country.

[English]

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

216. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce voluntary retirement scheme for the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 already provide for Voluntary Retirement Scheme for Central Government employees. In terms of these Rules, a Central Government servant on completion of 20 years of qualifying service can seek voluntary retirement by giving notice of not less than 3 months in writing to the appointing authority. These rules also provide for option of voluntary retirement to employees who are declared surplus provided they have rendered not less than 15 years of service. These rules further provide that the qualifying service as on the date of intended retirement shall be increased by a period not exceeding 5 years subject to the condition that the total qualifying service rendered by the Government servant does not, in any case, exceed 33 years.

While there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to revise the existing voluntary retirement scheme for Central Government employees, it is proposed to offer the employees rendered surplus, an attractive VRS package as announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on 28th February, 2001. Necessary action in this regard has already been initiated.

Export of Fish Products

217. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various fish products being exported from India particularly from Southern Gujarat;

(b) the quantum of fish products exported during 2001-2002 till date, State-wise;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the export; and

(d) the net earnings made from export of fish products during the above period? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The major items of fish exported from India, including Southern Gujarat are frozen shrimp, frozen fish, frozen cuttle fish, frozen squid, dried items, live items and chilled items.

(b) to (d) State-wise export figures are not maintained. However, the quantum of fish products exported during April-December, 2001 from various ports in the country are given below :

Port	Quantity (in Metric Tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)
1	2	3
Kandla	23720	139.45
Porbandar	17479	68.12
Mumbai	4203	68.61
JNP	55653	440.36
Goa	6507	23.23
Mangalore ICD	4434	34.35
Karwar	2007	7.96
Kochi	52333	643.97
Trivandrum	491	12.88
Tuticorin	12579	344.28
Chennai	31901	1230.58
Vizag	17466	614.49
Calcutta	14510	435.28

1	2	3
Pipavav	52407	240.77
Kakkinada	4477	184.72
Total	300167	4489.05

Source : Marine Products Export Development Authority

As marine products exports are undertaken by private entrepreneurs, the cost incurred and collective net earnings made is not known to Government.

Silk Exports

218. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of silk exported during 99-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 upto January, country-wise;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom, year-wise and country-wise;

(c) the target of export of silk fixed during current year;

(d) whether the Government have taken all steps to achieve the target despite unfavourable circumstances;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide incentives to silk producers and exporters;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Data in-terms of quantity exported country-wise is not available. The year-wise and country-wise foreign exchange earned through export of silk items during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and April to October 2001-2002 is given blow :-

(Provisional Figures; Value : Crore Rs.)

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02 (April-October)
1	2	3	4
U.S.A	591.16	869.07	352.04
Germany	164.82	218.63	90.37
U.K.	176.26	185.65	92.48

1	2	3	4
Hong Kong	105.53	149.51	133.15
Italy	127.78	176.70	60.05
U.A.E.	60.18	88.77	58.91
Singapore	36.47	65.68	37.43
France	81.46	94.66	39.70
Spain	45.32	78.05	30.81
Saudi Arabia	19.18	25.98	60.70
Canada	32.09	44.18	20.45
Japan	29.97	54.31	15.45
Others	285.33	370.13	213.02
Grand Total	1755.55	2421.32	1204.56

Source : Foreign Trade Statistics of India (Principal Commodities & Countries), DGCI&S, Kolkata.

(c) The target of silk export earnings fixed for the year 2001-02 is US\$ 430 million.

(d) to (g) The Government is taking several steps to increase the exports of silk products :-

- (i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like TexStyles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.
- (ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the Exim Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.
- (iii) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.

- (iv) Govt. have initiated a production programme of high quality of bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk and its productivity & cost competitiveness.
- (v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.

Tobacco Stocks

219. SHRI B.VENKATESHWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether tobacco stocks piled up during the last two years have been disposed off;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the role of the Tobacco Board in view of adverse weather conditions this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Tobacco manufacturers, exporters and dealers are together holding 119.88 million kgs. of old stock as on 1.1.2002. It was in a bid to address the situation of over-supply in the market that a decision was taken to not register any growers in Andhra Pradesh in the 2000-2001 season or to fix any crop size in that State during that season.

- (c) Following the untimely rains which caused damage to the standing FCV tobacco crop in two districts of Andhra Pradesh, the Tobacco Board has carried out a preliminary assessment of the damage sustained by the growers. The Board is engaged in an intensive campaign to educate the growers on measures to reduce the curing losses sustained as a result of this damage.

Misuse of Funds by NGO's for West Bengal

220. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the NGO's functioning West Bengal, district-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government have received any report of misuse of funds by these organisations; and
- (c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The details of the NGOs functioning in West Bengal are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Does not arise.

Statement

(As on 25.02.2002)

S.No.	Name of the District	Name of the Organisation with Address	Name of the Project	Amount Released in 2001-02 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
Name of the Scheme : Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse				
1	Birbhum	Elmhirst Institute of Community Studies, Baba Bithika, Andrewspalli, Shantiniketan, Distt. Birbhum	De-addiction Centre	5.75
2	Kolkata	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, No.20/1B, Lal Bazar Street, Calcutta	Counselling Centre	1.05
3	-do-	Institute of Psychological and Educational Research, 27, Circus Avenue, Calcutta	Counselling Centre	2.59
4	-do-	Sir Syed Group of Schools, 71/1C, Diamond Harbour Road, Calcutta	De-addiction Centre	6.59

1	2	3	4	5
5	-do-	The Calcutta Samaritans, 53 B, Elliot Road, Kidderpore, Calcutta	De-addiction Centre & Counselling Centre	9.55
6	-do-	Vivekananda Education Society, 13/3, Kalicharan Dutta Road, Calcutta	De-addiction Centre & Counselling Centre	4.81
7	-do-	West Bengal Voluntary Health Association, 19A, Dr. Sundari Mohan Avenue, Calcutta	De-addiction Centre	6.80
8	-do-	Women's Coordinating Council, 5/1, Red Cross Place, Calcutta	D-addiction Centre	7.34
9	Kolkata	Human Development and Research Institute, 45, Baniatola Lane, Calcutta	De-addiction Centre	3.59
10	Darjeeling	Society for the Promotion of Youth and Masses, 33, N.B. Giri Road, Darjeeling	De-addiction Centre	3.38
11	Howrah	Council for Advancement for Rural and Downtrodden, Bagnan Station Road (North) P.O. Bagnan, Distt. Howrah	De-addiction Centre	6.80
12	-do-	Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine, Putliya, P.O. Unsani, Howrah	De-addiction Centre	5.83
13	-do-	Chirnabin, Village Parbkshi, P.O. Bakshi, Howrah	De-addiction Centre	9.33
14	Midnapore	Prabudha Bharti Shishu Tirtha, Prabhuchan, Bharati Bhawan, P.O. Krishnapriya, Midnapore	Counselling Centre	1.19
15	24 Parganas	West Bengal SCs/STs and Minority Welfare Association Road, 24 Parganas, West Bengal	De-addiction Centre & Counselling Centre	9.35
Name of the Scheme : Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisation working for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs)				
16	Burdwan	Central SC & Tribal Welfare Association, Burdwan, West Bengal	Type-Shorthand	2.57
17	24 Parganas	Akhil Bhartiya Adivasi Vikas Parishad, 24 Parganas, West Bengal	Type-Shorthand 40	0.80
18	Nadia	Badkula Luna Silk Khadi Society, Nadia, West Bengal	Craft-50	1.46
19	24 Pargana (North)	Bashirhat Woman Development Society, 24 (North) Parganas, West Bengal	Type & Shorthand 40	1.09
20	Burdwan	Central Scheduled Caste and Tribal Welfare Association, Burdwan, West Bengal	Scooter, Motor Cycle & Auto Riskshwa Repairing Centre- 50	0.76
Name of the Scheme : Integrated Programme for Street Children				
21	Calcutta Distt.	Centre for Social Development, 68 Barrack Road, Barrackpore, 24 Parganas (North)-700032	Street Children	3.84

1	2	3	4	5
22	Calcutta Distt.	Humanity Association, 34-A, Sashibhushan De Street, Calcutta-700012	Street Children	4.03
23	Calcutta Distt.	Ramkrishna Vivekananda Mission, Rajgariah House-7, Riverside Road, Barrackpore, 24 Parganas (North)	Street Children	5.83
24	Calcutta Distt.	Institute of Psychological and Educational Research (IPER), 27, Circus Avenue, Calcutta-700017	Street Children	6.38
25	Calcutta Distt.	Liberal Association for Movement of People (LAMP), Surya Sen Street, Calcutta-700009	Street Children	6.28
26	Calcutta Distt.	Bengal Mass Education Society, 99/IF, Bidhan Sarahi, Calcutta-700004	Street Children	4.73
27	Calcutta Distt.	Forum of Communities United in Service (FOCUS), 6, Tiljara Road, Calcutta-700046	Street Children	5.25
28	Calcutta Distt.	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20/1B, Lal Bazar street, Calcutta-700001	Street Children	3.96
29	Calcutta Distt.	Tiljala Shed, 6 C, Rifle Road, Calcutta	Street Children	1.74
30	Calcutta Distt.	Vivekananda Education Society, 13/3, Kalicharan Dutta Road, Calcutta-700061	Street Children	3.96
31	Calcutta Distt.	West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, 42 Ramesh Mitra Road, Calcutta	Street Children	6.75
32	Calcutta Distt.	Song of Unity and Liberty (SOUL) 5/3, Gope Lane, Calcutta	Street Children	6.66
33	Calcutta Distt.	Jansiksha Prochar Kendra, 57-B, College Street, Calcutta-700073	Street Children	16.75
34	Calcutta Distt.	United Bustee Development Association, 6/1A, Delhi, Seampur Road, Calcutta-700014	Street Children	9.85
35	Howrah Distt.	Society to Education & Environment Development, 150, G.T. Road, South Howrah-711102	Street Children	3.70
36	Howrah Distt.	People's Union for Development & Reconstruction, (PUDAR), 30/3-A, N.S. Dutt Road, Howrah-711101	Street Children	4.73
37	Howrah Distt.	Harjan Sevak Sangh, 97/3, Naskar Para Road, Ghurun, Howrah	Street Children	1.06
38	Calcutta Distt.	Prantik Jana Vikash Samity, EC-163, Salt Lake City, Calcutta-700064	Street Children	8.21

1	2	3	4	5
39	Calcutta Distt.	Calcutta Social Project, 172/3, Rash Behari Avenue, P.O. Rash Behari, Calcutta-700029	Street Children	2.56
40	Calcutta Distt.	Usthi Foundation India, P-125, Metropolitan Cooperative Housing Society, Sector-A, P.O. Dhapa, 24 Parganas (South)-743560	Street Children	3.57
41	Calcutta Distt.	Bustee Local Committee and Social Welfare Centre, 82-A, Dr. Sudhir Basu Road, Calcutta-700023	Child Line Project	0.38
42	Calcutta Distt.	CINI Asha, 63, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Calcutta-700023	Child Line Project	4.3
43	Calcutta Distt.	City level Programme of Action and Working Children Calcutta Municipal Corporation Building (1st Floor), 5 S.N. Banerjee Road, Calcutta-700013	Child Line Project	1.24
44	Calcutta Distt.	Don Bosco Ashalayam, 158/18, Billous Road, Howrah	Child Line Project	1.57
45	Calcutta Distt.	Institute of Psychological and Educational Research (IPER), P-39/1, Prince, Anwar Shah Road, CIT Scheme, 114 A Calcutta-700045	Child Line Project	0.78
46	Calcutta Distt.	Loreto Day School, Sealdah 122, Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road, Calcutta-700014	Child Line Project	0.36
47	Calcutta Distt.	Society for Educational & Environmental Development (SEED) Admn. Office 150, G.T. Road(s), Howrah-711102, Regd. Office : 18, P.m. Busti, 2nd lane, Howrah-711102	Child Line Project	0.39
Name of the Scheme : Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities				
48	Calcutta	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential, P-1/4/1, CIT Scheme,VII-M, VIP Road, Kankurgachi, Calcutta-700054, West Bengal	Sonada Unit	10.24
49	Calcutta	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential, P-1/4/1, CIT Scheme,VII-M, VIP Road, Kankurgachi, Calcutta-700054, West Bengal	Jemo Unit (Murshidabad)	14.53
50	Calcutta	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential, P-1/4/1, CIT Scheme,VII-M, VIP Road, Kankurgachi, Calcutta-700054, West Bengal	Anuradha Unit	10.89
51	Calcutta	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential, P-1/4/1, CIT Scheme,VII-M, VIP Road, Kankurgachi, Calcutta-700054, West Bengal	Main Unit at Calcutta	18.42
52	Howrah	Anand Bhawan, Village Jagatpur, P.O. Brindhabanpur, Distt, Howrah-711316	Hearing Handicapped Section	8.06

1	2	3	4	5
53	Howrah	Anand Bhawan, Village Jagatpur, P.O. Brindhabanpur, Distt, Howrah-711316	Orthopaedically Handicapped Section	7.03
54	Howrah	Anand Bhawan, Village Jagatpur, P.O. Brindhabanpur, Distt, Howrah-711316	Rehabilitation of VH	4.43
55	Asansol	Asansol Anandam, St. Vincent School Campus, S.B. Gorai Road, Asansol, West Bengal	Special Child Development Centre	4.15
56	Calcutta	Bashirhat Re-life Handicapped Welfare Society, Star Book House, 65-Mahatma Gandhi Road, Calcutta, West Bengal	Special School for Handicapped Children	5.55
57	Calcutta	Bharat Scouts & Guides, 1, Palace Court, Kyd Street, Calcutta-700016, West Bengal	Day Care Centre for Handicapped Children	1.21
58	Calcutta	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20/1B, Lal Bazar Street, Calcutta-700001, West Bengal	Prodn. Cum Training Centre (Jhargram) for PH	7.20
59	Calcutta	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20/1B, Lal Bazar Street, Calcutta-700001, West Bengal	Prodn. cum Training Centre (Tarakeshwar) for PH	1.77
60	Calcutta	BIKASHAYAN, 140/6, South Sinthee Road, Calcutta-700050, West Bengal	Day Care Centre for MR	10.28
61	24 Parganas (North)	Chittaranjan Smriti Pratibandhi Seva Kendra, Rutha Main Road, Shysmnagar, 24- Parganas (North), West Bengal	Special School for MR Children	0.73
62	Burdwan	Dr. Sailendra Nath Mukherjee Muka Badhir Vidyalaya, P.O. Jorthan, Distt. Burdwan, West Bengal	Unit at Kotulpur	1.52
63	Burdwan	Dr. Sailendra Nath Mukherjee Muka Badhir Vidyalaya, P.O. Jorthan, Distt. Burdwan, West Bengal	Educational Institute for Deaf and Dumb	29.01
64	Hooghly	Dulal Samriti Sansad, Vill & P.O. Khasurdaha, Distt. Hooghly-712149, West Bengal	Rehabilitation Centre for the Mentally ill Persons	1.92
65	Calcutta	Greenfields, 33, Santoshpur Avenue, Calcutta-700075, West Bengal	School for MR Children	2.69
66	Nadia	Hellen Keller Smriti Vidyamandir, P.O. Krishnagar, Distt. Nadia, West Bengal	Special School for VH Children	3.40
67	Durgapur	HOPE, H.F.C. Township, Durgapore-713212, West Bengal	Education Centre for Multiple Handicapped	8.63
68	Calcutta	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, P-33/1, Taratolla Road, Opp. M.E. College, Calcutta-700088, West Bengal	VTC for CPMR	1.70

1	2	3	4	5
69	Calcutta	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, P-33/1, Taratolla Road, Opp. M.E. College, Calcutta-700088, West Bengal	Institute for Cerebral Palsy	2.78
70	Calcutta	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, P-33/1, Taratolla Road, Opp. M.E. College, Calcutta-700088, West Bengal	Hostel Facilities for CPMR/Manpower Training	1.11
71	Calcutta	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, P-33/1, Taratolla Road, Opp. M.E. College, Calcutta-700088, West Bengal	Centre for Special Education	12.57
72	Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri Welfare Organisation, Club Road, (Opp. P.D. College), P.O. & Distt. Jalpaiguri, Pin-733101, West Bengal	Special Education Centre for Spastics	3.88
73	Nadia	Karimpur Social Welfare Society, P.O. Karimpur, Distt. Nadia-741152, West Bengal	School cum Training Centre for VH	1.94
74	Calcutta	Korak Pratibandhi Kalyan Kendra, 125, Gorakh Dhabari Road, Nager Bazar, Calcutta, West Bengal	Special School for MH	3.19
75	Malda	Kotwali Saleha Memorial School for Hearing & Mentally Handicapped, Vill. & P.O. Kotwali, Dist. Malda-732144, West Bengal	Special School for MH/HH Children	21.21
76	Hooghly	Mamudpur Unnayan Parishad, P.O. Digsui, Pin-712148, Distt. Hooghly, West Bengal	CBR Programme for Handicapped	0.35
77	Calcutta	Manovikas Kendra, 482, Madudah Plot 1/24, Sector-5, E.M. Bypass, Calcutta-700078, West Bengal	School for MR	22.92
78	Calcutta	Mentaid, 17A, Brojen Mukherjee Road, Behala, Calcutta-700034, West Bengal	Special School for MR	1.57
79	Midnapore	Midnapore Rehabilitation Centre for Children, Lalkuthi, Bidhan Nagar, Midnapore-721101, West Bengal	Special School for Handicapped	4.73
80	24 Parganas (North)	North 24 Parganas Disabled Persons Association, Vidyasagar Road, P.O. Hjalpukuria, Habra, Distt. 24 Parganas North-743231, West Bengal	School for Deaf & Dumb Children	2.38
81	Darjeeling	North Bengal Handicapped Rehabilitation Society, Nivedita Market, Hospital Road, Siliguri-734401, West Bengal	Education Instt. for Deaf, Dumb and MR Boys and Girls	3.47
82	Calcutta	North Calcutta Pratibandhi Seva Kendra, 2/8/1, R.K. Ghosh Road, Calcutta-700050, West Bengal	Education cum Training for OH	1.14

1	2	3	4	5
83	24 Parganas (North)	Panihati Dr. Bidhan Ch. Ray Vidyayatan for Handicapped, Sodepur Senbari, Sodepur, 24 Parganas (N), West Bengal	Special School for the Disabled Children	10.90
84	Calcutta	Parents Own Clinic for Deaf Children, 16A, D.L. Dass Street, Calcutta-700006	School for Deaf Children	4.61
85	Calcutta	Prabartak Institute for Epilepsy & Cerebral Palsy, CL-19&20, Sector-II, Salt Lake, Calcutta-700091, West Bengal	Institute of Epilepsy and Cerebral Palsy	3.55
86	Hooghly	Pratibandhi Kalyan Kendra, Abinash Mukherjee Road, Hooghly-712103, West Bengal	Education Treatment VTC for Deaf and Dumb MR	5.07
87	Purulia	PuruliaManovikas Kendra, Near Chabi Biri Bagan, Hessain Ganj, Purulia-723010, West Bengal	Special School for MR Children	2.01
88	24 Parganas (South)	R.K. Mission Blind Boys Academy, P.O. Narendrapur, South 24-Parganas, West Bengal	Agricultural & Technical Training	4.53
89	24 Parganas (South)	R.K. Mission Blind Boys Academy, P.O. Narendrapur, South 24-Parganas, West Bengal	Braille Press Maintenance	6.26
90	24 Parganas (South)	R.K. Mission Blind Boys Academy, P.O. Narendrapur, South 24-Parganas, West Bengal	Placement Service	0.61
91	24 Parganas (South)	R.K. Mission Blind Boys Academy, P.O. Narendrapur, South 24-Parganas, West Bengal	Swimming Pool Project	0.74
92	Calcutta	Ramkrishna Mission Seva Pratishthan, 99, Sarat Bose Road, Calcutta-700026, West Bengal	Speech and Hearing Therapy Clinic	2.25
93	Calcutta	REACH, 18/2/A/3, Udai Sanker Sarani, Calcutta, West Bengal	Special Child Development Centre	15.96
94	Calcutta	REACH, 18/2/A/3, Udai Sanker Sarani, Calcutta, West Bengal	Vocational Training and Placement	2.46
95	Calcutta	Rehabilitation India, P-91, Hellen Keller Sarani, Calcutta, West Bengal	Multicategory Workshop for Handicapped	6.74
96	Calcutta	SEVAC, 135A, Vivekananda Sarani, Thakurpura, Calcutta-700063, West Bengal	Rehabilitation Centre for Mentally ill	1.77
97	Midnapore	Sevayatan Kalyan Kendra, P.O. Sevayatan, P.S. Jhargram, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal	Special School for Deaf, Dumb and MR	1.59
98	Hooghly	SHELTER, 3, Kalbaati Lane, Bhadreswar, Hooghly-712124, West Bengal	Special School for MR	9.08

1	2	3	4	5
99	Calcutta	SHIRC, Flat, No.406, 10-Mandevilla Garden, Calcutta, West Bengal	Speech and Hearing Services for HH	14.07
100	Burdwan	Society for Mental Health Care, P.O. & Vill. Khajurdhi, Via Katwa, Distt. Burdwan-713518, West Bengal	Shishu Bodh Niketan for MR Children	9.29
101	Durgapur	Society for Welfare of the Handicapped Persons, 32, School Road, Durgapur-713204, West Bengal	Rehabilitation Centre for LCP	2.72
102	Cooch Behar	Spastic Society of Cooch Behar, 117, Rajendra Narayan Road, Cooch Behar, West Bengal	Centre for Special Education and CPMR	1.60
103	Birbhum	Sri Sri Ramkrishna Satyanand Education & Charity Trust, P.O. Rampurhat, Birbhum-731224, West Bengal	VTC and Hostel	4.84
104	Hooghly	Srirampur Child Guidance Centre, 16, Raja K.L. Goswami Street, Shrirampur, Hooghly-712201, West Bengal	Special School for MR and HH	3.30
105	Murshidabad	Suprava Panchashila Mahila Udyog Samity, 257, Sutirmath, P.O. Berhampore, Distt. Murshidabad-742101, West Bengal	Special School for MR Children	0.53
106	Calcutta	The Society for Comprehensive Rehab. Services (SCRS), 36, Ballygunge Circular Road, Calcutta-700019, West Bengal	Rehabilitation of Handicapped	2.98
107	Calcutta	West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, 42, Ramesh Mitra Road, Calcutta-700025, West Bengal	Rehabilitation Centre for Mentally ill	9.85
108	Midnapore	West Bengal SC/ST & Minority Welfare Association, Ravindranagar, P.O. Midnapore, West Bengal	Computer Training Centre (Calcutta)	7.14
109	Howrah	Yuba Unnayan Seba Samity, Vill. & PO-Tehatta, PS-Ulberia, Via-Panchla, Distt. Howrah, West Bengal	Special School & Rehab. Centre for CPMR Children	0.61
Name of the Scheme : Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisation working for the Scheduled Castes (SCs)				
110	South 24 Parganas	Abhoy Charan Destitute Homevillage & Post : Dakshin Chandranagar, P.S. Namkhana, Distt. South 24 Parganas-743357, West Bengal	Non Residential School	15.70
111	Hooghly	Bharat Sevashram Sangha 211 Rash Behari Avenue, Kolkata-700019, West Bengal	Hostel and Mobile Medical Unit	12.81
112	Burdwan	Bhatar Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Abasik Shiksha Niketan At & PO Karjana Chatti, Distt. Burdwan, West Bengal	Non Residential School	5.94

1	2	3	4	5
113	Burdwan	Central Scheduled Caste & Tribal Welfare Association, Nichu Colony, 4 No. Sankaripuku, P.O. Sreepally, Distt. Burdwan-713103, West Bengal	Non Residential School and Craft Centre and Hostel	15.51
114	Calcutta	Chandranath Basu Seva Sangha, 1 Bt. Road Kamarhati, (Mukti Cinema Bungalow), Calcutta-700058	Non Residential School and Iti (4 Trade Centre)	16:14
115	Darjeeling	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Academy, Badrajote, P.O. Batasi, Distt. Darjeeling, West Bengal	Non Residential School	6.02
116	Siliguri	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Shishu Mangal Gurung Basti, Pradhan Nagar, Siliguri-734403, West Bengal	Residential School	9.48
117	Hooghly	Dulal Smriti Samsad Vill. & PO. Khajurdaha P.S. Dhaniakhali, Distt. Hooghly, West Bengal	Typing and Shorthand Centre	1.03
118	Jalpaiguri	Harjan Sevak Sangh, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009	Residential School	10.68
119	Midnapore	Kandarpapur Sukhada Smriti Pathnagar, P.O. Chaulkhola-721455, Block Ramnagar-II, Distt. Midnapur, West Bengal	Non Residential School	9.21
120	Burdwan	Nutanhat Development Society, P.O. & Vill. Jhilu, Distt. Burdwan, West Bengal	Type and Shorthand Training Centre	0.94
121	Dakshin Dinajpur	Raghnathpur Dr. B.R. Ambedkar SC and ST Welfare and Development Society, C/o Prabodh Kumar Barman, Mangalpur, P.O. Beltala Park, Distt. Dakshin Dinajpur-733103, West Bengal	Non Residential School	5.73
122	Burdwan	Ramakrishan Mission Asharam PO Narendrapur-743508, 24 Parganas South, Burdwan, West Bengal	Craft, Commercial Arts & Painting Welding and Fitter Die	9.18
123	Murshidabad	Ramakrishna Mission Asharam, PO. Sargachi Ashrama, Distt. Murshidabad, West Bengal	Mobile Dispensary	1.29
124	24 Parganas	Ramakrishna Mission Asharama, P.O. Narendrapur-743508, 24 Parganas South, Burdwan, West Bengal	2 Hostels, Dispensaries, Craft, Welding & Fitter & Art	7.48
125	24 Parganas	Society for Rural and Urban Development, At/PO Kakdwip-743347, Distt. 24 Parganas, West Bengal	Residential School	9.81
126	Kolkata	Sri Sri Harichand Matua Sevashram Trust, Santidham, Harichand Thakur Road, Purbanchal, Thakurpur, Kolkata-700063, West Bengal	Non Residential Primary School	3.67

1	2	3	4	5
127	24 Parganas (South)	Vivekananda Child Welfare Home, P.O. Kakadwip, Distt. 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal	Residential School	9.64
128	Midnapore	West Bengal Scheduled Castes, Tribes & Minority Welfare Association, 90A/11B, Suren Sarkar Road, Kuikata, West Bengal	4 Computer 5 ITI Centre & 1 Residential School, Type & Shorthand, Diesel, TV/VCR Repair Centre	61.96
Name of the Scheme : Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids/ Appliances				
129	Kolkata	The Society for Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services, Calcutta Municipal Vaccination Institute Building, 36 Ballygunge, Circular Road, Kolkata-700019	ADIP Scheme	5.00
130	Midnapore	Bikramnagar Udayan Sangha, Vill Bikramnagar, P.O. Haria, Block-Khejuri, Distt. Midnapore	ADIP Scheme	10.00
131	Kolkata	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20/1B, Lal Bazar Street, Kolkata-700001	ADIP Scheme	14.00
132	Darjeeling	Indian Red Cross Society, Siliguri Sub-Divisional Branch, Red Cross Road, Hakimpura, P.O. Siliguri, Distt. Darjeeling	ADIP Scheme	5.00
133	Midnapore	District Rehabilitation Centre, Midnapore, P.O. & Distt. Midnapore	ADIP Scheme	3.00
134	Nadia	Indian Red Cross Society, Distt. Branch Nadia, D.L. Roy Road, P.O. Krishnagar, Distt. Nadia-741101	ADIP Scheme	18.15
135	Dakshin Dinajpur	India Red Cross Society, Distt. Branch Dakshin Dinajpur, P.O. Balurghat, Distt. Dakshin Dinajpur-733101	ADIP Scheme	5.00
136	Kolkata	National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped, B.T. Road, Bon. Hooghly, Kolkata-700090	ADIP Scheme	300.00
137	Kolkata	Rehabilitation Centres for Children, 59 Motilal Gupta Road, Barisha, Kolkata-700008	ADIP Scheme	2.50
138	Midnapore	Indian Red Cross Society, Distt. Branch Midnapore, P.O. & Distt. Midnapore-721101	ADIP Scheme	12.00
Name of the Scheme : Integrated Programme for Older Persons				
139	Burdwan	Central Scheduled Castes & Tribal Welfare Association, 4 No. Sankaripurkur (Nichu Colony), P.O. Sripally, Distt. Burdwan, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	2.51
140	Calcutta	All Bengal Women's Union, Calcutta, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	1.98

1	2	3	4	5
141	Calcutta	Calcutta Metropolitan Instt. of Gerontology, E-1 Sopankutir, 53 B. Dr. S.C. Banerjee Road, Calcutta-10	2 Day Care Centre, Mobile Medicare Unit	2.61
142	Calcutta	Chandranath Basu Seva Sangha, 1 B.T. Road, Kamarhati (Mukti Cinema Bunglow) Calcutta-700058, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	2.24
143	Calcutta	Janashiksha Prachar Kendra, 57B, College Street, Calcutta-700073, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	2.49
144	Calcutta	Jaya Prakash Instt. of Social Change, Calcutta, West Bengal	2 Day Care Centre	3.48
145	Calcutta	Navadiganta, 29 Banerjee Para Road, Sarsuna, Kolkata, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	3.95
146	Calcutta	Shri Krishna Pratisthan, 102/F, Kankulia Road, Calcutta-700029, West Bengal	1 Day Care Centre	0.94
147	Calcutta	Subhash Nagar Pathikrit, 412, Subhash Nagar Byelane, Dum Dum Cantt., Kolkata-65	1 Day Care Centre	0.5
148	Hawrah	Village Welfare Society, F-3, Geetanjali Park, Ariadaha, Calcutta, W.B.	1 Old Age Home	2.76
149	Hooghly	Kalyan Bharati, V&PO. Kamarkuncu, Hooghly Distt., West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	3.52
150	Malda	Biplobi Rural Dev. Society, V&PO. Birosthal, P.s.-Chanchal, Distt. Malda, West Bengal	3 Day Care Centre	3.86
151	Midnapore	Amar Seva Sangha, V&PO. Raine, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre, 1 Mobile Medicare Unit	2.99
152	Midnapore	Brabari Netaji Seva Sangha, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Mobile Medicare Unit	1.53
153	Midnapore	Bikramnagar Udayan Sangha, Vill. Bikramnagar, PO. Haria, Block Khejuri-1, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal	2 Old Age Home	5.52
154	Midnapore	Child and Social Welfare Society, Markandachak, PO. Bishnupur Bazar, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal 721144	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Unit	2.76
155	Midnapore	Gangadharchak & Dewanchak Vivekananda Club, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Day Care Centre	0.97
156	Midnapore	Netaji Pathachakra, Vill. Purbachakra, PO. Tikashi, Block Khejuri, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal-721430	1 Old Age Home	2.69

1	2	3	4	5
157	Midnapore	Nimbark Math Seva Samiti Trust, Vill. Baikunthapur, P.O. Sankarpur, Distt. Midnapore, PS. Daspur-721211, W.B.	1 Old Age Home	1.09
158	Midnapore	Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Day Care Centre	1.95
159	Midnapore	Sainpukar Matri Sabika Samiti, Midnapore, West Bengal	2 Old Age Home	2.49
160	Midnapore	Shibarampur Milan Tirtha, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	1.38
161	Midnapore	Social Welfare and Rural Dev. Society, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	4.72
162	Midnapore	Vivekananda Lok Shiksha Niketan, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	2.34
163	Midnapore	West Bengal SCs/STs & Minority Welfare Association, Midnapore, West Bengal	2 Old Age Home, 7 Day Care Centres	18.56
164	Midnapore	Satdubi Mahila Mandal, Midnapore, West Bengal	2 Day Care Centre	1.64
165	Midnapore	Seulipur Uddyan Club, Vill. Seulipur, PO. Paschimpur, Via Sabang, Sub Contai, Block-Bhagwanpur-1, Distt. Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 2 Day Care Centre, 1 Mobile Medicare Unit	7
166	Midnapore	Nepura Rural Development Society, Nepura, Mataldanga, Midnapore (Sadar) Block, Midnapore, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	1.59
167	Midnapore	Basgeria Prativa Club, Midnapore, West Bengal	2 Day Care Centre	1.64
168	Nadia	Karimpur Social Welfare Society, Nadia West Bengal	1 Old Age home	2.2
169	North 24 Parganas Distt.	Jirakpur Sister Nivedita Seva Mission, Vill. Jirakpur, P.O. Bashirhat, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	6.02
170	South 24 Parganas Distt.	Ganeshnagar Laxminarayana Club & Pathagar, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home, 1 Day Care Centre	4.14
171	South 24 Parganas Distt.	Vivekananda Child Welfare Home, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal	1 Old Age Home	1.36
172	South 24 Parganas Distt.	People Service Institute, 62/1, Benia Pukur Road, Calcutta-14	1 Old Age Home	1.08

*[Translation]***Corruption cases in Revenue Department**

221. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the raids conducted by the CBI on the houses/offices of the officers of the Central Excise and Customs and Income Tax Department during the last one year;

(b) the value of assets seized from each employees/officer, separately;

(c) the action taken in each of these cases; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check increasing corruption in these department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The vigilance set up in the Central Board of Direct Taxes has been strengthened by upgrading the existing Directorate of Income Tax (Vigilance) to the level of Directorate General of Income Tax (Vigilance) and four Regional Directorates of Income Tax (Vigilance) have been created. There will also be a closer monitoring by the supervisory officers. Similarly, various steps have been taken in the Central Board of Excise & Customs, which include use of information technology to tighten vigilance machinery, posting officers of integrity and efficiency in vigilance organisations, not giving sensitive postings to officers of doubtful integrity, and keeping watch on the lifestyle of the Officers.

*[English]***Price Difference in NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar**

222. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether same/similar item supplied to end users carry a different price tag in the NCCF and the Kendriya Bhandar;

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

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) whether these agencies have not prescribed any norms with regard to the purchases and the action to be taken against their employees; and

(e) if so, the action Union Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The NCCF and the Kendriya Bhandar are two autonomous cooperative organizations having their own Board of Directors to decide about their policies in regard to sale and purchase. The end price of the commodities has to differ on account of different terms of supply, though both the organizations try to offer the best terms of supply at competitive rates, below the MRP. No study has been undertaken to find out the end prices of the two organizations in respect of the commodities handled by them.

(d) The NCCF has informed that they have modified their sourcing policy in respect of the branded manufactured goods w.e.f. 1.7.2001. Under the modified system, these items are sourced from the manufacturers or their nominated distributors. In respect of the low value and unbranded items, these are procured by the NCCF from their approved dealers. In such cases also, the competitiveness of the prices is maintained. In respect of Kendriya Bhandar, they have their own prescribed procedure for undertaking the same. Both Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF have their own Vigilance Wing to look in to various complaints related to the irregularities, corruption and charging of higher prices etc. concerning their employees.

(e) In view of the above, does not arise.

Private Companies in Insurance Sector

223. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of private companies who have entered the insurance sector so far;

(b) the details of Memorandum of Understanding entered into by the Government with these private companies;

(c) whether these private companies will be operating in rural sector for taking care of the socially and economically weaker sector of the society in order to lessen the burden of LIC;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any norms/guidelines have been formulated by IRDA for these companies in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The details of private insurance companies are given in statement enclosed.

(b) These private companies are regulated by regulations issued by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA). The Government does not enter into any Memorandum of Understanding with the private companies.

(c) to (f) These private companies have to underwrite specified amount of business in rural sector and social sector as per the provisions under Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Social and Rural Obligations) Regulations, 2000. The Regulation interalia, provides for the obligation on the part of life insurer and general insurer for undertaking business in rural sector and social sector to meet the requirements of unorganised sectors, informal sector, economically vulnerable or backward classes, self-employed workers such as agricultural labourers, bidi workers, brick kiln workers, carpenters, cobblers, construction workers, fishermen, hamals, handicraft artisans, handloom and khadi workers and persons below the poverty line, persons with disability, etc.

Statement

List of Insurance Companies who have been granted registration by IRDA

Sl. No.	Name of the Insurance Company
1	2
1.	HDFC Standard Life Insurance Co. (LIFE) Mumbai
2.	Royal Sundaram Alliance Insurance Ltd. (GEN) Chennai

1	2
3.	Reliance General Insurance Co Ltd. (GEN) Mumbai
4.	Max New york Life Insurance Co. (LIFE) Gurgaon
5.	ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co Ltd. (LIFE) Mumbai
6.	IFFCO - Tokyo General Ins. Co. Gurgaon (GEN)
7.	Om Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance (LIFE) Co pvt Ltd Bangalore
8.	Tata - AIG General Insurance Co Mumbai (GEN)
9.	Birla Sun Life Insurance Co Ltd. Mumbai (LIFE)
10.	TATA - AIG Life Insurance Company (LIFE) Mumbai
11.	SBI Life Insurance Co Ltd Mumbai (LIFE)
12.	Bajaj Allianz General Insurance (GEN) Company Pune
13.	ING Vysya Life Insurance Company (LIFE) Bangalore
14.	ICICI Lombard General Ins. Co Mumbai (GEN)
15.	Allianz Bajaj Life Ins. Co Mumbai. (LIFE)
16.	Metlife India Ins. Co. (P) Ltd Bangalore (LIFE)
17.	Dabur CGU Life Insurance Co Ltd (LIFE) Gurgaon (in-principle Approval)
18.	AMP Sanmar Assurance Co Ltd Chennai (LIFE)
19.	Reliance Life Insurance Co Ltd Mumbai (LIFE)

Export of Tobacco

224. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of tobacco particularly Flue Cured Virginia tobacco has been badly affected and have resulted in fall of prices of tobacco;

(b) if so, the reasons for decline in export of tobacco indicating the quantum of tobacco exported during the last three years; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to increase the export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The export of tobacco, particularly, Flue

Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco has been fluctuating over the past few years. In general, there has been a decline in international demand for tobacco because of the large inventories currently being maintained by most importer nations. The data on the quantum of tobacco exported over the past three years is as follows :

Year	Tobacco		Tobacco Products		Total	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
	(Tons)	(Rs. in Crs.)	(Tons)	(Rs. in Crs.)	(Tons)	(Rs. in Crs.)
1998-99	82366	634.48	18957	171.71	101323	806.19
1999-00	122590	864.47	13,631	185.45	136221	1050.22
2000-01	100537	677.04	15393	226.34	115930	903.38
2001-02*	66537	455.22	13252	228.51	79789	683.73

* April '01 to January '02 Source : Tobacco Board

(c) Government is making various efforts to increase exports. These include participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions, organisation of delegations of tobacco traders and exporters to various countries and intensive interaction at high-level bilateral official meetings. The Tobacco Board is also undertaking an extensive advertisement campaign in the international media to promote Indian tobacco.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes for the Handicapped Persons

225. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of schemes launched for the welfare of handicapped persons in the country during the last three years;

(b) the funds spent for the implementation of these schemes during the above period; and

(c) the number of handicapped persons benefited from these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The schemes formulated for development of persons with disabilities during the last three years include National Programme of Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD), setting up Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) and Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRCs) for Persons with Spinal Injuries. Besides, National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has been set up.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 201.81 crores was released for the implementation of these schemes during the last three years and 49437 persons with disabilities have been benefited so far.

Economic Loss in Imports due to Fall in Rupee Value

226. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether in comparison to US dollars, the continuous decline in the value of Indian rupee has caused economic loss in imports to the country;

(b) if so, the economic loss suffered by industries due to imports during the year 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the estimated loss suffered during first nine months of 2001-2002; and

(d) the commodity on which maximum loss likely to be suffered during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) Exchange rate depreciation in general leads to increase in exports and make imports costlier. As such there is no economic loss to country on account of this.

As per the data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI and S), Calcutta, value of imports and growth rate, in dollar terms, are following :

(US \$ Million)		
Year	Imports	%Growth
1998-99	42389	2.2
1999-2000	49671	17.2
2000-01	50537	1.7
2001-02 (P) (April-Dec.)	38362	0.31

(d) Major sectors which have registered positive growth during April-Sept., 2001-02 are following :

(US \$ Million)		
Items	Imports	% Growth
Edible Oil	748.17	3.77
Non-ferrous Metals	324.95	17.59
Metalliferous Ores & Metal scrap	586.85	60.90
Gold & Silver	2619.45	22.20
Machinery	2041.90	8.33

[English]

Tarapore Committee on UTI

227. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the S.S. Tarapore Committee constituted to go into the affairs of the Unit Trust of India has submitted its report;

(b) If so, the main findings and the recommendations of the committee; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon, especially the steps taken to safeguard the interests of the common investors of US-64?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee observed, inter alia, that by and large the Unit Trust of India (UTI) has functioned well and its deficiencies must be viewed constructively with a view to improving its working. The Committee found that UTI has not documented a comprehensive investment policy; financial powers are vested with a single individual; UTI's investment/disinvestment decisions are not subject to any audit, Asset Management Committees play no role in the investment process; pricing mechanism was faulty; rise in the equity portfolio contributed to the instability of US-64 etc. The Committee recommended, inter alia, detailed audit of the select list of investments identified by it; formulation of a comprehensive and transparent investment policy; a Committee approach for all types of investments beyond certain limits; audit of investment/disinvestment decisions; empowerment of AMC to take investment decisions; clear guidelines for inter-scheme transfers which should be SEBI

complaint; US-64 to be made NAV based; reduction in the schemes equity portfolio and structural reforms in UTI.

(c) The US-64 scheme has been re-opened for fresh sale and repurchase at NAV-based prices with effect from 1st January, 2002. Government announced a financial package for the scheme on 28.12.2001, under which UTI will be compensated by the Government for the deficit, if any, between the NAV and applicable repurchase prices, in respect of (i) the limited repurchase facility, announced on July 15, 2001 upto 3000 units which has been raised to 5,000 units per unit holders, and (ii) for remaining holdings in US-64, if any, UTI has assured a repurchase price of Rs. 10 per unit, or Net Asset Value (NAV) whichever is higher on May 31, 2003. In the intervening period from January 01, 2002 to May 30, 2003, redemption beyond 5000 units per existing investor as on June 30, 2001 will be at NAV. As a part of the financial package, UTI has been asked to implement time bound reforms based on the recommendations of the expert committees.

Unclaimed Money in Banks

228. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large amount is lying unclaimed with nationalised banks in various accounts for quite a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the names of banks and such amount in each bank;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to locate the account holders and return the money to them or their heirs;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved in these efforts;

(e) whether there is any proposal to utilise this money lying unclaimed with banks for public utility services; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Rs. 415.92 crores are lying with the Nationalised Banks as unclaimed deposits as on 31st December, 2000 (latest available) the details of which are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) In pursuance of the Committee on Customer Service in Banks (Goiporia Committee), the Reserve Bank of India advised the banks on 28.1.1992 to ensure that term deposit application form contains a direction for disposal of deposits on maturity. Further, these instructions were reiterated on 16.1.2001 and the banks were advised to ensure sending intimation of impending due date of deposit well in advance to their depositors as a rule in order to extend better customer service. The banks are generally following RBI's instructions in this regard.

(e) and (f) There is a proposal to establish a Depositor's Protection Trust Fund by the Reserve Bank of India providing for transfer of the amount lying in Unclaimed Accounts.

Statement

Unclaimed Deposits (More than 10 years old) As on 31.12.2000 with Nationalised Banks

S.No.	Name of the Bank	Current Account		Saving Bank Account		Fixed deposits		Other Deposits		Add Interest	Less Incidental Charges	No. of Accounts	Total Amount
		No. of Accounts	Amount (Rupees)	No. of Accounts	Amount (Rupees)	No. of Accounts	Amount (Rupees)	No. of Accounts	Amount (Rupees)				
Nationalised Banks													
1	Andhra Bank	34642	16848391.00	383356	85195989.50	20349	23743078.43	75049	11350440.81	0.00	0.00	513396	137137899.74
2	Allahabad Bank	2453	6278070.20	64085	30468859.19	4176	17149580.92	2006	684276.90	147500.41	1305138.60	72720	53423149.02
3	Bank of Baroda	18037	18485121.84	278682	98930742.75	34309	92481517.83	0	0.00	2637037.38	2586795.24	331028	209947624.56
4	Bank of India	31904	24430835.76	346190	110899999.63	9513	55422775.58	13950	22305685.60	1326816.30	3619467.43	401557	210766645.44
5	Bank of Maharashtra	6907	8157900.83	173048	77282035.48	4794	30552223.01	2948	4199593.70	2350660.90	884487.39	187697	121657926.53
6	Canara Bank	46681	27935189.98	1044874	511179073.91	16140	25621171.70	180074	59987361.77	0.00	0.00	1287769	624722797.36
7	Corporation Bank	11378	3095202.82	332711	25133367.54	28392	3718895.38	7293	1220951.62	0.00	0.00	379774	33168417.36
8	Central Bank of India	49772	14753154.00	1455009	154705070.00	50646	91960377.00	21302	13657595.00	2785091.00	3007449.00	1576729	274853838.00
9	Dena Bank	3761	3278983.75	81108	55082619.94	8130	20353329.20	0	0.00	1540536.00	1226386.41	92999	79029102.48
10	Indian Bank	9833	4542335.00	491367	99748360.00	3539	4832848.00	21706	10425785.00	1141797.00	1396966.00	526445	119294219.00
11	Indian Overseas Bank	34923	16129997.00	204751	66238924.00	44913	48507784.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	284587	130876705.00
12	Oriental Bank of Commerce	8140	27605381.84	95954	66105591.43	8935	38079626.01	7	19961.00	2220691.78	968342.44	113036	133062909.62
13	Punjab National Bank	10671	32006556.00	735250	723679819.00	9947	18803551.00	8008	13293150.00	30193000.00	9818000.00	763876	808158076.00
14	Punjab and Sind Bank	2335	28010733.00	34686	44830666.00	1849	43931719.00	1488	25529621.00	29000.00	0.00	40358	142331739.00
15	Syndicate Bank	24567	12811023.00	64802	37367396.00	47591	38267852.00	437590	112525866.00	982223.00	2750763.00	574550	189203397.00
16	Union Bank of India	39892	41723521.28	422773	234575114.05	44129	147888265.13	3559	5587538.58	6932190.35	1471128.80	510353	435235500.59
17	United Bank of India	16910	10408151.00	132678	117598232.00	6485	4471363.00	0	0.00	4454120.00	4155529.00	156053	132776337.00
18	UCO Bank	16575	13203845.17	309680	144247671.55	6023	31850381.80	4552	2373845.27	3738859.00	2494039.00	336830	192920563.79
19	Vijaya Bank	21086	18399683.00	130668	72345436.00	75658	40665650.00	0	0.00	1816001.00	2545443.00	227412	130681327.00
Nationalised Banks Total		390467	328104076.47	6781672	2755614967.97	425498	768301988.99	779532	283161472.25	62295524.12	38229855.31	8377169	4159248174.49

Exemption of Excise Duty on Naphtha

229. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has waived excise duty on naphtha used as feedstock by seven power plants;

(b) if so, the names of these plants and the reduction likely to be effected by the power plants on its tariffs;

(c) whether it is a fact that the excise exemption is not extended to the NTPC's Kayamkulam Power Project in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the seven power plants are as follows :

1. 120 MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Plant at Basin Bridge, Chennai, of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board;
2. 20 MW Power Plant of M/s. Nagarjuna Electric Generating Company at Patancheru, Medak District, Andhra Pradesh;
3. 515 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Hazira, Gujarat of M/s. Essar Power Limited;
4. 167 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Vadodara of M/s. Gujarat Industries Power Corporation Limited;
5. 48 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Sancoale village, Mormugao District, Goa of M/s. Reliance Salgaoncar Company Limited;
6. 220 MW Barge Mounted Power Plant at Mangalore of M/s. Tanir Bavi Power Company Private Limited, Mangalore;
7. 165 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Eloor, District Ernakulam, Kerala of M/s. BSES Kerala Power Limited.

It is expected that it will result in reduction of cost of generation of electricity by 10-16 paise per unit.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The decision taken covers only the plants mentioned in the reply to part (b) above.

Filing of Income Tax Returns by Trusts

230. SHRI SADASHIVROA DADODA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of trusts and institutions are not filing income-tax returns;

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

(c) whether the Government have noticed irregular grant of exemptions, resulting in short levy of income-tax to the tune of Rs.743 lakh in 28 cases in four metro cities in the year 1998-99;

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

(e) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A large number of trusts and institutions are not filing their returns of income because their income is below the maximum amount not chargeable to tax. Therefore, these trusts or institutions are statutorily not required to file their income tax returns.

(b) Income tax returns are filed with the field formations. No information regarding trusts and institutions not filing their returns is centrally maintained in the Department. The Income tax Department takes action as provided under law whenever any case of non-filing of return by any person, who is statutorily required to file its return of income, including trusts or institutions, comes to its knowledge.

(c) C and AG in their Report No.12A of 2001 for March ending 2000, have pointed out audit observations in 28 cases of Trusts & Institutes from four metropolitan cities, where, according to them, there is short levy of tax of Rs. 742.93 lakhs. The report of C and AG is being examined in the Central Board of Direct Taxes with a view to give para-wise reply to C and AG to determine correctness as otherwise of the aforesaid audit observations. Final figures of number of cases of Trusts & Institutes involving short levy of tax or the amount of tax effect involved in such cases can be determined only after such examinations by the Central Board of Direct Taxes and after interactions with the C and AG

(d) According to C and AG, reasons for such cases of short levy of tax are mistakes in the applications of law, incorrect allowances, deductions and exemptions under the provisions of IT Act.

(e) Central Board of Direct Taxes has already issued instructions to the Assessing Officers/Field Formations to take due care in assessment and to avoid mistakes. Remedial actions are invariably taken to all cases in accordance with Central Board of Direct Taxes Instruction No.1598 dated 1.2.1985. There is also a monitoring system where the ledger cards are issued and their explanations are called for where they are found to have committed such mistakes. DIT (Audit) has also issued instructions and checklist for the guidance of the Assessing Officers.

Collection of Service Tax from Tourism Industry

231. SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of service tax collected from tourism industry during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : Presently, service tax is levied on tour operators. Service tax collected from this service in last three years is as follows :

1999-2000	-	Rs.0.22 crore
2000-2001	-	Rs.5.42 crore
2001-2002	-	Rs.3.83 crore
(Upto December, 2001)		

Request of Gujarat Government for Revision of Foodgrain Allotment

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

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government for revision of allotment quota of foodgrains for BPL families, provision of octane testing facility, reimbursement of actual road transportation charges for lifting of levy sugar etc. and issue of wheat to Roller Flour Mills in the State;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Union Government on the demands of the State Government;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Government of Gujarat has requested for permission to distribute the foodgrains at a lower scale to the BPL families than the norm of 25 kg per

family per month since the State Government has identified 34 lakhs BPL families as against the estimated number of 21.20 lakhs. The State Government has been informed that the scale of issue of foodgrains to the BPL families should not be reduced, otherwise the entire exercise of targeting the PDS and increasing the allocation of foodgrains for the BPL families will lose its relevance.

No request has been received from the Government of Gujarat for octane testing facility.

A series of representations from different State Governments, including Gujarat to allow reimbursement of actual minimum road transportation charges for lifting of levy sugar have been received. The guidelines for transportation charges have been revised w.e.f. 01.04.96 wherein the transportation charges are payable at flat rates for each State to be fixed on the basis of the audited figure of expenditure incurred for previous years duly approved by the State Government concerned.

Government of Gujarat has requested for allotment of wheat quota to Roller Flour Mills (RFMs) at the predetermined export price against the export of wheat flour.

It has been decided to make wheat available to RFMs and other exporters on the condition that wheat products exported by them would not be less than 65% of the quantity of wheat lifted by them from the Central Pool. Wheat is being offered at Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) prices for the purpose of export of wheat products, while post-delivery expenses and zone-wise inland transport expenses are being reimbursed.

Export Promotion Council for Drugs and Pharmaceutical Companies

233. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Independent Export Promotion Council for Drugs and Pharmaceutical Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh contributes about 30 percent of total bulk drugs export;

(d) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh has requested

the Union Government to set up the PHARMAEXCIL at Hyderabad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and time by which this Council is likely to be set up at Hyderabad and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The Government has received a request from the Pharmaceutical Associations for setting up an Independent Export Promotion Council for Drugs and Pharmaceuticals and they have been informed about the requisite conditions to be fulfilled for setting up a new Export Promotion Council.

(c) Government of India is not maintaining state-wise export data on bulk drugs.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government of Andhra Pradesh has been informed that the first requirement for forming a new Export Promotion Council under Department of Commerce is to raise a corpus of Rs.3 crores by the respective Industry and the location of the Headquarter of the new Council is also to be decided by the Pharmaceutical Industry.

100% Export Oriented Units

234. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of states where 100% Export Oriented Units have been set up so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up any 100% Export Oriented Units in Uttaranchal particularly at Dehradun and in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which hundred percent export oriented units are likely to be set up in the above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Export Oriented Units (EOUs) are located in various parts the Country. The State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) During the years 2000-01 & 2001-02, ten

and one applications were received from entrepreneurs for setting up of EOUs. in the State of Madhya Pradesh and Uttaranchal respectively. All the applications received stand approved. No application for setting up of EOU at Dehradun was received during the last two years.

(d) The Letter of Permission (LOP) issued to a EOU is valid for 3 years from the date of its issue, within which the unit should implement the project and commence production.

Statement

State-wise break up of functional EOUs :

(As on 31.7.2001)

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Functional EOUs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	166
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Chhattisgarh	4
4.	Gujarat	182
5.	Haryana	59
6.	Himchal Pradesh	8
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
8.	Jharkhand	5
9.	Karnataka	257
10.	Kerala	34
11.	Madhya Pradesh	28
12.	Maharashtra	197
13.	Orissa	7
14.	Punjab	42
15.	Rajasthan	76
16.	Sikkim	1
17.	Tamil Nadu	286
18.	Uttar Pradesh	81
19.	Uttaranchal	1

1	2	3
20.	West Bengal	52
21.	A&N Islands	2
22.	Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar haveli	15
23.	Delhi	32
24.	Pondicherry	5
25.	Goa	18

Liaison Officers for SCs/STs and OBCs

235. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the Departments/Sub-ordinate and Attached Offices, Public Sector and Autonomous Organizations/Corporations under his Ministry are not nominating Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs as required under MHA OM No. 16/17/67-Est (C) dated 10.4.1968 (DOPT OM No.36022/5/76 dated 25.5.1976) for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matters of reservations for SCs STs and OBCs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore alongwith the names of such Officers/Organizations;

(c) if not, the total number of Organizations/Offices under his Ministry which function as "Administrative Units" dealing with establishment and staff matters; and

(d) the total number of Liaison Officers nominated for the above referred purpose as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) All operational Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, the Department of Heavy Industry and the Department of Public Enterprises have Liaison Officers.

Reservation of OBCs in Educational Institutions

236. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether OBCs are given reservation only in employment opportunities and not in the educational institutions run by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide atleast 27% reservation to OBC students in all the educational institutions including professional colleges and universities; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No final view has been taken on the issue of reservation for OBCs in Central Educational Institutions.

[Translation]

Counterfeit Notes

237. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether with a view to totally check the circulation of counterfeit currency notes, the Government propose to utilise special type of paper whose imitation (counterfeit version) is not possible;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The paper presently being used for production of Indian bank note is a special paper, bearing a number of built in security features. The counterfeit notes detected so far do not indicate the use of genuine Indian bank note paper. There is, therefore no proposal at present to utilise any other type of special paper.

[English]

Housing Loan to BPL Persons

238. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme to provide loans for housing to the persons living below poverty line has been in existence;

(b) if so, the details of loans provided and rate at which the interest is charged from the above persons as compared to that of the general public; and

(c) the details of persons below poverty line in Gujarat to whom the loans disbursed by the banks during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no specific scheme in existence for providing housing loan to persons living below poverty line as such people do not have sufficient income to repay the loan. However, the Government of India is implementing the Indira Awas Yojana & Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme for Rural Housing since the year 1985-86 and 1st April, 1999 respectively. Under these schemes grant-in-aid are provided for construction of dwelling units to members of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Freed Bonded Labourers and non- SC/STs living below the poverty line in the rural areas. The details of Central funds allocated under the schemes of Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme (CCSS) in the State of Gujarat and also amount disbursed under the Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme (GJRHFS) in the State during the last two years is as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the Schemes	Central Funds allocation	
	2000-01	2001-02
1. IAY	3243.00	3389.62
2. CCSS	309.94	78.49
3. GJRHFS*	12354.00	5407.00

*Amount disbursed by Housing Finance Institutions, Banks etc.

The rate of interest on the housing finance will be in conformity with Reserve Bank of India's directive in force in case the loan is extended by a Scheduled Commercial Bank. The rates presently applicable are not exceeding PLR of the bank from whom the finance is being availed.

Reservation of Jobs for Minority Communities

239. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Bill for reservation of job for Minority Communities; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the Bill?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

WTO Ruling on Auto Licencing Regime

240. COL. (RETD). SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "WTO panel rules against India on auto licencing regime" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated January 6, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether WTO panel have fully supported the contention of the European Union and USA on almost every point thereby leaving India with little chance of success in case it decides to go in for an appeal; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (e) Government is aware of the findings of the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) panel in the dispute "India-Measures Affecting the Automotive sector". The panel *inter alia* examined Public Notice 60, the auto component licencing policy issued under the Foreign Trade Development and Regulation Act 1992. The panel held that Public Notice 60 and the consequent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) including provisions related to indigenisation requirement and Trade Balancing requirement are inconsistent with relevant provisions of WTO (Art III and Art XI of GATT (1994)). The panel separately looked into the changes in Indian Policy after 1st April, 2001 as regards the effect they have on the indigenisation and Trade balancing obligations and found that these measures have not corrected the inconsistency and has requested India to bring its measures into conformity with its obligations under WTO Agreements.

The panel report has not yet been adopted by the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the WTO as India has lodged an appeal within the stipulated time on certain issues of law covered in the panel report.

[Translation]

Export of Onion

241. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of onion exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned on export of onion during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to boost export of onion in future also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) an (b) The quantity and value of onions exported during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000- 2001 are as follows :

Year	Value	Qty. (M. Tons)
1998-99	176.05	2,15,694
1999-2000	202.70	2,60,475
2000-2001	276.22	3,43,254

Source : DGCI&S, Kolkata

(c) to (e) Export of all varieties of onions except Krishnapuram and Bangalore Rose onion are subject to quantitative ceilings and canalized through specified agencies. There are, however, no quantitative restrictions on the export of Krishnapuram and Bangalore Rose onion. The actual quantity of onion to be released for export is decided by an Inter Ministerial Committee from time to time taking into consideration the stock position, market arrivals, crop situation, domestic requirements and domestic and international price.

[English]

Smuggling of Chinese Goods

242. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether smuggling of Chinese, Bangladeshi and Nepalese made goods is continuing unabatedly into the country posing serious threat to the indigenous manufactures of these goods;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed the gravity of the situation and its overall impact on the indigenous products;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check this smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The cases of smuggling detected so far do not indicate any serious threat to indigenous products.

(d) All field formations of the Customs Department including the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) are alert to detect and prevent smuggling of Chinese, Nepalese and Bangladeshi origin goods into the country. Strict vigil is maintained at all vulnerable points to thwart attempts to smuggle such goods into the country.

Closure of Bank Branches

243. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether branches of several public sector banks in the country have been closed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of branches of various banks that have been closed along with the number of employees of those branches who have been adjusted elsewhere during the last three years, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India do not permit banks to close down their loss making branches at rural centers having a single commercial bank branch. However, banks can close down their loss making rural branches at centers served by two commercial bank branches and the decision for closure of one of the branches may be taken by the concerned banks by mutual consultation. At semi-urban, urban and metropolitan centers, banks can close their branches without prior approval of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Bank should however ensure that the locality/ward is not rendered unbanked due to the closure. Three nationalized banks identified as weak have been advised to rationalize their branch network under their annual reconstruction plan. The other public sector banks have rationalized their existing branches through closure/merger. Bank-wise number of branches of public sector banks so closed/merged/converted during 1st January 1999 to 31st December 2001 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Bank-wise number of Branches of Public Sector Banks closed/merged/converted during 1st January 1999 to 31st December, 2001

Bank Name	No. of Branches Closed/ Merged/ Converted During the Year			
	1999	2000	2001	Total
Allahabad Bank	1	-	-	1
Andhra Bank	1	-	-	1
Bank of India	-	3	3	6
Bank of Maharashtra	-	1	-	1
Canara Bank	1	3	1	5
Central Bank of India	-	-	5	5
Dena Bank	1	-	13	14
Indian Bank	3	32	37	72
Indian Overseas Bank	-	-	5	5
Punjab National Bank	2	-	32	34
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	1	1	1	3
State Bank of India	9	-	6	15
Syndicate Bank	-	1	2	3
UCO Bank	17	18	9	44
Union Bank of India	3	3	57	63
United Bank of India	2	12	10	24
Vijaya Bank	-	1	9	10
Public Sector Banks	41	75	190	306

Trade Ties with EU

244. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of trade ties with the European Union;

(b) if so, the areas identified for the expansion of Indo-EU trade relations; and

(c) the steps taken to boost Indo-EU trade ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The India-EU Business Summit held on 22-23, November 2001 identified financial services, textiles, bio-technology, energy and power as the potential sectors for undertaking joint study by the trade and industry representatives of India and the European Union for enhancing trade and investment.

(c) Government of India constantly interacts with the European Union at different levels to address the various India-EU bilateral trade issues. Sector specific bilateral working groups have been established in sectors having export potential such as agri/marine products, textiles, steel, information technology etc. India-EU bilateral trade issues are also taken up with the EU member states through the mechanism of bilateral Joint Commission interactions. These initiatives are in addition to other general export promotion activities being supported by the Government like facilities for participation in trade fairs, input for upgradation of quality, market study etc.

[Translation]

Fraud Committed by HCL

245. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an incident of fraud committed by HCL in nexus with some foreign companies in the sale and purchase of shares has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of other companies found involved in the said fraud; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty officials by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Decontrol of Sugar Industry

246. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have proposed for total decontrol of the sugar industry;

- (b) if so, the reasons and details thereof;
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the recommendations made by the Mahajan Committee have been examined by the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details of the recommendation which have been accepted by the Government and which have not been accepted by the Government alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to effect complete decontrol of sugar after the operationalization of future/forward trading in sugar during 2002-2003 financial year.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government has examined all the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee. The Committee had made 167 recommendations (including sub-recommendations). Of these, 75 recommendations have been accepted wholly or partly or with modification. The recommendations of the Committee relating to decontrol of sugar are contained in recommendations No.3 to 6. A statement indicating details of these recommendations and gist of the Government decision thereon is enclosed.

Statement

Recommendation Nos. 3 to 6

Recommendation No.3 : The Committee recommends complete decontrol of sugar. Decontrol may, however, be phased over a period of two years. From the beginning of the Sugar Season following the date of announcement of the policy, the percentage of levy sugar may be reduced to 20%, which may be continued at the same rate during the next Sugar Season and from the beginning of the subsequent Sugar Season the levy may be completely abolished.

Recommendation No.5 : Supply of sugar through PDS may be discontinued when complete decontrol becomes effective. The subsidy at present allowed in supply of sugar through PDS can be distributed among the beneficiaries by adding to the subsidy at present allowed on foodgrains.

Recommendation No.6 : If Government wishes to continue sugar under PDS, the required quantity may be purchased

from industry/trade by tendering or at fixed prices from the Mills. Additional subsidy outgo would be offset by higher excise collection on levy quota converted as free sale. If shortfalls still continue, the balance may be met by increasing excise duty to the required level.

Gist of decision on Recommendation Nos. 3, 5 and 6 :

"Government has already reduced the percentage of levy sugar from 40% to 30% with effect from 1.1.2000. Government cannot agree on any time frame for further decontrol as recommended by the Committee as this depends upon the restructuring of the PDS of which sugar is an essential part. Further reduction of levy percentage and alternative methods of meeting the requirement for distribution of sugar under the PDS are all linked to the restructuring of PDS".

Recommendation No. 4 : Control on releases should continue even after complete decontrol of prices.

Gist of decision on Recommendation No. 4 :

"The Mahajan Committee has made a distinction between decontrol of the sugar industry and decontrol of prices, the latter being restricted to the system of levy obligation from the sugar mills. Government does not accept the recommendation that control on releases should continue without any time limit. Government is committed to phased decontrol of sugar industry and that the process of phased decontrol will have to be effected in a manner so as to avoid any destabilization of the sugar industry and the prices and should be accompanied by a number of steps including establishment of a forward/future market for sugar to achieve long term price stabilization."

UTI's MIP Scheme

247. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether SEBI has objected UTI paying less to the small investors of UTI MIP scheme;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have received any objections, precautions from MPs and Investors Associations in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the repayments have been made below the NAV of MIP of UTI;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the small investors of MIP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Unit Trust of India (UTI) has intimated that the securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) vide their letter dated January 4, 2002, enquired about UTI's assured return schemes.

(b) and (c) Government has received letters/representations in this regard. These have been forwarded to UTI.

(d) UTI has intimated that maturity payments under MIPs of UTI have not been made below NAV.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) UTI is aware of its commitments under its various schemes.

[Translation]

Violation of Labour Laws by Foreign Banks

248. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that all India Bank Employees Association had gone on a token strike in protest against the violation of labour laws by foreign banks; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure compliance of Indian laws by the foreign banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA) went on a strike on 4th January, 2002 with regard to the dispute related to two issues - (i) the transfer of some of the employees of Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) and (ii) engagement of contract labour by SCB for data processing. Regarding the first issue, the Bank submitted that the transfer orders issued by the Bank are in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the Standard Chartered Employees Federation (affiliated to AIBEA) on 6th November, 2001. A writ petition filed by the Standard Chartered Bank Employees Union before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta challenging the transfer orders was dismissed. The appeal filed by the Union in this regard was also dismissed. As regards data processing by SCOPE, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had permitted SCB to process the back office data through SCOPE, an Indian subsidiary of SCB Pic U.K. with the required regulatory

safeguards relating to data segregation, data integrity, RBI's access to the data, etc.

[English]

Economic Ties with Canada

249. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to expand economic ties with Canada;

(b) if so, the areas in which Indo-Canada economic ties were established earlier; and

(c) the new areas identified for the expansion of Indo-Canada economic ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Government have always been interested in expanding economic ties with Canada, which is a resource rich and technologically advanced country.

(b) Bilateral economic ties already exist in the areas of power and energy; equipment and services; telecommunication and information technology; oil and gas; environment products; and financial services including insurance.

(c) There is a scope of deepening the level of cooperation in the above sectors as also of expanding it to pharmaceuticals, agriculture and agri-food, metals and minerals, aviation and aerospace, medical equipment, pulp and paper and auto ancillaries etc.

Steps to Improve Condition of Super Bazar

250. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps had been taken by the Government to improve the condition of the Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the Super Bazar; and

(d) the number of branches of Super Bazar functioning in Delhi at present and the number of employees working therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India have been providing financial assistance to Super Bazar to improve its business condition. An amount of Rs. 26.00 crores have been provided to Super Bazar to bridging its resource gap from September 2000 to till date.

(c) and (d) The Super Bazar has reported that the Store continues to do business. At present there are 139 branches out of which 4 are in Noida and 505 number of employees working in these branches. Total strength of employees is however 1984.

Trade between India and Canada

251. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement between India and Canada has been reached to increase the trade volume between the two countries recently; and

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the time frame fixed to achieve this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Processing of Soiled Notes

252. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Note Examination (NE) section for processing soiled notes under revised procedure is not functioning properly and out of 100, only 10 to 12 NE sections are brought under revised procedure;

(b) if so the reasons therefor;

(c) whether out of 100 NE sections, more than 40% do not function due to acute shortage of staff;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The revised procedure of examination of bank notes was introduced during 1996 and of the 100 Note Examination Sections (NES) existing then, 14 were converted into Revised

Procedure Sections (RPS). All the 14 RPS are functioning well at various Reserve Bank of India (RBI) offices.

(c) and (d) Out of 100 NES and RPS, 53 Sections viz. 39 NES and 14 RPS are functioning without any difficulty. The remaining 47 NES are not functioning because of shortage of Coin Note Examiners. There are 1891 vacancies of Coin Note Examiners, at present.

(e) To overcome the problem of shortage of manpower and to enhance processing capacity, the RBI is in the process of installing Currency Verification and Processing Systems (CVPS).

Support from NRIs to reduce Non Performing Assets

253. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NRIs have come forward to extend their share of support in the reduction of NPAs in the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the suggestions made by them with regard to NPAs of banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National Scheme for Scavengers

254. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented a National Policy for liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and amount spent on the rehabilitation of scavengers during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependants (NSLRS) is being implemented for liberating the scavengers from the obnoxious

and inhuman occupation of manually removing night soil and filth and rehabilitating them in alternative dignified occupations. Under the Scheme, scavengers, in the age group of 15-50 years, are being provided assistance for training and rehabilitation. The Scheme is funded by the Central Government on 100% basis and implemented by the State level Scheduled Castes Development Corporation (SCDC) or the State Government, where there is no such Corporation. Assistance for training is provided as per TRYSEM norms, which include stipend upto Rs. 500/- per trainee per month for a period upto six months, training fees up to Rs. 300/- per trainee per month, one time tool-kit allowance upto

Rs. 2000/- per trainee and honorarium upto Rs. 100/- per trainee per month to craftsman. For rehabilitation, subsidy amounting to 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10,000/- is provided. Besides 15% of the project cost is funded under the Margin Money Loan (MML) scheme. The remaining part of the project cost is met as loan from bank or other financial institutions.

(c) A statement showing the amount sanctioned by the Ministry and spent by the SCDC/State under the scheme as reported, during each of the last three years, State-wise, is enclosed.

Statement

The amount sanctioned and amount spent on the rehabilitation of scavengers during each of the last three years, State-wise under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependants

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
		Sanctioned	Spent	Sanctioned	Spent	Sanctioned	Spent
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	5.82	10.41	0.46	0	9.64
2	Assam	0	0.69	0	0.39	3.72	0.04
3	Bihar*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
4	Gujarat	0	0.57	11.61	0.84	0	NA
5	Haryana	0	1.64	0	1.08	0	1.06
6	Himachal Pradesh	0	0.34	0	0.55	0	0.81
7	Jammu & Kashmir*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
8	Karnataka	0	0.98	0	1.70	0	1.85
9	Kerala*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
10	Madhya Pradesh	0	5.05	8.83	3.63	0	3.10
11	Maharashtra	0	2.60	0	1.89	21.35	0.07
12	Orissa	5.9	1.51	0	2.46	0	2.54
13	Punjab	0	0.18	0	0.15	0	0.04
14	Rajasthan	0	0.66	16.62	0.36	0	0.36
15	Tamil Nadu	0	2.76	22.53	1.75	0	4.75
16	Uttar Pradesh	0	15.89	0	14.10	0	10.72
17	West Bengal	0	0.31	0	0.20	0	0.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18	Delhi*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
19	Pondicherry*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
20	Nagaland*	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
21	Meghalaya	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
22	Chhattisgarh	0	Nil	0	Nil	15	NA
23	Jharkhand	0	Nil	0	Nil	10.85	NA
24	Uttaranchal	0	Nil	0	Nil	10	NA
Total		5.9	39.00	70	29.56	60.92	35.17

* Details of amount spent by these States have not been received.

[Translation]

Frauds in FIs

255. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of corruption, embezzlement and misappropriation of funds in various non-banking financial institutions have come to light in the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to accord approval to the proposal of conducting inquiry and granting punishment in fraud and corruption cases of banks and financial institutions by CVC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government to check fraud cases in banks and Financial Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that M/s Tulu Nadu Finance and Development Ltd., Bangalore and M/s Tata Finance Ltd., Mumbai have reported to RBI cases of alleged misappropriation of funds.

(b) and (c) The jurisdiction of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) extends to all matters to which the executive powers of the Union extends and to all Central Public undertakings including Public Sector Banks and Financial

Institutions (FIs). Whenever a fraud is detected by a Public Sector Bank a preliminary inquiry is made. The decision is taken whether to conduct a thorough investigation departmentally or to hand over the case to the local police or Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). On the basis of the inquiry report received after internal inquiry or from the police/CBI, banks/FIs take a regular departmental action wherever necessary and award punishment to the officials who are found responsible for the fraud. On the basis of the recommendations as a result of investigation carried out by banks/ FIs or CBI the Commission tenders appropriate advice to the bank concerned.

Banks are implementing comprehensive guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India regarding prevention of frauds which inter-alia include strengthening of internal control mechanisms, review of frauds cases on continual basis, undertaking concurrent audit covering branches accounting for 50 per cent of bank's business, scrutiny of cash deposits and withdrawals of Rs. 10 lakhs and above, improving housekeeping and imparting training to operational personnel.

Technology Upgradation Fund

256. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of Technology Upgradation Fund scheme for textile and jute industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of the number of applications received for loans as on date alongwith the funds

disbursed so far and details of selection procedure for this purpose;

(d) whether the Government have received any request for relaxation of standards for expansion of this scheme especially with regard to sick and closed textile mills; and

(e) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) For monitoring and review the Technology Upgradation Fund

Scheme, an inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC) under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Textiles) has been constituted, which meets on a quarterly basis. A Technical Advisory and Monitoring Committee (TAMC) under the chairmanship of the Textile Commissioner has also been constituted to interpret, or clarify any technical issues raised by any of the nodal agencies regarding the eligibility of any unit or machinery under the scheme. This Committee generally meets on monthly basis.

(c) The State-wise details of the number of applications received under TUFs w.e.f. 1-4-1999 to 31-12-2001 and the loans disbursed is as follows :

State / U.T.	No. of Applications received	No. of Applications Sanctioned	No. of applications disbursed	Amount Disbursed (Rs. in crores)
Andhra Pradesh	36	28	22	146.17
Chandigarh	2	2	1	1.85
Dadra Nagar Haveli	19	15	14	193.44
Daman & Diu	5	5	5	5.03
Delhi	23	20	15	12.49
Gujarat	244	209	168	380.57
Haryana	98	84	53	64.81
Himachal Pradesh	7	6	6	163.80
Karnataka	62	53	41	131.43
Kerala	3	2	1	16.98
Maharashtra	69	51	40	305.11
Madhya Pradesh	11	11	9	121.09
Punjab	184	165	119	539.97
Rajasthan	167	115	97	263.83
Tamil Nadu	422	364	269	671.47
Uttar Pradesh	30	24	20	131.41
West Bengal	20	17	12	17.13

Any textile unit, which is eligible as per the normal lending norms of the concerned financial institutions and fulfils the benchmark criteria of the scheme, can avail of funds under

the scheme. The unit has to apply to the concerned Nodal Agency or the financial institutions co-opted by the respective Nodal Agency.

(d) and (e) The Government has already conveyed its decision to Financial institutions and bank to relax financial norms as follows :

- (i) SIDBI has stipulated the promoters' contribution at 20% as against 33.1/3% in other cases. IDBI agreed to relax it even upto 17.5% in extremely deserving cases.
- (ii) IDBI has agreed for a flexible approach with regard to debt equity ratio to provide for a D/E ratio of 1.5:1 with relaxation in deserving cases;

The Financial Institutions and banks have also been advised to consider relaxation of norms relating to cash profit, promoters' margin etc. in case of weak but potentially viable units.

[English]

Special Economic Zones

257. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's scheme to set up 'Special Economic Zone' has taken-off;

(b) whether all the proposals of State Government for establishment of Special Economic Zones have been cleared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the Special Economic Zones set up so far along with their promoters;

(e) the financial assistance provided to each State for establishment of Special Economic Zones;

(f) whether fiscal and other incentives coupled with "State of Art" infrastructure facilities have been provided to attract FDI in these Zones;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether any modifications are proposed;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) the time limit frame for the completion and start functioning of all the Special Economic Zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (e) In the Export Import Policy, announced in March, 2000, the Government has introduced a policy for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country. As per the policy, the Central Government is not to set up any new SEZs. The scheme, however, envisages setting up SEZs in the public, private, joint sectors or by the State Governments. Further, existing Export Processing Zones could also be converted into Special Economic Zones.

In accordance with the above policy, four Export Processing Zones located at Santa Cruz (Maharashtra), Cochin (Kerala), Kandla and Surat (Gujarat) have been converted into SEZs on 1.11.2000. Further, formal approval have also been given for setting up of SEZs at Positra (Gujarat) by M/s Gujarat Positra Port Infrastructure Limited in the joint sector and by the Government of Maharashtra at Navi Mumbai. In addition, "in principle" approvals have been granted for setting up of 11 SEZs by the State Government at Nanguneri (Tamil Nadu), Kulpi and Salt Lake (West Bengal), Paradeep and Gopalpur (Orissa), Bhadohi, Kanpur and Greater Noida (U.P.), Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Hassan (Karnataka) on the basis of proposals received from them. These Zones are at various stages of implementation. The proposals received from the State Governments for establishment of SEZs supported by techno-economic feasibility report, commitment to provide water, electricity and certain other facilities have been cleared. No financial assistance for setting up of SEZs is envisaged under the scheme.

(f) and (g) 'State of the Art' infrastructure facilities are presently not available in the approved Special Economic Zones as these are at initial stages of implementation. However to attract Foreign Direct Investments for the development of such facilities, the following incentives have been announced:

(i) Exemption from excise duty and concessional customs duty for goods required for development of SEZ.

(ii) Entitlements under Section 80 IA of the Income Tax Act.

(h) and (i) Some of the modifications proposed in the SEZ scheme include treating of supplies from domestic area to SEZ as physical exports, duty free importation and procurement of goods by SEZ developers/SEZ units and enhancement of income-tax incentives available to SEZ developers/SEZ units.

(j) Since SEZs mentioned above have been approved for establishment in the joint sector/by the State

Governments recently, it would not be possible to indicate a time frame for completion and commencement of operation of all these SEZs. However, 3 SEZs in Government sector are already functioning.

[Translation]

Non-Procurement of Paddy

258. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of a situation arising out of non-procurement of paddy from traditional paddy producing regions like Chhattisgarh consequent upon procurement of paddy from non-additional paddy producing States like Punjab and Haryana;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government intend to formulate a policy guideline for Food Corporation of India wherein it would be obliged to buy crops from traditional paddy producing States on priority basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Paddy is being procured from the farmers in Chhattisgarh State under the Minimum Support Price Scheme. As on 25.2.2002, a quantity of 15.79 lakh tonnes of paddy has been procured during the Kharif Marketing Season 2001-2002 in the State of Chhattisgarh. During the last Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001, a quantity of 5.24 lakh MTs of paddy was procured in the State. Prior to the bifurcation of the State, the Government of Madhya Pradesh was procuring paddy on behalf of FCI. After bifurcation, the same arrangement has been continued in Chhattisgarh and the State Government and its agencies are procuring paddy on behalf of FCI.

[English]

Maulana Azad Educational Project

259. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of institutions given the benefit under Maulana Azad Educational Project Schemes for the welfare of minorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Maulana Azad Education Foundation has assisted 386 NGOs (up to 31-12-2001). State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Summary of State-wise Grant-In-Aid Sanctioned Released upto 31st December, 2001 :

S.No.	State/U.Ts	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)	No. of NGOs	Amount Released (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andaman	1000000	1	900000
2	Andhra Pradesh	37675000	25	31325000
3	Assam	16000000	8	12300000
4	Bihar	36351800	22	30260000
5	Delhi	15055500	10	7820500
6	Goa	2500000	1	2250000
7	Gujarat	41211800	22	35999440
8	Haryana	8500000	4	7925000
9	Jammu & Kashmir	9142000	6	5917800
10	Jharkhand	5800000	4	4900000
11	Karnataka	51066800	32	44180000
12	Kerala	36380000	18	31990000
13	Madhya Pradesh	6190000	6	6040000
14	Maharashtra	27941800	21	21674440
15	Manipur	4900000	2	3400000
16	Orissa	1032000	4	922000
17	Punjab	6167000	6	5667000
18	Rajasthan	9500000	6	8000000
19	Tamil Nadu	10600000	5	8600000
20	Uttaranchal	2500000	1	1250000
21	Uttar Pradesh	191473740	160	156828916
22	West Bengal	32540000	22	26140000
Total		553527440	386	452290096

Extension of Assistance to Handloom Weavers

260. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an adequate potential for development of handloom industries and carpet weaving centre;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to explore the possibilities for development of handloom industries and carpet weaving Centre in the country, State-wise, particularly in Jharkhand and Bihar; and

(c) the assistance extended in this regard during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) There is sufficient potential for development of handloom industries and limited potential for development of Carpet weaving centres.

(b) The Government is implementing various schemes for the development of handloom industries throughout the country including the States of Jharkhand and Bihar and funds are released based on viability of the proposals received from the State Governments.

In view of the limited potential available for weaving centres, a policy decision has been taken to close down all departmental carpet weaving training centres (except in J&K) in a phased manner. In pursuance of this decision, 195 carpet weaving training centres are closed in the country including 4 in Jharkhand and 30 in Bihar. However, in the limited clusters, where there is still some potential for development of carpet weaving, the Non-Government Organisations are provided necessary financial assistance for imparting training.

(c) The details of assistance extended under the above schemes to various States including Jharkhand and Bihar are enclosed as statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)			
		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Funds released under Handlooms Schemes	Funds released for Carpet weaving	Funds released under Handlooms Schemes	Funds released for Carpet weaving
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1474.23	-	1070.94	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	112.98	-	237.44	-
3.	Assam	773.82	-	1170.15	-
4.	Bihar	33.02	0.12	25.56	1.64
5.	Chhatisgarh	-	-	5.85	-
6.	Delhi	147.34	-	245.36	-
7.	Goa	-	-	34.27	-
8.	Gujarat	61.49	25.56	626.86	8.83
9.	Haryana	133.20	-	31.96	10.97
10.	Himachal Pradesh	159.32	-	121.06	9.43
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	80.11	-	131.05	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-
13.	Karnataka	200.98	-	303.85	-
14.	Kerala	399.71	-	440.34	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	219.41	16.08	108.78	1.39
16.	Maharashtra	91.77	1.06	188.97	-
17.	Manipur	374.77	8.66	610.37	-
18.	Meghalaya	2.96	-	30.18	-
19.	Mizoram	14.98	-	11.25	-
20.	Nagaland	420.99	1.89	470.84	-
21.	Orissa	614.50	10.35	188.87	-
22.	Pondicherry	63.70	-	28.37	-
23.	Punjab	115.89	4.26	140.63	6.54
24.	Rajasthan	122.04	-	62.24	-
25.	Sikkim	20.79	6.40	7.47	3.23
26.	Tamil Nadu	1689.91	-	2355.99	-
27.	Tripura	89.55	-	92.70	-
28.	Uttar Pradesh	828.63	26.68	648.22	43.36
29.	Uttaranchal	-	-	7.38	13.08
30.	West Bengal	720.21	-	620.25	-
Total		8966.30	101.06	10017.20	98.47

Textiles Production in Gujarat

Government to ensure optimum level of production of textiles in Gujarat?

261. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether textile mills and powerloom owners in Gujarat have been agitating leading to closures of many units and loss of production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum and value of loss in production for domestic and export during 2001-02; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Powerloom weavers in Gujarat were on strike w.e.f. 3.1.2002 to 28.1.2002. The main demands were as follows :

(i) State Government of Gujarat should continue the deferment of 30% of their electricity bills, which State Government had not collected as an interim relief till power tariff award was decided by the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission.

(ii) State Government of Gujarat should charge the

power tariff at par with the power tariff charged by the Maharashtra state from its powerloom units.

- (iii) State Government of Gujarat or Gujarat Electricity Board should not recover the 30% deferment provided to them from 01.08.2000 onwards.

Due to the said strike the activities of twisting/ texturing/ processing units were affected. A broad estimate of loss in production may be made based on the number of powerloom units in the area and their daily estimated production is calculated at 140 lac meters. Estimate of loss to exports cannot be computed.

Government of Gujarat has formed a Three Member Committee comprising Ministers for Industries, Electricity and Energy; to study the matter and submit a report.

Tannery Modernisation Fund Scheme

262. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government are considering extension of the scope of the Tannery Modernisation Fund Scheme introduced in the year 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of proposals received from tanneries under the Tannery Modernisation Fund Scheme till now and the total number of the tanneries actually modernised alongwith the funds provided to them so far;

(d) the number of proposals pending with the Government;

(e) whether the government have received any proposal from the leather industry to enhance the grant component of the Tannery Modernisation Fund;

(f) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the fresh steps taken to provide all the incentives and infrastructure facilities needed for accelerated development of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The response received from the leather industry to the Tannery Modernisation Scheme (TMS) launched in January 2000 has been quite encouraging. Extension of the scope of the Scheme is subject to allocation of sufficient funds in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) to (f) Till now, 144 applications have been received out of which 93 proposals covering 86 tanneries have been sanctioned a financial assistance of Rs. 9.44 crore. Modernisation process in respect of 60 proposals covering 53 tanneries has already been completed and the corresponding assistance of Rs. 6.81 crore disbursed to them. Applications of 37 tanneries, received recently are under process. Representations have been received from some quarters regarding the parameters of the Scheme.

(g) Required steps to bridge the critical gaps in infrastructure for integrated development of leather industry are being taken under the Indian Leather Development Programme (ILDP) and UNDP-assisted Small Industries Development & Employment Programme in the Leather Sector (SIDE-NLDP).

[Translation]

Licensing for Import of Sugar

263. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made licence compulsory for the import of sugar of all grades;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and the grade of sugar which can be imported freely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The import of sugar as classified under chapter 14 of ITC (HS) classification is free. However, the import contracts for sugar are to be compulsorily registered with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA). Further, free importability of sugar under EXIM policy is subject to compliance of all other applicable domestic laws.

[English]

Revision of Pension

264. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of refixation/revision of pension of retired employees of RBI, IDBI, Public Sector Banks and other All India Financial Institutions following salary revision in these Institutions with effect from November 1, 1997;

(b) whether following the acceptance of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission for pay revision of Central Government Employees with effect from January 1, 1996 the pension of all Central Government pensioners/family pensioners irrespective of the dates of their retirement has been revised/refixed with effect from same date;

(c) the reasons for not revising the pension of retired employees of premier institutions like RBI, IDBI, PSBs so far; and

(d) the time by when the pensions of retired employees of above mentioned institutions are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) (c) and (d) The pay and allowances (including retiral benefits) in public sector banks/financial institutions are decided by way of settlements/understanding between employees and management. A Pension Scheme was introduced in the Public Sector Banks (other than State Bank of India) in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) in pursuance of an agreement signed by the workmen unions/officers' associations with Indian Banks' Association (representing the banks' managements). The Pension Regulations framed by the Public Sector Banks as well as financial institutions like RBI, IDBI do not contain any provision to update the basic pension of retirees as and when there is wage revision for serving employees. However, all such pensioners are eligible for enhanced dearness relief linked to the Consumer Price Index. The salary structure, periodicity of wage revision and the formula for calculating the dearness relief to serving employees/pensioners in the Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions are at variance with the one applicable to Government employees. Hence, there is no parity between the pensionary benefits payable to Government employees and bank employees.

(b) Pursuant to Fifth Central Pay Commission's recommendations, necessary orders have been issued for revision of the pension/family pension w.e.f. 1.1.1996 to the Central Government employees who retired prior to 1996.

Fraud by Non-Banking Companies in Gujarat

265. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received complaints regarding cases of fraud, cheating and forgery by plantation/non-banking financial institutions in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received so far with the Anti-Economic Offence Cell; and

(c) the action the Government have taken or proposed to be taken to protect the interest of small investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Defaulting Companies

266. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of public ltd. companies collected huge funds through term deposits as well as non-convertible debentures during the last three years and have defaulted on payment of principal as well as interest;

(b) if so, the names of such companies alongwith amount in default, company-wise;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against these companies particularly M/s. Lloyds Finance, Sanchyani Investment Ltd., Usha Ispat, Paam Pharma to help lakhs of small investors to recover their dues;

(d) the present regulatory mechanism available to monitor the functioning of such public Ltd. companies which continue to defraud small investors; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to deal such promoters of companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Institute of Fashion Design

267. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the Research and Development efforts being made by the National Institute of Fashion Design;

(b) whether the Institute has been able to patent any of their Research and Development results in area of Fabric Design, Fabric structuring, Dye assimilation etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any attempt has been made in integration of fabric like Khadi etc. in their design of apparels; and

(e) if so, the details of the impact made in international apparel trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) :

(a) The National Institute of Fashion Design (NIFD) is a private Institute. As such Government have no control over its activities.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

Indo-Nepal Trade

268. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether border trade between India and Nepal has been affected due to disturbance in Nepal in the recent times;

(b) if so, the details of loss suffered by India with regard to export of certain items;

(c) the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the infrastructural facilities provided for regulation of this border trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) There are no arrangements for border trade between India and Nepal. Formal trade between India and Nepal is conducted under India-Nepal Treaty of Trade which provides for movement of goods through mutually agreed 22 land customs check posts on India-Nepal border on fulfilment of the usual customs and other regulations. No reports have been received about the effect, if any, on flow of trade between India and Nepal due to disturbances in Nepal in the recent times.

Old Age Home Scheme

269. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

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

(a) the salient features of centrally sponsored scheme 'Old Age Home' together with funding pattern of the scheme;

(b) the details of 'Old Age Home' opened during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether some proposals of some State Governments are pending for clearance;

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

(e) the time by which these pending projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) There are two schemes under which 90% grant in aid is given for the welfare of older persons, through non-governmental organizations. These schemes are:-

(i) An Integrated Programme for Older Persons :- Under this Plan Scheme Grant-in-aid/financial assistance is given to non-governmental organizations for establishment and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units and Non-Institutional Service Centres,

(ii) Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organizations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for older Persons-Under this Non-Plan scheme the Grant-in-aid is provided to eligible non-governmental organizations for construction of Old Age Home and Multi service centres for older persons.

(b) The state-wise number of non-governmental organizations to whom grant in aid for maintenance of old age homes and for construction of old age home has been given for the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 may be seen in statement-I enclosed.

(c) to (e) The state-wise number of pending new proposal is given in statement-II enclosed. There is no specified time to sanction new projects. The time for disposal of application depends upon the receipt of the availability of funds and, recommendation of appropriate authorities.

Statement-I

State-wise Number of Non-Governmental Organisations to whom Grant-in-Aid for Maintenance of Old Age Homes and Construction of Old Age Homes given for the Year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

S.No.	Name of the States/ UTs	Scheme-I		Scheme-II	
		Integrated Programme for Older Persons		Scheme of Assistance to Panchayat Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/ Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi-Service Centres for Older Persons.	
		1999-2000	2000-01	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	89	81	5	1
2	Assam	2	2	2	4
3	Chhattisgarh	1	0	0	0
4	Gujarat	1	3	0	0
5	Haryana	3	3	3	0
6	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0
7	Jammu & Kashmir	0	1	0	0
8	Karnataka	19	19	0	1
9	Kerala	2	2	0	3
10	Madhya Pradesh	4	5	0	0
11	Maharashtra	5	2	0	0
12	Manipur	19	13	1	0
13	Nagaland	0	1	0	0
14	Orissa	34	22	0	0
15	Punjab	4	4	4	0
16	Rajasthan	0	0	1	1
17	Tamil Nadu	32	23	1	0
18	Tripura	2	2	0	0
19	Uttar Pradesh	28	18	2	0
20	Uttaranchal	1	1	0	0
21	West Bengal	25	26	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
22	Pondicherry	3	3	0	0
23	Chandigarh	0	0	1	1
24	Delhi	0	0	1	0
Total		274	231	23	11

Statement-II

State-wise Number of Pending New Proposals under (A) Integrated Programme for Older Persons, and (B) Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Voluntary Organisations/ Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Home/ Multi-Service Centres for Older Persons

Position as on 26-2-2002

S.No.	Name of the State/ UTs	Scheme-I Integrated Programme for Older Persons	Scheme-II Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/ Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi-Service Centres for Older Persons.
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1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	41	1
2	Assam	12	0
3	Bihar	1	0
4	Chhattisgarh	2	0
5	Goa	1	0
6	Gujarat	4	0
7	Haryana	8	1
8	Himachal Pradesh	4	0
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0
10	Jharkhand	1	1
11	Karnataka	21	0

1	2	3	4
12	Kerala	5	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	6	0
14	Maharashtra	23	0
15	Manipur	7	1
16	Nagaland	1	1
17	Orissa	16	1
18	Punjab	7	0
19	Rajasthan	4	2
20	Tamil Nadu	11	1
21	Tripura	2	0
22	Uttar Pradesh	3	2
23	West Bengal	28	3
Total		209	14

Proposals for Promotion of Handicrafts

270. SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from various State Governments for promotion of handicrafts during the last three years under various schemes;

(b) the number of such proposals accepted by the Union Government during the aforesaid period

(c) whether the Government have recently worked out any scheme for promotion of handicrafts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) 826

number of proposals were received during the last three years, from various State Governments State Corporations, State Cooperative Apex bodies, out of these 585 proposals have been sanctioned for release of financial assistance under various schemes of the Government for promotion & development of handicrafts in the country.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has recently launched Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastashilpa Vikas Yojana for identification of important craft clusters and their sustainable development through an integrated package of assistance.

[Translation]

ADB Loan to Bihar

271. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has received any loan or grants from the Asian Development Bank for providing drinking water facility in villages of all the districts of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have finalised any action plan for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Hiring of Private Godowns

272. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India have spent huge amount to hire private godowns for storage purpose where FCI have their own godown facilities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of such expenditure incurred during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Private godowns are hired on the basis of total requirements of storage space and available storage facilities owned by Food Corporation of India at a particular place. The requirement of storage space depends on procurement needs and storage of stock meant for Public Distribution System and other Welfare Schemes.

(c) State-wise rent paid for hiring of private godowns during the year 1998-99 is given in the statement attached. The rent for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is yet to be finalized.

(d) Periodic review is undertaken by the Regional Heads of the FCI to dehire godowns which are not required.

Statement

Region-wise Rent Paid for Hiring of Private Godowns during the year 1998-99.

S.No.	Name of the Region	Total amount paid Amount in lakhs
1	2	3
1.	Haryana	115.17
2.	Himachal Pradesh	0.22
3.	J&K	2.08
4.	Punjab	813.69
5.	Rajasthan	79.08
6.	Uttar Pradesh	48.79
7.	Andhra Pradesh	27.86
8.	Kerala	2.64
9.	Karnataka	13.26
10.	Gujarat	189.88
11.	Maharashtra	32.62
12.	Madhya Pradesh	99.48
13.	Bihar	111.38
14.	Orissa	37.71
15.	West Bengal	43.27

1	2	3
16.	P.O. Kolkata	30.29
17.	Assam	51.19
18.	NEF	7.96
Total		1706.57

Income Tax Collections

273. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The Income Tax revenue realised from the Chandigarh and Ludhiana Circles during each of the last three years; and

(b) the areas falling within the jurisdiction of the aforesaid two Circles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Income Tax revenue collected from Chandigarh region for the last three years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is Rs. 137.19 crores, Rs. 243.97 crores and Rs. 267.91 crores respectively.

The Income tax revenue, collected from Ludhiana region for the last three years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is Rs. 201.96 crores, Rs. 209.27 crores and Rs. 245.19 crores respectively.

(b) Prior to restructuring of the Income Tax Department in the current financial year, the jurisdiction of charge of the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax comprised Union Territory of Chandigarh and revenue district of Ropar in Punjab and the jurisdiction of Commissioner of Income Tax, Ludhiana comprised revenue districts of Ludhiana and Moga in the State of Punjab.

World Bank Loan to AP

274. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the debt on the State of Andhra Pradesh had gone up to Rs. 43,000 crore while the State's assets remained only at Rs. 22,000 crore;

(b) if so, whether comparing to 1993-94, the debt had gone up by 4 times, but the assets have not yet doubled;

(c) whether the State Government had requested the World Bank for further loan of Rs. 20,000 crore;

(d) if so, the response from the World Bank;

(e) the main projects where the borrowed funds have been invested by the Government;

(f) whether any action plan has been worked out with regard to repayment;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government have fixed any limit on State borrowings; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The total debt liabilities of the State of Andhra Pradesh have grown by 3.14 times during the period 1993-94 to 2000-01. The outstanding debt liabilities of the State were Rs. 40602 crores as on 31.3.2001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The names of the World Bank Projects under implementation are given in the enclosed statement.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) and (i) The fixing of limits of borrowings by States and the giving of guarantees within such limits falls within the purview of the State Govt. as provided for under Article 293 (1) of the Constitution.

Statement

The names of World Bank Projects under Implementation in Andhra Pradesh

A. International Development Agency (IDA)

- 2663-IN AP Health System Project dt. 22.12.1994
- 2950-IN AP Hazard Mitigation and E.C.R. Project dt. 3.6.1997
- 2952-IN Third AP Irrigation Project dt. 3.6.1997
- 3103-IN AP Economic Restructuring Project dt. 4.2.1999
- 3332-IN AP District Poverty Initiatives Project dt. 12.5.2000

B. International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

6. 4156-IN AP Hazard Mitigation dt. 3.6.1997
7. 4166-IN AP Irrigation Project dt. 3.6.1997
8. 4192-IN AP State Highway Project dt. 3.7.1997
9. 4360-IN AP Economic Restructuring Project dt. 4.2.1999
10. 4441-IN AP Power Restructuring Project dt. 5.3.1999

Modernisation of Spinning Mills

275. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of spinning mills in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government propose to modernise these spinning mills particularly those located in Western India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) There are 1577 cotton/man-made fibre spinning mills in the country as on 31.1.2002. The State-wise details are given below :

State/Union Territory	Spinning Mills
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	96
Assam	6
Bihar	7
Chhattisgarh	1
Goa	1
Gujarat	61
Haryana	78
Himachal Pradesh	14
Jammu & Kashmir	2

1	2
Jharkhand	1
Karnataka	49
Kerala	34
Madhya Pradesh	40
Maharashtra	129
Manipur	1
Orissa	16
Punjab	73
Rajasthan	44
Tamil Nadu	826
Uttar Pradesh	56
Uttaranchal	5
West Bengal	24
Daman & Diu	1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3
Pondicherry	9
Total	1577

(b) to (d) In order to provide impetus to the modernization of textile & jute industry, Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), which is in operation since 01.04.1999 for a period of 5 years. The Spinning mills in the country, including in Western India are also covered under the Scheme. The Government funding is limited to reimbursement of 5% interest charged by the financial institutions/banks on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with the scheme.

Setting up of Jewellery Parks in Karnataka

276. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Karnataka Government has submitted a proposal for setting up jewellery parks in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government have cleared the proposal;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The proposal submitted by Government of Karnataka for establishment of Gem & Jewellery Park at Karwar, Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka was considered by the Government and found not viable.

(e) Does not arise.

Bound Rate for Rubber

277. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal from the Government of Kerala to rectify the mistake committed in 1994 in prescribing the bound rate for processed dry forms of natural rubber at the lower rate of 25% by enhancing the same to 40% taking note of the gravity of crisis through which plantation sector in Kerala is passing through;

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

(c) the other relief propose for the farmers of plantation sector in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has proposed enhancement of bound rate of duty on rubber from 25% to 40%. In the ongoing negotiations on Agriculture, India has proposed that the product coverage of the Agreement on Agriculture requires rationalisation by including primary agricultural commodities such as rubber. It has also been proposed by India that developing countries should be allowed to rationalise low tariff bindings by raising them to the ceiling bindings for similar category of products committed during the Uruguay Round.

(c) To ensure a remunerative price to the rubber growers for their produce, the Govt. of India, under the provisions of the Rubber Act, 1947, has fixed and notified the minimum price for trading in natural rubber. In addition, the import of natural rubber against advance licence has been banned.

Drawbacks in Industrial Policy for NE Region

278. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Industries and Commerce of the North Eastern Region (FINER) has in a memorandum recently, called upon the Union Government to rectify the drawbacks in the specific industrial policy for the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the drawbacks pointed out in the policy; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) FINER has requested for removal of locational restriction, freight subsidy against transportation of iron and steel materials under Transport Subsidy Scheme, and removal of MAT (Minimum Alternative Tax).

(c) Ministry of Finance have not agreed to the proposal for removal of locational restriction. The issue of admissibility of Transport Subsidy against transportation of iron and steel materials to the units in Assam is under examination. All the North Eastern States are listed in VIIIth Schedule of Income Tax Act, 1961, Under Section 10-C, industries in identified locations like Growth Centres and IIDCs in the NE Region are exempted from income tax for a period of 10 years. Under Section 80-IB, notified industries in NE Region have also been given ten years tax holiday besides the benefits already available in the VIIIth Schedule. MAT is intended to ensure that companies which avail a multiple benefits under the Income-tax Act, 1961 also pay a minimum amount of tax.

Minimum Export Price on Coir and Coir Products

279. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the need for the retention of the Minimum Export Price (MEP) on coir and coir products at 1997 level;

(b) whether the Government have received representation in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c)

Government have received proposals from various quarters, from time to time, in favour and against retention of Minimum Export Price (MEP) on coir and coir products. Such proposals are examined on their merits in consultation with Coir Board and appropriate decisions to retain or abolish MEP are taken.

Import of Cotton

280. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the quantity and value of cotton imported during the last one year;
- (b) whether price of indigenously produced cotton is higher than the price of the imported cotton;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the government to give relief to cotton growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) During 2000-01, import of cotton (including cotton waste) was 2,12,069 tons valued at Rs.1183 crore (approx.).

(b) and (c) Price of cotton differs from variety to variety. The landed price (weighted average)* of imported cotton was higher than the weighted average price of domestic cotton. However, import of cotton depends, *inter alia*, on demand-supply and quality parameters.

(d) To protect the interests of the cotton growers Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed by the Government and support price operation is taken by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) whenever market price of kapas touch MSP. Upto 24.02.2002, CCI has purchased 36,43,721 quintals of kapas (equivalent to lint cotton of 6,83,028 bales of 170 kg. each) under support price operation.

Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton to improve the productivity and quality of indigenous cotton.

* Based on Cotlook 'A' & 'B' indices.

[Translation]

Funds to Rajasthan for the Welfare of Old Persons

281. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister

of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Rajasthan Government under various welfare schemes meant for the welfare of old persons during the last four years since April 1, 1998, scheme-wise;
- (b) the number of welfare programmes run by the Government and non-Government organizations separately with the financial assistance provided;
- (c) whether the Rajasthan Government have fully utilized the financial assistance provided by the Union Government;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of the old men, women benefited by such welfare schemes, year-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment under the scheme of "Integrated Programme for Older Persons" provides Grant-in-aid/financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations for establishment and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units and Non-Institutional Service Centres.

Under the scheme of "Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organizations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons", grant in aid is given for construction of old age homes and Multi-Service Centres.

The financial assistance provided to non-Governmental organizations of the State of Rajasthan for the last four years during 1997-98 to 2000-2001, scheme-wise and NGO-wise is given in the enclosed statement-I and II respectively.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) Under the scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons, about 450 & 250 number of men & women were benefited in 1998-99 & 1999-2000 respectively.

Under the second scheme i.e. Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organizations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons, financial assistance is given only for construction of the building.

Statement-I

Detail of the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Non-Government organisations of Rajasthan State for the Welfare of Old Persons during the last four years. i.e. 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

Name of the Scheme-Integrated Programme for Older Persons

Abbreviations :

OAHs-Old Age Homes

DCCs-Day Care Centres

MMUs-Mobile Medicare Units

NISs-Non-Institutional Services

(Rs. in lakhs)

		OAHs	DCCs	MMUs	NISs	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Rajasthan									
Jaipur District									
1	Varisht Nagrik Parishad	0	1	1	0	0	0.6	0	0
2	Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan	0	5	0	0	0	0	1.35	0
(For Distt. Jaisalmer, Alwar, Nagaur, Tonk & Churu)									

Statement-II

Details of the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to non-Government organisations of Rajasthan State for the welfare of Old Persons during the last four Years i.e. 1997-98, 98-99, 99-2000 and 2000-01

Name of the Scheme - Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisation/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Organisation	Name of the Project	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	Indian Council of Social Welfare, Jaipur, Rajasthan	Construction of Old Age Home	0.00	2.50	0.00	2.5
2	Vivek Ashram Manav Kalyan Samiti, Sriganganagar, Rajasthan	-do-	0.00	5.00	0.00	0
3	Opium Deaddiction Centre Maneklao	-do-	0.00	0.00	10.00	0

[English]

Single Customs Duty

282. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a High Power Panel for single customs duty on all products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives thereof; and

(d) the time by when it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Private Placement Deal

283. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3867, dated August 17, 2001, regarding Private Placement Deals and state :

- (a) whether the said information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The required information has been sent on 26th February, 2002 to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

The news item in the Indian Express dated 26-07-2001 refers to a report from Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) regarding erosion in the value of investment made by financial institutions, mutual funds, foreign investors and overseas corporate bodies in certain companies which have mobilized capital through private placement between April and December, 2000.

The Unit Trust of India (UTI) has intimated that they have invested in one company, viz., HFCL an amount of Rs.10.5 crore at the rate of Rs.1050 per share. The price of the shares of the company was Rs.156.40 as on 30th April, 2001. While UTI has no exposure in Tips Industries, investments in Mukta Arts was done through secondary market transaction.

LIC has intimated that it has not subscribed to any of the private placements of shares cited in the report referred to in the Question. However, it had subscribed to an earlier private placement of equity through book building by HFCL on 2nd March, 2000 @ Rs. 1050/- per share aggregating to Rs. 5.25 crore. The entire holding was sold by the Corporation in the Secondary Market at a profit of Rs. 1.50 crore.

The Reserve Bank of India has advised banks to formulate investment policy with the approval of their Board of Directors which should adequately address specific risk

management aspects while processing investment proposals. Banks were also advised vide RBI circular dated June 07, 2001 (Copy available on RBI Website - rbi.org.in) that they should put in place appropriate systems to ensure that investments in privately placed unrated instrument is made in accordance with systems and procedures prescribed under such investment policy approved by the Board.

(c) Does not arise.

Banks to Cater Exclusively for Rural Development

284. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any exclusive plan to establish banks to cater to the needs of rural development and Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received or examined any proposals for setting a bank which would loan Panchayats funds for asset formation in their areas;
- (d) if so, the details of such a proposal;
- (e) whether the views of State Governments have been taken into consideration; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ATM Installation

285. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether public sector banks are going for installation of ATMs; and
- (b) if so, the action plans prepared by the each public sector bank in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Action Plan prepared by each bank is given below :

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	No. of Proposed ATMs	Date upto which to be installed
1.	State Bank of India	540	31.12.02
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	23	31.03.02
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	20	30.06.02
4.	State Bank of Indore	12	31.03.02
5.	State Bank of Mysore	15	30.06.02
6.	State Bank of Patiala	28	31.03.03
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	21	31.03.02
8.	State Bank of Travancore	51	30.09.02
9.	Allahabad Bank	50	31.03.03
10.	Andhra Bank	220	31.03.03
11.	Bank of Baroda	50	31.03.02
12.	Bank of India	76	31.03.02
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	105	31.03.02
14.	Canara Bank	46	31.03.02
15.	Central Bank of India	Under finalisation	31.03.03
16.	Corporation Bank	151	31.03.03
17.	Dena Bank	25	31.03.02
18.	Indian Bank	Under finalisation	31.03.03
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	67	31.03.02
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	40	31.05.02
21.	Punjab National Bank	84	31.03.02
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1	31.03.02
23.	Syndicate Bank	200	31.03.04
24.	UCO Bank	5	31.03.02
25.	Union Bank of India	20	31.03.02
26.	United Bank of India	50	31.03.03
27.	Vijaya Bank	8	31.03.02

Amendment in Orphanages and Charitable Homes Act, 1960

286. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the State Government of Karnataka for making any amendment in the Orphanages and Charitable homes (supervision and control) Act, 1960 to suit the present needs of the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of the amendments proposed in the Bill; and

(c) the time by which the amendments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has received a letter from the Government of Karnataka requesting for approval of the Government of India for making certain amendments to Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act, 1960. However, the details of the proposed amendments have not been furnished by the State Government.

(c) Since the cases of amendments to a Central Act are processed by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs and the Administrative Ministry concerned with the Central Act, it is not possible to indicate any time frame by which the amendments are likely to be approved.

[Translation]

Sick Central Public Sector Undertakings

287. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI J.S. BRAR :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Public Sector undertakings declared sick, referred to BIFR and closed during each of the last three years in each state;

(b) the number of employees who have been declared surplus and number out of them given VRS, PSU wise.

(c) whether number of expert committees have been constituted to review the working of sick PSUs during last three years;

(d) if so, the details of their composition, terms of reference, date of constitution, etc.;

(e) the details of their recommendations; and

(f) the action taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) As on 31.12.2001, 66 sick CPSUs are registered with BIFR. Establishments of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML), Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO), Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd. (MNPM), Bharat Process and Mechanical Engg. Ltd. (BPMEL), Weighbird (India) Ltd. (WIL), Rehabilitation Industries Corpn (RIC) and National Bicycle Corp. of India Ltd. (NBCIL), Mining & Allied Machinery Corp. Ltd. (MAMC), Cycle Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) have been closed. Tangra unit of Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL), four units of HMT and seven loss making Refractory Units (LRUs) / Fabrication Yard of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. (BSCL) have been closed. Further closure of, Indian Road Construction Corpn. (IRCC) and ET&T have also been approved by the Government. Tea Trading Corpn. of India (TTCI) has filed an application for liquidation.

(b) Manpower rationalization is an on-going exercise. During 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01, the number of employees who have opted for VRS in CPSUs were 29628, 43760 and 45625 respectively.

(c) to (f) As per the information available, an Expert Group under Shri H.C. Gandhi, former CMD of BYNL, was constituted in April, 99 to explore the possibility of revival of nine sick PSUs under Department of Heavy Industry, namely Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd. (MAMC), Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO), Weighbird India Ltd. (WIL), Bharat Process & Mechanical Engineers Ltd. (BPMEL), National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd. (NBCIL), Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. (RIC), Tangra Unit of Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL), Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL) and National Instruments Ltd. (NIL).

In case of first seven CPSUs, the Expert Group concluded that there were no reasonable prospects of revival and these CPSUs have since been closed. As for the remaining two are concerned, the BIFR have sanctioned the revival plan of NIL which is under implementation. In case of BOGL recommendation of BIFR, a quasi-judicial body, are awaited.

[English]

Trade Treaties with Neighbouring Countries

288. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed or propose to review the trade treaties with neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; country-wise;

(c) whether several rounds of talks were held with these countries before reviewing the treaties;

(d) if so, the specific changes sought by Indian Government in the existing treaties particularly in case of Indo-Nepal trade treaty;

(e) the reaction of these countries;

(f) whether issue of dumping and smuggling of goods from these countries into India has also been discussed before reviewing the treaties; and

(g) if so, the details of new treaties signed by our Government with neighbouring countries and the specific clauses incorporated in the treaties to protect the Indian industries from adverse impact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (g) Among the neighbouring countries, India has bilateral trade agreements / treaties, with all countries, (except Pakistan,) namely; China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Only the Treaty of Trade between India and Nepal is being reviewed. Discussions are in progress between the concerned authorities of India and Nepal to resolve certain issues that have emerged during the implementation of the India-Nepal Treaty of Trade, as modified in December, 1996, prior to the extension of its validity. A limited extension of the Treaty for a period of three months from December 5, 2001, has been agreed to enable the negotiations to the Treaty to be concluded.

[Translation]

Implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme

289. Dr. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the industrial units under his Ministry where the Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been implemented;

(b) the year of recruitment of the personnel on whom the VRS is being implemented and the manner in which the retirement dues are being paid to them;

(c) whether the personnel opting for the VRS are also being given pension facility; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The Voluntary Retirement Scheme under the erstwhile National Renewal Fund was extended only to Central Public Sector Undertakings. There are no public sector industrial units under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Export of Handicraft Goods

290. YOGI ADITYA NATH :

SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the value of handicraft goods exported during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been steady decline in the export of handicrafts goods during the current year;

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

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to boost the export of handicraft goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The value of handicrafts goods including hand knotted carpets exported during the last three years is as under :

Year	Exports
1998-99	Rs.7072.34 crores
1999-2000	Rs.8059.63 crores
2000-2001	Rs.9270.50 crores

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The main reason for the decline is attributed to the recessionary trend prevalent in the world market; Fast change in buying trend by the buyers resulting in unpredictable market, slow down in U.S.A. and European economy and higher rate of interest on export credit as compared to other competing countries.

(d) The steps taken to boost export of handicrafts, include: organisation of buyer - seller's meet; overseas publicity; organisation of workshops on design developments, export marketing and packaging etc.; participation in various international fairs; sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fairs (Autumn and Spring) and Indian Carpet Expo by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and Carpet Export Promotion council respectively, annually in New Delhi and setting up of India Exposition mart at Greater Noida etc.

[English]

Manufacture of Agro Equipment

291. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of public sector undertakings engaged in the manufacturing of agro equipment alongwith details of these equipment;

(b) whether the Government propose to encourage entry of private sector companies in manufacture of agro equipment;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) As per Public Enterprises Survey 1999-2000, which was laid in Lok Sabha on 27.2.2001 and is a published document, there is no Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) exclusively involved in the manufacturing of agro equipment. However, some of the CPSUs such as HMT Limited, Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Limited, Goa Shipyard Limited, Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited

etc. are involved in manufacturing of equipments like tractors, food processing machinery, dairy equipment, agro electronics equipment, fishing vessels, fishing trawlers etc. alongwith other items of different use.

(b) to (d) There is no reservation for public sector in agro equipment.

[Translation]

Identification of BPL Families

292. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

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

(a) whether keeping in view the cases of starvation deaths in six States despite availability of adequate stock of foodgrains in the country, the Honourable Supreme Court had directed sixteen States to identify the people living below the poverty line and submit a report to this effect within two weeks;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have complied with the directive of the Honourable Supreme Court;

(c) the efforts made by the Union Government at the Central level alongwith the details thereof;

(d) whether the benefits of Antyodaya Yojana have failed to percolate to the targeted poorest of the poor in various States particularly in Delhi during the last year;

(e) If so, the reasons thereof;

(f) whether any corrective steps have been initiated in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Supreme Court in its interim order dated 3.9.2001 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 196 of 2001 noted that 16 States and Union Territories namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Goa, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttaranchal,

West Bengal, Chandigarh, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry have not as yet identified the families under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). The Apex Court directed these States/UTs to comply with the Central Government's directions within two weeks. In a subsequent interim order dated 28.11.2001, the States were directed to complete the identification of BPL and Antyodaya families by 31.12.2001. All States have since reported identification of BPL and Antyodaya families.

(d) to (g) No, Sir. Since proper identification of Antyodaya beneficiaries is a crucial element in the success of the scheme, considerable time has been taken by some States including Delhi in making elaborate arrangements for proper identification of beneficiaries under the scheme. The State Government of Delhi has identified 32,000 families under AAY and allocation of foodgrains has commenced from January, 2002.

Indo-French Trade Agreement

293. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

DR. ASHOK PATEL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and France to explore the potential of bilateral trade and investment between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the date from which the said agreement would become effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) The 11th Session of the Indo-French Joint Committee was held in New Delhi on 5th December, 2001. According to the Joint Statement issued at the end of the meeting, the two sides held discussions on ways and means of stepping up bilateral cooperation in sectors such as mineral exploration & development, agriculture, energy, information technology, telecommunications, urban development, biotechnology, financial cooperation, etc.

[English]

Bank Loans for Industrial Sector

294. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of investment made by public sector banks and financial institutions for the development of industries during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any specific action plan to liberalise conditions for granting loans by these banks and financial institutions to industries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the available information will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Textile Projects Relating to Rajasthan

295. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the textile sector projects which were finalized and implemented in Rajasthan during each of the last three years; and

(b) the textile projects relating to Rajasthan which are pending with the Union Government at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Textile sector projects and schemes in the state of Rajasthan relate to the development of handloom, handicrafts, wool, cotton and powerlooms, etc. Grants are released to the State Government of Rajasthan, NGOs/Boards etc. by the concerned offices under the Ministry of Textiles for carrying out the projects. Details of the schemes/ projects and grants released during the last three years as also the details of requests pending are given in the enclosed statement-I, II, III and IV respectively.

Statement-I

Handloom Sector

Details of the funds released to the State of Rajasthan are as follows :-

Name of the Scheme	(Rs. in lakh)		
	Amount released		
	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4
Wokshed-cum-Housing Scheme	-	92.24	-
Project Package Scheme	34.05	92.99	-
Health Package Scheme	-	5.00	-
Thrift Fund Scheme	-	1.00	-
New Insurance Scheme	1.68	1.36	2.56
Marketing Development Assistance Scheme	8.02	11.99	37.63

1	2	3	4
Janata Cloth Scheme	2.27	6.93	0.05
Publicity & Exhibitions	21.75	2.77	22.00

In addition to the above, under the Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme an amount of Rs. 34.00 lakh has also been sanctioned during 1999-2000 to the Handloom Export Promotion Council for setting up a Handloom Centre at Kaithoon in Rajasthan for comprehensive export production and marketing. Out of Rs. 34.00 lakh, an amount of Rs. 13.00 lakh has been released to the Council for working on the project.

Statement-II

Handicraft Sector

The following projects in the Ambedkar Hastashilpa Vikas Yojana for integrated development of craft cluster in the State of Rajasthan were sanctioned during the last three years :

Sl. No.	Name to whom the projects were Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s SURE, Barmer	Rs. 1,31,800.00	Rs. 65,900.00
2.	M/s Sewa Mandir, Udaipur	Rs. 1,50,000.00	Rs. 75,000.00
3.	M/s Indian Institute of Rural Development, Jaipur	Rs. 1,00,000.00	Rs. 50,000.00

Statement-III

Wool Sector

Ongoing Schemes/ Projects of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur Implemented in Rajasthan State.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	Name of Implementing Agency	Project Area/ Centre/ No. of Machine	Total grant released (Rs. in lakhs)	% of Utilization of funds	Grant for which U.C. is pending	Initial Year of grant released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Machine Shearing -cum- Training Project	-do-	13 Machines	4.68	Nil	04.68	1999-00
Industrial Service Centre	Institute of Crafts & Design, Jaipur	Jaipur	48.82	96%	48.82	1998-99
Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Programme	Animal Husbandry Deptt. Govt. of Rajasthan	Didwana (Nagaur)	20.00	96%	0.82	1997-98
-do-	-do-	Pachpadra (Barmer)	20.77	68%	06.61	1997-98
-do-	-do-	Balotra (Barmer)	22.80	70%	06.76	1997-98

1	2	3	4
4.	M/s Rajasthan Small Industries Cooperation, Jaipur	Rs. 6,73,000.00	Rs. 3,36,500.00
5.	Social Work Research Centre, Ajmer	Rs. 65,000.00	Rs. 32,500.00

Besides these the following projects have also been sanctioned for implementation in the State of Rajasthan :

- (i) Setting up of Wood Searching Plan (WSP) and Common Facility Centre (CFC) at Jodhpur with assistance from UNDP at a cost of Rs. 21.15 lakhs and Rs. 25.48 lakhs respectively;
- (ii) Construction of 59 units of workshop-cum-housing and 61 workshop at Ajmer and Alwar respectively at a cost of Rs. 6.43 lakhs;
- (iii) Setting up of a Craft Development Center at Udaipur, Kota, Makasara, Tilonia, Barmer, Baiju and Jaipur at a cost of Rs 7.01 lakhs each.

In addition to above in principle approval has been given to the Government of Rajasthan for setting up of Urban Haats at Jaipur and Jodhpur.

A project proposal towards up gradation of Indian Institute of Craft and Design is under process for approval.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
-do	-do	Pipar (Jodhpur)	41.74	71%	12.08	1997-98
-do	-do	Raniwara (Jalore)	20.62	65%	07.10	1996-97
-do	-do	Sirohi (Sirohi)	40.77	69%	12.61	1996-97
-do	-do	Luni (Jodhpur)	42.72	72%	12.09	1997-98
-do	-do	Mertacity (Nagaur)	19.05	87%	02.45	1998-99
-do	-do	Pindwara (Sirohi)	19.24	67%	06.21	1998-99
-do	-do	Pali (Pali)	18.80	54%	08.52	1998-99
-do	-do	Devikot (Jaisalmer)	18.95	67%	06.16	1998-99
-do	-do	Jaisalmer (Jaisalmer)	18.71	68%	05.97	1998-99
-do	-do	Sumerpur	21.21	77%	04.79	1997-98
-do	-do	Balesar (Jodhpur)	19.09	73%	05.06	1998-99
-do	-do	Siwana (Barmer)	19.39	73%	05.17	1998-99
-do	-do	Pugal (Bikaner)	10.80	84%	01.75	1999-00
-do	-do	Loonkarsar (BKN)	10.80	60%	04.27	1999-00
-do	-do	Mahajan (Bikaner)	10.80	70%	03.25	1999-00
-do	-do	Bikaner	10.80	83%	01.80	1999-00
-do	-do	Satasar (Bikaner)	10.80	84%	01.75	1999-00
-do	-do	Bajju & Gajner	10.80	81%	02.07	1999-00
-do	-do	Jasasar (Bikaner)	10.80	74%	02.79	1999-00
-do	-do	Napasar (Bikaner)	19.27	82%	03.55	1999-00
-do	-do	Nokha (Bikaner)	18.64	84%	03.05	1999-00
-do	-do	Mandore (Jodhpur)	05.00	55%	02.25	2000-01
-do	-do	Raipur (Pali)	05.00	38%	03.10	2000-01
-do	-do	Rani (Pali)	05.00	37%	03.16	2000-01
Total Allotment of Funds under ISWDP			492.37	73%	135.14	
Grand Total			543.87	66%	186.69	

Following two new projects have been received recently :-

- i) Market linked Sheep Rearing Activity in Bikaner & Churu District of Rajasthan.

Project Cost - Rs. 720 lakhs.

- ii) Project for Breed Improvement in Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Barmer Districts of Rajasthan.

Project Cost - Rs. 360.61 lakhs.

Statement-IV**Cotton Sector**

To improve the availability of cotton at reasonable prices, the Government has launched Technology Mission for Cotton in the country during 1999-2000 for a period of five years. In Rajasthan, seven market yards have been taken up for improvement/activation

Powerloom Sector

Following developmental schemes are operational in the state of Rajasthan :

(i) To provide training, consultancy, design development support, textile testing and information about the latest technology in weaving etc., Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) have been set up by the Government in the Country, of which 3 PSCs are in the State of Rajasthan.

(ii) Government has taken up a programme of setting up of CAD Centres to provide design development and support to powerloom sector. One such Centre has already been set up in the State of Rajasthan.

(iii) Under the scheme of setting up/upgradation/modernization/ strengthening of laboratories launched from 1995-96, two PSC testing laboratories in the State of Rajasthan have already been upgraded.

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

To facilitate the modernization and upgradation of textile sector, the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years i.e. up to 31.03.2004. Progress of the TUFS in the State of Rajasthan as on 31.12.2001 is given below .

No. of Applications Received	Total Cost of Project	Sanctioned		Disbursed	
		No. of Applications	Amount	No. of Applications	Amount
167	1246.97	115	373.53	97	263.83

External Assistance to Drought hit States

296. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided by the World Bank and other international financial institutions to Rajasthan and other drought hit States during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, State-wise;

(b) whether the said amount has been fully utilised;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken for optimum utilisation of such funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The details of financial assistance provided for externally aided projects in different Sectors by the World Bank and other international financial institutions to Rajasthan and other States which reported drought like situations during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given in the annexed Statement.

(b) to (e) The external assistance is received on reimbursement basis. The Project implementing agencies have to incur the expenditure and apply for reimbursement thereafter. Details of financial assistance utilized have been provided in the annexed Statement.

Statement**Details of Financial Assistance for Externally Aided Projects**

(Rs. in Crores)

2000-2001

Name of the Drought Hit States	Financial Assistance from							
	World Bank							
	ADB	IFAD	IBRD	IDA	OPEC	UNDP	UNFPA	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rajasthan	1.368		82.495	47.968				131.83
Gujarat	250.059		153.402					403.46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Himachal Pradesh					11.875			11.88
Madhya Pradesh				16.303	17.426			33.73
Maharashtra		25.272	79.44					104.71
Orissa			228.516	146.729	3.884			379.13

Note : Besides there are Multistate Projects in which Drought Hit States, including Chhattisgarh, J&K, Uttranchal, are also participating.

2000-2002 (as on 31.12.2001)

Name of the Drought Hit States	Financial Assistance from World Bank							Total
	ADB	IFAD	IBRD	IDA	OPEC	UNDP	UNFPA	
Rajasthan	4.259		0.14	18.22				22.62
Andhra Pradesh		15.156	434.827	195.674		0.675		646.33
Karnataka	38.826		432.566	371.93	3.41			846.73
Madhya Pradesh				1.365	7.908			9.27
Maharashtra		19.543	55.067				3.864	78.47

Note : Besides above, there are Multistate Projects in which Drought Hit States, including Bihar, are also participating.

[English]

Import of Edible Oil at Karwar Port

297. SHRI R.S.PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to recent notice of his Ministry dated 2.5.2001 and 8.5.2001 only some ports have been permitted to import certain items including edible oil;

(b) whether not a single minor ports under the jurisdiction of Karnataka Government has been included in the list mentioned above even though the State has several ports like Karwar Port, Mangalore Port. etc;

(c) If so, whether the Karnataka Government has urged the Union Government to include "Karwar all weather Port" in the list of ports allowed to import edible oil; and

(d) If so, the decision of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY):
(a) to (d) Port restrictions on 300 sensitive items, including

edible oils, were imposed vide notification no. 11 (RE-2001)/97-2002 dated 2.5.2001 and vide notification no. 12(RE-2001)/97-2002 dated 8.5.2001. These restrictions were introduced for the purpose of expeditious collection of import data, subsequent to removal of import restrictions. However, after taking into consideration the inconvenience caused, these restrictions were withdrawn vide notification no. 13 (RE-2001)/97-2002 dated 21.5.2001.

Funds for the Welfare of Disabled

298. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has not been able to properly utilize the entire funds sanctioned for welfare of the disabled persons during the last year and the current year, till date;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the unutilized funds have been diverted for other purposes;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to ensure that the entire funds sanctioned for the

above purpose are properly utilized during the current financial year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (e) During 2000-2001, the Ministry utilized 94% of the allocation under Budget Estimates of Disability Sector and 95% of the Revised Estimates. In the current year, 88% of the Budget Estimates allocation has been utilized upto 26th February, 2002 and the balance funds are expected to be fully utilized.

The shortfall in utilization of funds in 2000-01 was on account of the slow pace of execution of some new schemes/programmes. Reappropriation of savings from one head to another is done as and when such a need arises. The Ministry is also regularly monitoring the progress of various schemes to ensure that the allocation is fully utilized.

Lack of Paddy Procurement

299. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

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

(a) whether the State Governments of Orissa and Bihar have complained about lack of procurement of rice/paddy by FCI during the last Kharif and Rabi season;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated remedial steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons thereto along with the quantity of paddy/rice procured in both the States till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Government of Bihar vide letters dated 27.11.2000 and 9.12.2000 requested for increase in the number of purchase centers for procurement of paddy, for relaxation in the specifications, as the paddy crop has been affected by excessive rains and floods during Kharif Marketing Season 2000-01. The Union Government increased the number of purchase centers from 30 to 40, and relaxed the paddy specifications in respect of damaged,

discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains up to a maximum limit of 6% as against 3% provided in the uniform specifications. The out turn ratio for custom milling of paddy of relaxed standard was reduced to 64% for raw and 65% for par boiled rice as against 67% for raw and 68% for parboiled rice.

Government of Orissa through its letters dated 25.4.2001 and 9.5.2001 pointed out that there were cases of distress sale of paddy and the FCI was pleading their inability to procure further stocks on the ground of shortage of storage space. The State Government also requested to depute Managing Director, FCI to make on the spot assessment of the preparedness and arrangements of FCI to handle Rabi procurement.

As a special drive, FCI had hired 80,000 tonnes storage capacity from SWC and private parties in Orissa exclusively for the purpose of local procurement, and the problem of shortage of storage space was sorted out. Chairman, FCI visited Bhubaneswar from 12th to 14th June, 2001 and discussed the situation of paddy procurement with the Chief Minister, Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, Chief Secretary and other officers of the State Government. As on 26.2.2002, FCI procured a quantity of 4.66 lakh tonnes of rice in Orissa as against 3.81 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year. In Bihar, as on 26.2.2002, a quantity of 8994 tonnes of paddy has been procured as against 6352 tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year.

World Economic Forum

300. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian delegation led by Union Finance Minister participated in Global Economic Outlook Session at the World Economic Forum in New York;

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

(c) the detailed discussion held with the points raised by Indian delegation; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Union Finance Minister Shri Yashwant Sinha was part of a plenary session on the global economic outlook at the World Economic Forum in New York on February 2, 2002. The Finance Minister was the sole developing country representative on the panel. The other panelists were: Kenneth W Dam (Deputy Secretary of the US Treasury), Laurent Fabius (French Finance Minister), Horst Kohler (Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund), Heizo Takenaka (Japanese Minister for Economic and Fiscal Policy) and Paul Krugman (Professor of Economics at Yale University).

(c) and (d) During the deliberations, the Finance Minister referred to two aspects of the global economic slowdown and the Indian response to them. First, he emphasised the need for coordinated global responses given the correlations between the downturn in GDP growth across most countries of the world. Second, he reflected upon the disproportionate impact of global slowdown on income and human welfare in the Third World and urged the developed world to improve market access for developing country exports. He referred to the difficulties being faced by Indian steel exports due to protectionist measures and the problems faced by Indian agricultural exports due to agricultural subsidies in advanced countries. The Finance Minister's views were strongly supported by Horst Kohler (Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund).

Production Growth of Core Sectors

301. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

Core sector	Unit	Target (Jan '02)	Actual (Jan '02)	Target (April-January 2001-02)	Actual (April-January 2001-02)
Electricity	BU	47.58	44.4	448.64	427.69
Coal	MT	32.17	32.10	260.23	258.5
Finished Steel	MT	2.99	2.73	29.70	25.47
Crude Petroleum	MT	2.75	2.78	27.41	26.79
Petroleum Refinery Products	MT	9.82 **	8.73 *	95.39 **	83.33 *
Cement	MT	9.80	9.26	85.40	88.17

** total production

*refinery throughput

(c) The overall economic slowdown, low investment in infrastructure sector, shortage of power due to shortfall in creation of new capacities, and lack of demand especially in the case of steel are some of the main reasons for declining production in these six industries. The growth rates in these sectors in comparison to the corresponding period of last year are given below :

(a) whether production of six core sector industries has shown steep decline during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details of targets and actual production of these core sector industries during the above period, month-wise and sector-wise;

(c) the reasons for decline in the growth rate of these sectors along with the extent to which it has declined as compared to corresponding period last year;

(d) whether annual targeted growth rate of the country is likely to be affected as a result of present position of core sector industries; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to boost the growth rate of core sector industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) As per the latest data available for January 2002, the overall growth rate for six core sectors namely, Electricity, Coal, Finished steel, Crude petroleum, Petroleum refinery products, and Cement has been 5.9% as against 1.6% achieved during January 2001. The overall cumulative growth rate achieved by these six sectors, during April-January 2001-02, has been 2.5% as against 6.3% registered during the corresponding period of last year. The target and actual production for these six sectors are mentioned below :

Sector	April-Jan '00-01	April-Jan '01-02
Electricity	4.6	2.9
Crude Petroleum	1.4	-1.8
Petroleum Refinery Products	23.7	4.9
Cement	0.4	7.5
Finished Steel	8.2	1.1
Coal	4.9	3.7

(d) The overall GDP growth rate of the economy is affected by the growth rates of all major sectors, namely, Agriculture, Industry, and Service sectors. Since weight of these six sectors in the overall Index of Industrial Production is small, the decline in production in these sectors will have a correspondingly small impact on the overall GDP growth rate.

(e) The government has taken the following initiatives to improve performance of these sectors :

- Launch of PMs mega Road projects, which will boost demand for cement and steel industries.
- The Government has announced guidelines for allowing 100% FDI in the development of integrated townships and regional urban infrastructure. This is expected to boost housing/ real estate sector and also boost production in cement and steel sectors.
- Rationalisation of Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) rates for steel exports has been carried out to boost exports.
- Government is providing infrastructural support to cement industry to maximize cement production. Rail wagons are provided to cement plants on priority basis to supply cement to deficit areas.
- Tax holiday for infrastructure development and tax incentives for housing sector have been announced.
- The Government has signed MOU with States to reform SEBs, and initiated steps, which include time bound programme for installation of 100% metering, energy audit at all levels, specific programmes for reduction and eventual elimination of power theft.
- Government is taking steps to increase the domestic production of crude oil by offering blocks under the new exploration licensing policy.
- Administered Price Mechanism (APM) for petroleum products is to be phased out by March 2002.

Supply of Wheat to Afghanistan

302. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

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

(a) the quantity of wheat so far supplied to Afghanistan by India and the terms of conditions of supply;

(b) whether the quality of the wheat supplied was poor;

(c) whether any complaint was received in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Indian Government propose to take up the matter with World Food Programme Organisation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The Government has committed to offer humanitarian assistance including provision of 10 lakh MTs of wheat to internally and externally displaced Afghans and others in need. The Government is in touch with various UN agencies including the World Food Programme, to work out the modalities for sending the above assistance.

(b) to (f) No wheat has been supplied so far.

Loan to Gujarat

303. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance given by NABARD and All India Financial Institution to Gujarat during 2001;

(b) whether this assistance is very low as compared to other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Regional Rural Banks

304. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the state-wise names of Regional Rural Banks operating in the country at present;

(b) the performance of these banks during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to open more such banks;

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

(e) the state-wise number of applications for opening of such banks pending with the Government; and

(f) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken on the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Safety of Deposits in Cooperative Banks

305. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are some laws under which the ordinary depositors' deposits in the cooperative banks are safe;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to frame laws to protect the interest of ordinary depositors; and

(d) if so, the time by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that deposits of the Co-operative Banks are insured by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd. (DICGC). Under the scheme, in the event of liquidation, reconstruction or amalgamation of an insured bank, every depositor of that bank is entitled to repayment of his deposits subject to a maximum of rupee one lakh as per Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act. Government also intends making appropriate legislative changes shortly to strengthen the scheme.

Export of Sugar

306. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

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

(a) whether sugar exports have suffered as its export declined during the last six months;

(b) if so, whether the main cause is the cost of production being over Rs. 13,500 per tonne and the export price are less;

(c) if so, whether a large quantity of sugar stock are at present in the country and there is no market for its export;

(d) if so, the details thereof till date alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) As per the trade circles, during the last six month i.e. August 2001 to January 2002, a quantity of about 6,53,969.50 MTs (Provisional) has been exported as against the quantity of 6,44,518.5 MTs (provisional) exported during the preceding six months i.e. from February 2001 to July 2001. Thus the export of sugar has not declined in the preceding six months.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) With the carryover stock of about 103.11 lakh tonnes (Provisional) at the beginning of 2001-2002 sugar season and the production of about 175 lakh tonnes, the total availability of sugar during the season 2001-2002 would be 278.11 lakh tonnes (provisional) as against the consumption of 170.00 lakhs tonnes (provisional) and export of about 15.00 lakh tonnes anticipated during 2001-2002. Thus, the closing stock would be around 93.11 lakh tonnes (provisional) at the end of season 2001-2002. Therefore, the stocks of sugar at the close of the season, 2001-2002 are expected to be less than the stocks at the end of the preceding season.

(e) In order to boost export of sugar from India, the Government has taken the following measures :-

(i) The quantitative restriction on export of sugar fixed earlier has been removed.

(ii) Government has dispensed with the registration requirement for export of sugar with APEDA.

(iii) The sugar meant for export has been exempted from the levy obligation.

(iv) The quantity of sugar released for export is treated as advance free sale release to be adjusted in the

free sale stocks of the sugar factories after a period of 18 months.

(v) The levy exemption on the quantity meant of commercial export of sugar, if it can not be claimed by the sugar factories out of the sugar season from which the sugar is released to them due to completion of their levy obligation, the same can be availed by the concerned sugar factories from their production of next sugar season.

(vi) DEPB at the rate of 5% of the F.O.B. value of export of sugar has been allowed.

(vii) Hitherto only mill white sugar was being exported. It has been clarified that in addition to mill white sugar the sugar mills/exporters can also export raw sugar under the present EXIM policy.

In addition, Government has decided to undertake legislation to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 to enable it, inter-alia, to utilize the Sugar Development Fund for defraying expenditure on internal transport and freight charges to the sugar factories on export shipments of sugar.

Essential Commodities Act, 1955

307. SHRI Y.V. RAO :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

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

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to take some items like wheat, rice, sugar out of the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and allow their free movement within the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether sugar mills will not be required to supply sugar to the Government for Public Distribution System; and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government to supply sugar under the Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Government has not taken any decision to take the items like wheat, rice, sugar out of the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. However, the Central Government has issued an Order under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 allowing dealers to freely buy, stock, sell, transport,

distribute etc. any quantity in respect of wheat, paddy/rice, coarse grains, sugar edible oilseeds and edible oils. The Order will take effect after thirty days from the date of its issue (15.2.2002) notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Order made by a State Government before the commencement of this Order except as respects anything done, or omitted to be done, thereunder before such commencement.

(c) and (d) Sugar mills continue to supply levy sugar requisitioned by the Central Government for Public Distribution System.

Development of Textile Industry

308. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had set up a committee in regard to investment and development of textile industry;

(b) if so, whether the said committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken any follow up action on this report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes Sir. A Steering Group on Investment and Growth in Textile Industry has been constituted under the chairmanship of Shri N.K. Singh, Member, Planning Commission.

(b) to (e) The Group has submitted its interim report which relates to the terms of reference of the Committee regarding the evolution of a growth oriented fiscal policy for integrated development of the textile industry covering all its segments. The recommendations/suggestions of the Steering Group have been taken into consideration in making proposals for consideration of the Ministry of Finance for the budget of 2002-2003.

Smuggling of Goods

309. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value and details of smuggled goods confiscated during the current year, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection and action taken against them; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the smuggling activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Observation Made by C&AG on MODVAT

310. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether C&AG in their report 11 of 2001 pages 23 to 32 has pointed out repeatedly of the delay in raising demands, or not raising them at all and grant of MODVAT and non recovery of hundreds of crores of rupees and for not fixing accountability and responsibility of officials thereby causing huge financial loss to the State;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Reply of Ministry on the points raised by C&AG is mentioned in the C&AG's Report. In general, whenever wrong avallment of benefit is noticed, necessary action is taken as per the relevant legal provisions to safeguard the revenue. Further, legal provisions are reviewed from time to time to ensure against misuse or unintended benefit.

Scrutiny and Summary of Income Tax Assessment

311. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether completion of scrutiny and summary of income tax assessments was sharply lower in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as compared to 1997-98;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the same;

(c) whether total assessments of these financial years, were 46.41 per cent, 52.4 per cent and 60 per cent respectively of the total due for disposal as compared to 81.35 per cent in 1997-98; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Income Tax Department undertook a large scale computerisation programme and main emphasis during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 was given to allotment of Permanent Account Number to all the assesseees and as such the disposal of both scrutiny as well as summary cases came down during the above said period.

(c) Yes.

(d) The process of disposal of pending cases is underway as per the time limit prescribed in the Income Tax Act, 1961, and the rate of disposal of such assessment is likely to improve further.

Procurement and Supply of Sub-Standard Rice

312. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "16 FCI men suspended" appearing in 'Times of India', dated 24th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated steps against the officials found guilty and have also taken steps to stop recurrence of such incidents in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.**

(b) to (d) Upon receipt of complaints regarding disposal of rice procured under relaxed specifications during 1998-99 (URS rice) despatched from Mansa, Talwandibhai, Barnala, Raman, Muktsar and Faridkot depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Punjab region to Mumbai for disposal through tender sale in the month of September, 2001 an officer of the Ministry was deputed to Mumbai to inspect the said stocks. Another squad was also deputed by the FCI, for follow-up action. As per the reports of these two squads, it was established that URS rice despatched from Punjab to Mumbai region was Beyond Rejection Limit (BRL). On receipt of the reports, the FCI has placed 16 Category-II and III officials (6 Assistant Managers and 10 Technical Assistants) under suspension and shifted their Head Quarter out of Punjab region.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export / Purchase of Cotton by CCI

313. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of cotton procured by the cotton corporation of India from various cotton producing states during the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the total quantum of cotton exported as compared to procurement made by the cotton corporation of India during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) State-wise purchase of cotton by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) during the current cotton year 2001-02 (Oct.-Sept.) is as under :

State	Quantity (in bales of 170 kg. each) (upto 22.02.2002)
1	2
Punjab	12,570
Haryana	9,963
Rajasthan	59,829
Gujarat	2,04,902

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	80,290
Andhra Pradesh	3,53,587
Karnataka	16,640
Orissa	13,855
West Bengal	441
Tamil Nadu	200
Total	7,52,277

(b) Cotton Procured and exported by the CCI during last three years are as under :

(in bales of 170 kg. each)

Year (Oct.-Sept.)	Cotton Procured	Cotton Exported
1998-99	4,29,602	13,352
1999-2000	5,08,072	6,574
2000-01	6,02,291	5,913

[English]

Money Exchange Rules

314. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has lately revised and relaxed money exchanging rules; and

(b) if so, the purpose and other details of the changes made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) RBI have revised the following money exchanging rules :

1. Full Fledged Money Changes (FFMCs)

- Since money changing is a fund based activity and with a view to ensuring that only credible players enter the field, Net Own Funds (NOF) for the FFMCs having multiple branches has been raised to Rs. 50 lakhs. A two year period will be allowed to the existing FFMCs for augmenting their NOF.
- Earlier, Travellers Cheques (TCs) stocking arrangement with any TC issuing organization was a pre-condition for the issue of FFMC licence.

This condition is withdrawn in order to improve the encashment facilities available in the country.

2. **Restricted Money Changers (RMCs)**

Earlier, RMC licences were issued by Reserve Bank of India. Under the new Scheme announced by the Reserve Bank, Authorized Dealers and FFCs have been accorded the freedom to enter into agency/franchising agreements for the purposes of carrying on RMC business, i.e., conversion of foreign currency notes or travellers cheques into rupees. Resident entities wishing to undertake restricted money changing would no longer be required to obtain RBI licence.

Exports to USA

315. **SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI** : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether exports to USA have come down from \$1282.82 million to \$97 million, a decline of 24.24 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the imports of textile goods have registered an alarming growth of 28.03 percent during the first half of current fiscal year while exports declined by 13 percent;

(d) if so, the reasons for the growth in imports and decline in export in textile goods; and

(e) the steps taken to overcome the causes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per latest available DGCI&S data, textile exports to USA during the period April-October 2001 amounted to US\$ 4817.0 million as compared export of US\$ 5745.0 million during the corresponding period of 2000. The decline in export may be attributed mainly to general slowdown in the US economy and September 2001 events.

(c) and (d) The value of textiles exports and imports during the period April-September 2001 are given below :-

(In US\$ Million)

	April-September 2000	April-September 2001	% age decrease / increase of 2001-02 over 2000-01
Textile Exports	6237.1	5346.5	-14.3%
Textile Imports	666.7	813.6	22.0%

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.

Though the textile imports have shown an increase, the total quantity imported is not significant. It is less than even 1% of our domestic consumption.

In the atmosphere of liberalisation, the imports are governed by market forces subject to export-import policy in force from time to time. The liberalized trading regime would result in increased international trade in textiles thus providing greater export opportunities; and at the same time expose the domestic industry to import penetration in the domestic market. The industry will have to improve its efficiency and productivity to meet the emerging global competition.

(e) In order to face the challenges of changing global scenario in textiles and to encourage investments for modernisation and up gradation of the textile industry, Government have taken a number of measures, which include :-

(1) Large additional quantities are being opened for

most of the categories under the FCFS/RGE systems of the Quota Policies with a view to providing quotas to the garment and textile exporters on a continuous basis.

(2) In order to reduce transaction costs and time of the exporters, EMD/BG amounts were reduced during year 2001, for certain categories and the date for utilising quotas were extended. Further, the LC condition under the FCFS system was also waived for all such categories which have quantities left over for the rest of the year.

(3) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalised.

Besides, a "Textile Package" was announced in the Budget 2001-02 to strengthen domestic textile industry for meeting the growing global competition. Some of the important provisions of the "Textile Package" are :-

- i) Excise duty structure on textile items has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition.
- ii) Custom duty has been reduced from 15% to 5% on 159 specified textiles and garment machineries. In addition, 12 important items of machineries including shuttleless looms have also been exempted from countervailing duty. A programme has been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- iii) Assistance under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) providing for a reimbursement of 5% out of interest is available to textile industry for modernisation and upgradation. In addition, rate of depreciation allowance for machinery under TUFS has been raised to 50%.
- iv) A provision of Rs.10 crores has been earmarked in the Budget 2001-02 for establishment of Apparel Parks for export of garments. Besides a provision of Rs.10 crores has been made for the Scheme for improvement of critical infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.

Wages to Workers of NJMC, Kolkata

316. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether more than 30,000 jute workers are still employed in NJMC Kolkata;
- (b) whether workers have not been receiving their wages for last several months;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to arrange the payments of their wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The average complement of workers in National Jute Manufacturers Corporation (NJMC) is 18045 of which 10075 are permanent workers.

(b) to (d) NJMC is not able to generate adequate cash surpluses to pay salary and wages. Government have been providing assistance by way of loan to NJMC. Government have so far provided a loan of Rs. 80.00 Crores during the year 2001-02 to NJMC for meeting the shortfall in salary and wages. Till date NJMC has paid salaries and wages to the workers upto November, 2001.

[Translation]

Capital of Nationalised Banks

317. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total capital of the nationalised banks at the time of their nationalisation alongwith their present total capital; and
- (b) the details in regard to the total unclaimed capital of the nationalised banks as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The total capital of the 19 nationalised banks at the time of their nationalisation was Rs. 38.37 crores. The present capital of these banks as on 31st March, 2001 was Rs. 13,511.28 crores.

- (b) As on date there is no unclaimed capital of the nationalised banks.

[English]

UNIT-64 SCHEME

318. DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of steps taken by the Government to make US-64 schemes of UTI once again attractive and reliable;
- (b) whether the investors are disappointed owing to decrease in NAV of US-64; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to restore old reputation of the scheme and for protecting the interest of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Government announced a financial package for US-64 on 28.12.2001, under which UTI will be compensated by the Government for the deficit, if any, between the NAV and applicable repurchase prices, in respect of (i) the limited repurchase facility, announced on July 15, 2001 upto 3000 units which has been raised to 5,000 units per unit holders, and (ii) for remaining holdings in US-64, if any, UTI has assured a repurchase price of Rs. 10 per unit, or Net Asset Value (NAV) whichever is higher on May 31, 2003. In the intervening period

from January 01, 2002 to May 30, 2003, redemption beyond 5000 units per existing investor as on June 30, 2001 will be at NAV. As a part of the financial package, UTI has been asked to implement time bound reforms based on the recommendations of the expert committees.

The US-64 scheme has been re-opened for fresh sale and repurchase at NAV-based prices with effect from 1st January, 2002. The NAV of US-64 as on 31st January 2002 was Rs. 6.00 and on 25th February 2002, it appreciated by 62 paise. Sale of NAV based units under US-64 from January 1, 2002 to February 20, 2002 aggregated to Rs. 63.85 crores.

Decline in Import

319. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether imports have registered a decline of about 12 percent from April to August, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the items in which decline has been registered; and

(d) the extent to which the foreign exchange has been saved and domestic producers benefited by this declining trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir. As per the available data from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, imports during April-August, 2001-2002 are valued at US \$ 21.74 billion registering a growth of 2.46% over the corresponding period of last year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the data available from DGCI&S, the major sectors registering decline in the import during April-August, 2001-2002, are given below :-

(In US \$ Million)

Major Sector	April-Aug. 2000-01 (1)	April-Aug. 2001-02 (2)	% Growth (2) over (1)
Petroleum crude & Products	6902.87	6482.90	-6.08
Cereals & Preparations	11.49	8.23	-28.41
Fertilizers	347.09	298.50	-14.00
Pearls, Precious & Semi-Precious Stones	2307.31	1866.89	-19.09

(d) Does not arise.

Economic Development of Backward Classes

320. SHRI ANANT NAYAK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to promote economic development activities for the benefit of the backward classes;

(b) if so, the various programmes/schemes introduced by the National Backward Classes finance and Development Corporation to achieve the above objectives; and

(c) the steps taken in Orissa and other States since the constitution of the corporation?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Government of India has set up the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) with the main objective to promote the economic and developmental activities for the OBCs and assist them in setting up of viable self-employment ventures and development of entrepreneurial skills. The NBCFDC provides financial assistance to the persons belonging to OBCs in all the States including Orissa under following schemes :-

- (i) Term Loan scheme
- (ii) Margin Money Loan scheme
- (iii) Micro Credit Financing scheme
- (iv) New Swarnima scheme
- (v) Educational Loan scheme

(vi) Training schemes

A statement showing state-wise details of amount disbursed by the NBCFDC, so far, since its constitution and the number of beneficiaries is enclosed.

Statement (Rs. in crores)			
S.No.	Name of the State/SCA	Amount Disbursed	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	112.25	186472
2.	Assam	3.92	701
3.	Bihar	28.68	7341
4.	Goa	2.33	197
5.	Gujarat	37.99	6974
6.	Haryana	18.70	15424
7.	Himachal Pradesh	14.93	1784
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.62	130
9.	Karnataka	70.01	40481
10.	Kerala	94.28	26078
11.	Madhya Pradesh	40.93	15400
12.	Maharashtra	42.68	7614
13.	Manipur	4.83	1061
14.	Mizoram	0.00	0
15.	Orissa	10.21	3526
16.	Punjab	9.73	2778
17.	Rajasthan	6.76	1213
18.	Sikkim	5.16	781
19.	Tamil Nadu	33.72	20344
20.	Tripura	6.19	2388
21.	Uttar Pradesh	50.07	17212
22.	West Bengal	18.02	3535
23.	Chandigarh	0.55	83

1	2	3	4
24.	Delhi	0.00	0
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0
26.	Pondicherry	3.12	609
27.	Micro Credit Financing	12.19	13890
28.	Akansha Loan	0.11	33
Total		627.98	376052

Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks

321. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the credit deposits ratio of public sector banks during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount of deposits received from the public in Bihar is disbursed as loan in other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the role of public sector banks in development of Bihar is negligible;

(e) if so, whether the Government have issued any directives to public sector banks in Bihar to contribute in the development of that State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The credit deposit ratio of all scheduled commercial banks including public sector banks State-wise for the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Except for the Union Territory of Chandigarh, the CD ratio of these banks has not exceeded 100 per cent in any other States during the last three years.

(d) to (f) In view of the low CD ratio in Bihar, a Special Task Force was set up to study the industry related problems in the State and a Sub-Committee was also formed to study operational problems of stepping up credit flow and to suggest measures to increase credit deposit ratio. The progress in

implementation of action points that emerged from the study shows that the banks have been making all efforts to improve the CD ratio in the State. Additional liquidity with the banks has been made possible with the reduction in the CRR and Bank Rate has been reduced. However, the increase in the flow of bank credit in a State also depends upon factors such as availability of adequate infrastructural facilities, development of core sector projects, entrepreneurial initiatives, credit absorption capacity of the State, conducive atmosphere for investment and satisfactory recovery position of bank dues etc.

Statement

Credit Deposit Ratio of All Scheduled Commercial Banks

Sl. No.	State/ Union Territory	Credit Deposit Ratio (%)		
		March 2001	March 2001	September 2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63.6	63.3	61.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.6	17.3	18.85
3.	Assam	31.5	32.4	31.10
4.	Bihar	22.5	21.3	20.18
5.	Chhattisgarh		39.8	36.71
6.	Delhi	76.9	82.9	80.67
7.	Goa	24.2	22.8	23.33
8.	Gujarat	49.8	49.4	44.29
9.	Haryana	41.4	41.7	37.80
10.	Himachal Pradesh	22.9	22.6	21.47
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	40.5	38.3	37.83
12.	Jharkhand		28.4	25.31
13.	Karnataka	61.0	59.3	58.79
14.	Kerala	42.3	43.1	44.17
15.	Madhya Pradesh	49.2	48.3	45.15
16.	Maharashtra	83.8	85.4	81.87
17.	Manipur	36.4	38.9	33.88

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Meghalaya	15.7	16.8	16.28
19.	Mizoram	24.3	25.5	29.58
20.	Nagaland	15.4	13.9	14.75
21.	Orissa	39.8	41.5	40.11
22.	Punjab	39.1	41.4	39.59
23.	Rajasthan	46.7	48.2	45.62
24.	Sikkim	13.8	15.6	15.06
25.	Tamil Nadu	88.0	90.6	85.95
26.	Tripura	25.8	23.0	22.87
27.	Uttar Pradesh	27.5	28.8	27.65
28.	Uttaranchal		23.0	19.53
29.	West Bengal	45.2	44.1	42.12
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16.8	18.6	19.44
31.	Chandigarh	52.6	96.7	108.60
32.	Dadra & NH	21.7	16.5	20.50
33.	Daman & Diu	15.8	14.1	11.34
34.	Lakshadweep	7.7	9.7	8.36
35.	Pondicherry	32.8	33.4	32.00
All India		57.1	58.5	56.13

[Translation]

Value of Rupee

322. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exchange value of Indian rupee

has gone down against the major foreign currencies during the current financial year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the value of Indian rupee as on March 31, 2001 and in the last week of February, 2002;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to save the Indian rupee from devaluation in the international market;

(d) the year-wise purchasing power of the Indian rupee as on date taking the year 1971 as the base year;

(e) the criterion laid down for international evaluation of the Indian rupee;

(f) whether the purchasing power of rupee in India is also the basis for this purpose; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The rupee has depreciated against the US dollar, the Euro and the Pound Sterling by 4.2 per cent, 1.7 per cent and 1.0 per cent respectively, while it has appreciated against the Japanese Yen by 8.9 per cent during April-February 2001-02, over the corresponding period of 2000-01. The exchange rates of the rupee against the four major world currencies as on March 30, 2001 and February 27, 2002 are given below :

Date	Rs./ US dollar	Rs./Yen*	Rs./Euro	Rs./Pound Stg.
March 30, 2001	46.64	37.43	41.01	66.58
February 27, 2002	48.74	36.26	42.14	69.04

* Rupees per 100 Yens.

(c) The exchange rate of the rupee is largely market determined. The primary objective of the Reserve Bank in regard to the management of the exchange rate continues to be the maintenance of orderly conditions in the foreign exchange market, meeting temporary supply-demand gaps, which may arise due to uncertainties or other reasons, and curbing destabilising and self-fulfilling speculative activities. To this end, the Reserve Bank monitors closely the developments in the financial markets at home and abroad and take such monetary and other measures as it considers necessary from time to time.

(d) The purchasing power of Indian rupee on the basis of Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers with base 1971 for the years 1971 through 2001 is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) to (g) The exchange rate of the rupee is determined by the demand and supply conditions in the foreign exchange market and short-term factors. The exchange rate is also influenced to some extent by the strength of the US dollar in the international currency markets. Under this system, the exchange rate of the rupee against the major foreign currencies moves in both directions on a day to day basis.

Statement

Consumer Price Index and Value of Rupee with base 1971

Year	CPI-IW	Value of Rupee in Paise
	Base : 1971	(reciprocal)
1	2	3
1971	100	100.00
1972	107	93.46
1973	125	80.00
1974	161	62.11
1975	170	58.82
1976	157	63.69
1977	170	58.82
1978	174	57.47
1979	185	54.05
1980	206	48.54
1981	233	42.92
1982	251	39.84

1	2	3
1983	282	35.46
1984	305	32.79
1985	322	31.06
1986	350	28.57
1987	380	26.32
1988	416	24.04
1989	446	22.42
1990	486	20.58
1991	553	18.08
1992	619	16.16
1993	658	15.20
1994	722	13.85
1995	792	12.63
1996	871	11.48
1997	933	10.72
1998	1057	9.46
1999	1106	9.04
2000	1150	8.70
2001	1194	8.38

Conversion Factor of 4.93 is used to convert the series based on 1982=100 to the series based on 1980=100.

Conversion Factor of 1.89 is used to convert the series based on 1960=100 to the series based on 1971=100.

[English]

Export of Foodgrains at Lower Rates

323. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are exporting wheat and rice @ Rs. 475/- and Rs. 615/- per quintal while it is issued @ Rs. 660/- Rs. 880/- per quintal to the consumers in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated remedial steps in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) Wheat and rice are being offered from the Central Pool for export at the following prices :-

(Rs. Per MT)

Wheat	Rice
4250	5650 (raw) & 6000 (parboiled)

Wheat and rice are being supplied to the consumers in the country presently at APL and BPL rates as shown below :-

(Rs. Per MT)

Commodity	BPL	APL
1. Wheat	4150	6100
2. Rice	5650	8300

The present export prices for wheat and rice are higher than the BPL category rates.

The export prices are fixed by the Government from time to time to promote competitiveness of Indian wheat and rice against international prices.

Corporate Debt Restructuring Scheme

324. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has introduced corporate debt restructuring scheme;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed scheme;

(c) the time by which such schemes are likely to be introduced in various banks to recover NPAs; and

(d) by when all the NPAs are likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b)

With a view to evolve a proper mechanism for Corporate Debt Restructuring (CDR) in the country, RBI in consultation with Government of India, issued guidelines on CDR on 23rd August, 2001, for implementation by Banks and Financial Institutions. The objective of the CDR framework is to ensure a timely and transparent mechanism for restructuring of corporate debts of viable corporate entities affected by internal or external factors outside the purview of BIFR, DRT and other legal proceedings, for the benefit of all concerned. CDR will apply only to multiple banking accounts/syndicates/consortium accounts with outstanding exposure of Rs.20 crore and above with the Banks and FIs. CDR Empowered Group would examine the viability and rehabilitation potential of the corporate and approve the restructuring package. Since debtor corporate will have to accede to the debtor-creditor agreement, either the time of the original loan documentation (for future cases) or at the time of reference to CDR Cell, Banks will ensure proper documentation for the purpose. Standard and sub-standard accounts subjected to CDR process would continue to be eligible for fresh financing of funding requirements by the lenders as per their normal policy parameters and eligibility criteria.

(c) CDR Cell at IDBI had started functioning and Banks are in the process of signing debtor-creditor agreement. CDR mechanism would enable initiation of corrective measures in early stages and will prevent potentially viable accounts from turning into NPAs.

(d) CDR mechanism will only apply to multiple banking accounts with outstanding exposure of Rs. 20 crore and above and as such, the question of recovery of all the NPAs does not arise. The cases found non-viable by CDR. Empowered Group will be referred to DRTs for recovery or settle through compromise settlement between the debtors and creditors.

Sale of Surplus Land

325. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation (NTC) has decided to sell off its surplus land in various States;

(b) if so, the details of the surplus land identified and the steps being taken for the disposal of these land State-wise; and

(c) the total amount expected to be realised by such a sale of surplus land, State-wise and the purpose for which it is going to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. It has been proposed that surplus lands of NTC may be sold to generate resources to fund the rehabilitation plan. This proposal has been incorporated in the Draft Rehabilitation Schemes prepared by Operating Agencies (IDBI/FCI) of BIFR. The draft rehabilitation schemes are yet to be approved by BIFR. The details of surplus land and the total amount expected to be realized by such sale of land will be available only after the schemes are approved by BIFR. The surplus lands are to be sold through an Asset Sale Committee constituted under the aegis of BIFR and the amounts realised from such sale are intended to be used primarily for paying VRS and statutory dues of workers and for modernisation of revivable mills.

Mobility of Disabled Persons

326. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether inaccessibility to buildings and present transportation system have deprived the disabled from getting better education and job opportunities;

(b) if so, whether the National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled has demanded that the Government may bring forward a Bill making accessibility for the disabled mandatory in the new buildings and transportation system;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No such demand of National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled has been received in the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 enforced w.e.f. February, 1996, inter-alia, provides that

appropriate governments within the limits of their economic capacity and development shall provide barrier free facilities for persons with disabilities in transport, build environment and on the road. The barrier free facilities include providing of ramps in buildings, adaptation of toilets for wheelchair users, Braille symbols and auditory signals in elevators etc. the Ministry of Urban Development had prepared model building bye-laws, detailing features for barrier-free built environment and related guidelines and space standards and circulated the same to the State Governments and Union Territories, for adoption. All Central Ministries/Departments and States have been requested to ensure provision of barrier-free facilities in all new Government buildings and public utilities and also undertake feasible modifications in existing buildings. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has also issued a notification in the Gazette of India on 17-2-2001 for ensuring barrier-free environment by all the appropriate authorities. The O/O Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities has started Access Audit of public buildings and organized workshops for generating awareness for providing barrier-free environment. The implementation of the provisions of the Act regarding barrier free access requires a multi-sectoral collaborative approach of all Ministries of the Central Government, States/Union Territories, local bodies, etc.

Customs Duty Exemption to Dabhol Power

327. **SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Customs Department suspecting massive duty evasion has asked Dabhol Power Company to furnish details of critically imported components allegedly shifted from its plant;

(b) if so, whether DPC reportedly shifted some critical components from its 2814 MW Guhagar Plant;

(c) if so, whether the imported equipments were extended at a concessional rate of duty on condition that these would be used for setting up the project at Dabhol;

(d) if so, whether the commissioner of customs imposed a penalty of Rs.45 crore under section 112(a) of Customs Act for misdeclaration for the value of goods; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (**SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN**) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) In a separate case relating to the importation of machinery and equipment for the Liquefied Natural Gas

(LNG) facility at Dabhol, the Commissioner of Customs has imposed a penalty of Rs.45 crores on DPC under section 112 (a) of the Customs Act, 1962 for misdeclaration of the value of goods. In his order, dated 12.11.2001, a sum of Rs.245.59 crores (approx.) has been demanded from DPC as additional duty. Against the order, DPC have gone in appeal. The CEGAT, by an interim order, dated 28.12.2001, has waived the requirement of pre-deposit of duty on grounds of financial hardship. The Department has filed a writ petition in Mumbai High Court against the order of CEGAT.

Setting up of Warehousing Facilities by Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Warehousing is contemplating to move into the port areas of Vizag and Kakinada to start warehousing activities both for import and export;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have requested the Union Government for allotment of 10 acres of land in these ports for warehousing activities;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to nominate Andhra Pradesh Warehousing Corporation as nodal agency for bulk handling of foodgrains in these ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (**SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN**) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal has been received by the Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) from the Andhra Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation (APSWC) for allotment of 10 acres of land for creating warehousing facilities. The proposal is being processed for the VPT Board's consideration.

(d) As per the National Policy on Handling, Storage & Transportation of Foodgrains, there is no provision for nominating any agency as a nodal agency for creation of bulk grain handling facility. Furthermore, Vizag and Kakinada Ports have not been identified for creation of bulk grain handling of wheat under the aforesaid policy.

Removal of Restrictions on Movement of Foodgrains

329. **SHRI SUBODH MOHITE** :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to remove all restrictions on the movement and storage of foodgrains, edible oils and sugar alongwith the complete decontrol of the sugar industry;

(b) if so, the extent to which it will be helpful to the poor people and in boosting the export and also in stabilising the prices of foodgrains;

(c) the steps taken to check illegal diversion of PDS stocks to the free market; and

(d) the steps initiated by the Union Government to liquidate the mounting stocks of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Central Government has issued the Removal of (Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs Order 2002 on 15.2.2002, according to which any dealer may freely buy, stock, sell, transport, distribute, dispose, acquire, use or consume any quantity of wheat, paddy/rice, coarse grains, sugar, edible oil seeds and edible oils and shall not require any license or permit therefor. The order would have effect after 30 days from the date of its issue. Government has also decided to effect complete de-control of sugar after operationalisation of the futures/forward trading in sugar during the financial year 2002-03. These measures are expected to facilitate free trade and movement of foodstuffs, enable the farmers to get best prices for their produce, achieve price stability and ensure availability of foodstuffs in deficit areas. Exports of foodstuffs would be determined by factors like surplus availability, prices prevailing in the domestic and international markets etc.

(c) In order to streamline the functioning of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and make it more accountable and effective, Government has issued the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In terms of this Order, the State

Governments have been made responsible for monitoring the implementation of PDS to check diversion of foodgrains. States/UTs have been requested to closely monitor PDS at the Fair Price Shop (FPS) and other levels and to make arrangements for distribution of PDS commodities in a transparent manner by involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions. States/UTs have also been asked to eliminate bogus ration cards and initiate action against erring FPS owners under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(d) The Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) of wheat is being implemented under which wheat is sold in the open market by the Food Corporation of India to liquidate the surplus stocks available in the Central Pool. Besides several measures have also been taken to improve the off-take of foodgrains under PDS viz. increase in quota of foodgrains for BPL families, lower CIP for rice and wheat for the APL population, availability of foodgrains at BPL rates for welfare and development schemes, free distribution of foodgrains to drought/flood affected States and permission to FCI to export foodgrains at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category.

[Translation]

Powers to SEBI

330. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance the powers on securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to check economic crimes connected with capital market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this process is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Government is examining legislative changes to further strengthen provisions in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 for investor protection and to make SEBI a more effective Body for regulation and development of capital markets.

[English]

Indo-US Trade Relations

331. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in which Indo-US, trade relation has been established;

(b) the items which are presently being exported to USA and those imported from USA;

(c) the total value thereof during the last three years; and

(d) the separate break up thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) The United States of America (USA) is India's largest trading partner and foremost export destination. The two-way trade structure comprises a large number of traditional and manufactured goods, which has also undergone changes over the years. The major items of India's export to USA include diamond and gold jewellery, textiles and ready-made garments, machinery, carpets, footwear and leather products, dyes, iron and steel products, chemicals and marine products. The major items of India's import from USA include machinery including project items, fertilizers, aircraft and aeronautical equipment, medical equipment and organic chemicals.

The details of total value of India-US trade over the last three years indicating also the break-up of exports to and imports from USA are as under :

	(Millions US dollars)		
Year	1999	2000	2001
Total value	12,790	14,349	13,502
India's Export to USA	9,083	10,686	9,738
India's import from USA	3,707	3,663	3,764

Decline in Export of Silk Garments

332. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exports of Indian silk garments have shown a declining trend during the last two years;

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

(c) the steps taken to promote export of silk garments; and

(d) whether the government have any plan to diversify in order to protect domestic industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No Sir. The exports of Silk Ready-made Garments have grown during the last two years. However, during the current year exports of Silk Ready-made Garments have shown a declining trend till end of October 2001, due mainly because of the

recessionary trend in the international market. The details of silk garments exported during the last two years is as under :-

Item of Export	Rs. in crores		
	Year		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (up to October, 01)
Silk Ready-made Garments	538.32	852.4	342.23

(c) and (d) The Government is taking several steps to increase the exports of silk products -

- (i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like TexStyles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.
- (ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.
- (iii) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.
- (iv) Govt. have initiated a production programme of high quality of bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk to international standards and its productivity & cost competitiveness. Programmes are being implemented to improve technologies at all stages of the process of silk development, and diversify products with inputs for improvement of looms and designs such that they may expand the export share of the country.
- (v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.

Distress Sale of Wheat and Paddy

333. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) whether despite farmers having been provided minimum support price for their produce the cases of distress sale of paddy and wheat have been reported from various States particularly from Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons thereto;

(c) whether the FCI is adopting uniform policy of procurement throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons thereto;

(f) whether the Union Government have issued guidelines to FCI to stop distress sale of paddy and wheat; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Reports about alleged distress sale of wheat and paddy have been received during the current Kharif and Rabi Marketing Seasons, 2001-2002, from some States including Orissa. However, investigations have revealed that only foodgrains not conforming to the specifications laid down were sold below Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(c) to (e) FCI, along with the State Governments and their agencies, undertakes procurement of foodgrains conforming to Fair Average Quality Specifications at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for the Central Pool. All the foodgrains conforming to prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centers are bought by the FCI and State agencies. FCI also collects rice by way of statutory levy on rice millers/dealers. The procurement in a State depends upon the capacity of the FCI and the State Government and its agencies and the infrastructure available.

In order to ensure, inter alia, that the benefit of MSP reaches the farmers, the Government had, in 1997 - 1998, introduced the scheme of Decentralised Procurement. This

scheme is now in operation in three States, namely, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Efforts are being made to encourage other States to adopt the scheme.

(f) and (g) In order to extend the benefits of the Minimum Price Support Scheme to the farmers and to avoid distress sale of wheat and paddy, Special Control Rooms are also set up to monitor the procurement operations and to take action on any report of distress sale. Publicity about the same is given through the media.

[Translation]

ERC Recommendations

334. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the suggestions made by the Committee on Expenditure Reforms;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions accepted by the Government;

(c) the action taken thereon till date;

(d) the details of those suggestions which have not been accepted by the Government with reasons therefor.

(e) whether the Government has not been able to check the unproductive expenditure being incurred by the high ranking officers as they have not adhered to the suggestion made by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The Expenditure Reforms Commission has submitted in all 10 reports covering 36 Ministries/ Departments and four specific issues namely, Food subsidy, Fertilizer Subsidy, autonomous institutions and optimizing staff strength. The recommendations contained in these reports were forwarded to the concerned Ministries/Departments and these are at various stages of implementation. Around 12,200 posts at different levels have been identified for abolition so far on the basis of ERC recommendations.

(e) and (f) The economy instructions issued by the Government from time to time to avoid wasteful expenditure

are required to be adhered to by all Ministries/ Departments.

[English]

Reservation of Posts for Physically Handicapped

335. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts reserved for disabled/physically handicapped persons in his Ministry as on December 31, 2001 category-wise/post-wise;

(b) the number of such posts reserved for physically handicapped/disabled persons lying vacant as on

December 31, 2001 and the date from which these are vacant:

(c) the number of disabled/physically handicapped persons provided employment and category-wise during each of the last three years, separately; and

(d) the time by which such vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The details are placed at statement-I.

(c) The details are placed at statement-II.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

(as on 31.12.2001)

Sl.No.	Category	Name of the Post	Number of posts reserved for disabled/physically disabled	Number of posts reserved for physically handicapped/disabled persons lying vacant	Date from which such posts are lying vacant.
1.	Group 'A'		Nil	Nil	Does not arise
2.	Group 'B'		Nil	Nil	Does not arise
1.	Group 'C'	U.D.C.	02	Nil	Does not arise
2.	Group 'C'	Steno Grade 'D'	01	Nil	Does not arise
3.	Group 'C'	L.D.C.	02	Nil	Does not arise
4.	Group 'D'	Peon	02	Nil	Does not arise

* There is no reservation available for physically handicapped persons in Group 'A' and 'B' posts/services. Reservation to these posts is applicable to the identified posts only and the Ministry does not have any identified posts in Group 'A' and 'B'.

Statement-II

[Translation]

Serial Number	Category	Year	Number of disabled/Physically handicapped persons provided employment
1.	Group 'C'	1998-1999	03
2.	Group 'C'	1999-2000	01
3.	Group 'C'	2000-2001	Nil
4.	Group 'D'	1998-1999	Nil
5.	Group 'D'	1999-2000	Nil
6.	Group 'D'	2000-2001	Nil

Sale of Government's Stake of Maruti Udyog Limited

336. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the share of the Government in Maruti Udyog Limited;

(b) whether the Government held discussions recently with the Suzuki Motors Ltd. of Japan for sale of the Government equity held in Maruti Udyog Limited; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) The Government holds 49.74% of the equity in Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL) and 0.26% is held by Maruti Udyog Employees Mutual Benefit Fund (MUEMBF).

(b) and (c) The discussions were recently held with the representatives of Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) of Japan with regard to the management of the proposed rights issue of MUL.

[English]

India's Share in World's Textile Market

337. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the share of the country in the world's textile market;

(b) whether any adverse impact has been noticed on national and international textile market after the entry of China in the World Trade Organisation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As per the WTO data (1998), India's percentage shares in the global textiles and clothing trade is 3.47% and 2.41% respectively.

(b) No, Sir. It is too early to assess the impact of China's accession to WTO.

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

Minimum Support Price for Tobacco

338. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tobacco farmers are demanding increase in the Minimum Support Price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to ensure that tobacco farmers get remunerative prices for their produce this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices recommends the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for tobacco. In doing so, the Commission considers the views of the tobacco farmers and the Central Tobacco Research Institute.

(c) Tobacco Board endeavours to assist farmers obtain remunerative prices by a number of measures which include, inter alia, attempts to maintain demand-supply balance through regulation of production, sale of tobacco through auction platforms and assistance in identifying export markets.

[Translation]

Production of Vitamin 'A' Fortified Sugar

339. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government have permitted production of Vitamin-A fortified sugar;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government intend to allow its large scale production;

(d) whether the sugar companies will be permitted to raise price of sugar in the name of adding Vitamin 'A'; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) M/s Shirpur Shetkari SSK Ltd., Shirpur, Distt. Dhule, Maharashtra have set up a Pilot Plant of one tonne per hour for production of sugar fortified with Vitamin 'A' with the financial assistance provided by the Government of India from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) and Micronutrient Initiative (MI), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a Public Corporation of the Government of Canada.

(c) The production of sugar fortified with Vitamin 'A' on commercial scale depends upon its economic viability, efficacy on the targeted population, etc.

(d) and (e) The price of free-sale sugar is not controlled by the Government. Therefore, the question of permitting sugar companies to raise the price of sugar fortified with Vitamin 'A' does not arise.

*[English]***Bank Loan for Self-Employment**

340. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SC and ST unemployed graduates are given bank loan for their self-employment; and .

(b) if so, the state-wise and bank-wise number of SC/ST unemployed youths given bank loan for self-employment during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the State-wise/Bank-wise details of number of accounts and loan disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) to SC/STs unemployed youths under self employment scheme of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the last three years are indicated in the enclosed statements-I and II respectively.

Statement-I

The State-wise loan disbursed by SCBs to SC/STs unemployed youths under PMRY during 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-01.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Loan Disbursed to SC/ST out of total loan disbursed.					
		1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	742	389.51	758	407.73	663	385.42
2.	Himachal Pradesh	280	160.68	391	252.90	338	185.75
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	125	91.07	146	124.78	82	65.67
4.	Punjab	1176	640.71	1287	746.11	1168	676.65
5.	Rajasthan	1414	637.90	1907	922.20	1690	860.62
6.	Chandigarh	08	6.50	05	3.57	03	2.95
7.	Delhi	55	28.38	89	57.05	88	50.63
8.	Assam	1040	793.22	1871	1396.98	347	248.59
9.	Manipur	62	32.64	147	110.16	154	147.00
10.	Meghalaya	100	69.45	355	240.47	177	158.45
11.	Nagaland	31	24.27	69	69.74	08	6.30
12.	Tripura	13	7.06	98	50.22	10	7.10
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	32	21.14	126	122.16	96	62.67
14.	Mizoram	12	7.61	64	50.88	78	69.00
15.	Sikkim	25	11.83	11	6.63	11	6.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Bihar	1518	1055.04	1237	910.39	1361	1098.47
17.	Orissa	543	369.13	1321	910.09	205	124.27
18.	West Bengal	428	280.23	611	421.01	362	259.86
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	18	15.18	26	20.74	29	23.29
20.	Madhya Pradesh	3370	1986.01	3370	23.63	2295	1445.96
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5096	2932.51	5663	3320.67	5508	3576.42
22.	Gujarat	2395	888.00	1973	829.26	1423	633.95
23.	Maharashtra	4392	2152.27	3758	1941.95	2521	1470.70
24.	Daman & Diu	02	0.96	01	0.60	04	3.17
25.	Goa	12	7.82	11	7.15	13	7.60
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	07	3.78	03	2.00	05	3.63
27.	Andhra Pradesh	2482	1278.69	2665	1418.08	1394	816.21
28.	Karnataka	1612	782.27	2238	1380.12	1282	736.63
29.	Kerala	1114	532.77	1283	661.87	1010	551.13
30.	Tamil Nadu	1505	676.06	2010	927.21	1346	590.68
31.	Lakshadweep	31	25.59	33	22.89	14	11.31
32.	Pondicherry	47	15.72	49	15.79	26	11.54
	Not Specified	-	-	-	-	09	4.11
	All India	29687	15932.60	33576	19715.02	23720	14303.13

Statement-II

The Bank-wise Loan Disbursed by SCBS to SC/ST unemployed youths under PMRY during 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-01

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Banks	Loan Disbursed to SC/ST out of total loan disbursed					
		1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State Bank of India	5712	3206.03	10657	6481.00	6789	4542.00
2.	State Bank of B&J	517	234.46	675	322.17	674	348.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	State Bank of Hyderabad	1278	647.55	1149	715.42	1061	564.46
4.	State Bank of Indore	531	326.05	480	420.18	431	333.54
5.	State Bank of Mysore	450	184.86	764	466.41	18	12.10
6.	State Bank of Patiala	434	238.81	452	256.79	502	312.96
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	248	106.93	191	87.87	223	114.54
8.	State Bank of Travancore	427	237.64	310	146.33	459	254.58
9.	Allahabad Bank	936	597.32	893	394.08	283	184.25
10.	Andhra Bank	269	149.19	00	0.00	14	8.90
11.	Bank of Baroda	2405	1087.40	2074	1163.34	1766	856.12
12.	Bank of India	2515	1379.33	1922	1124.84	1224.	751.72
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	1069	553.66	846	488.29	451	249.53
14.	Canara Bank	1383	663.69	1427	716.67	1106	609.80
15.	Cent. Bank of India	2733	1609.66	2334	1518.25	1416	953.18
16.	Corporation Bank	223	127.16	231	126.93	172	99.22
17.	Dena Bank	511	249.16	397	187.48	426	244.66
18.	Indian Bank	634	303.99	692	336.73	576	251.97
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	938	479.08	988	479.81	109	57.75
20.	Oriental Bk. of Commerce	295	159.72	375	190.35	313	184.10
21.	Punjab National Bank	2411	1314.66	2497	1466.42	2240	1315.88
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	120	62.50	143	73.00	194	140.80
23.	Syndicate Bank	469	238.70	799	418.23	742	382.91
24.	Union Bank of India	1227	677.48	1273	774.50	929	589.31
25.	United Bank of India	275	180.89	317	205.50	145	98.42
26.	UCO Bank	570	354.65	730	434.14	685	430.84
27.	Vijaya Bank	471	242.43	416	255.14	317	191.97
Total of PSBs		29051	15613.00	33034	19449.87	23265	14084.08
28.	Bank of Madura Ltd.	21	0.19	27	21.00	01	0.50
29.	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	78	29.24	101	47.19	68	31.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30.	Bharat Overs. Bank Ltd.	01	0.70	02	0.78	04	1.37
31.	Banaras St. Bk. Ltd.	00	0.00	00	0.00	00	0.00
32.	Catholic Syr. Bk. Ltd.	23	10.32	00	0.00	30	15.15
33.	Dhanalaxmi Bk. Ltd.	05	2.27	21	11.64	14	7.37
34.	Federal Bk. Ltd.	110	71.18	88	48.83	79	44.08
35.	J&K Bank Ltd.	00	0.00	00	0.00	00	0.00
36.	Karnataka Bk. Ltd.	23	8.38	33	12.56	15	8.97
37.	Karur Vysya Bk. Ltd.	14	5.93	16	5.45	09	3.64
38.	Lakshmi Vilas Bk. Ltd.	00	0.00	17	5.21	08	1.31
39.	Nedungadi Bk. Ltd.	32	18.02	32	14.66	11	5.85
40.	Ratnakar Bk. Ltd.	08	5.60	00	0.00	01	0.80
41.	Sangli Bk. Ltd.	15	7.24	00	0.00	16	7.68
42.	South Indian Bk. Ltd.	39	19.28	47	19.52	51	20.72
43.	Tamilnadu Mar. Bk. Ltd.	10	2.72	08	2.98	08	2.32
44.	United West Bk. Ltd.	141	75.81	65	33.95	63	32.57
45.	Vysya Bk. Ltd.	65	30.39	80	39.88	48	20.21
46.	Bareilly Corp. Bk. Ltd.	03	1.67	00	0.00	00	0.00
47.	Nainital Bk. Ltd.	41	26.56	00	0.00	19	9.90
48.	City Union Bk. Ltd.	00	0.00	00	0.00	00	0.00
49.	Lord Krishna Bk. Ltd.	07	4.10	05	1.50	10	5.54
Total of PSBs		636	319.60	542	265.15	455	219.05
Total of All Banks		29687	15932.60	33576	19715.02	23720	14303.13

[Translation]

Outstanding Amount of Sugarcane Growers

341. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

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

(a) whether the sugar mills owe large money to the sugarcane growers;

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

(c) the reasons for not making payment of outstanding amount to the sugarcane growers by the sugar mills; and

(d) the time by which outstanding amount is likely

to be paid by the sugar mills and the various steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The cane price position in respect of sugar season 2000-2001 (October-September) as on 15-01-2002 was as follows :

	(Rs. in Crores)
(i) Cane price payable amount	14466.83
(ii) Cane price paid amount	14230.99
(iii) Cane price arrears amount	235.84
(iv) Cane price arrears as percentage to (i) above	1.63%

The position of cane price arrears of the current season 2001-2002 vis-a-vis the cane price arrears position of the previous season i.e. 2000-2001 is as follows :

	(Rs. in crores)	
	2001-2002 (As on 15.1.2002)	2000-2001 (As on 15.1.2001)
(i) Cane price payable amount	3749.84	3278.86
(ii) Cane price paid amount	2640.54	2454.45
(iii) Cane price arrears amount	1109.29	824.40
(iv) Cane price arrears as percentage to (i) above	29.6%	25.1%

It may be observed from the above that the cane price payable amount in 2001- 2002 sugar season has increased by Rs.470.98 crores while the cane price paid amount has increased by Rs.186.09 crores as compared to the preceding sugar season. The increase in the cane price arrears has been Rs.284.89 crores but percentage-wise the cane price arrears during 2001-2002 sugar season is 29.6% of the cane price payable amount against 25.1 % in the preceding sugar season. The increase in the cane price arrears amount is mainly on account of increase in the cane price payable amount. The state-wise details of cane price arrears due to the sugar cane growers for the sugar season 2001-2002 as on 15.1.2002 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Accumulation of cane price arrears could be attributed to a number of factors such as poor financial position of sugar mills, high cost of production, excessively high advised cane prices, inadequate sales realization etc.

Responsibility of ensuring timely payments of cane price dues by sugar mills lies with the State Governments, which have the necessary powers and filed agencies to enforce such payments. The Central Government, apart from reviewing the cane price payment position from time to time has written to the State Governments for expediting clearance of cane price dues to the farmers. The Central Government has reduced the levy percentage of sugar factories from 40% to 30% w.e.f. 1.1.2000 and subsequently from 30% to 15% w.e.f. 1.2.2001 to improve their viability. In addition Central Government grants advance free-sale releases to needy sugar factories and 10% of their quarterly free sale release to all the sugar factories for payment of cane price dues. Further, the Sugar Cane (Control) Order, 1966 has been amended empowering the Central Government/State Governments to recover cane price arrears as arrears of land revenue.

Statement

The State-wise/ Zone-wise position of cane price payable, price paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 2001-2002 season upto as well as arrears of cane price as on 15-01-2002

(Fig. in lakhs Rs.)

State/Zone	Total Price payable for cane purchased during 2001-2002 upto 15-01-2002	Cane price paid upto 15-01-2002	Balance cane price payable as on 15-01-2002	%age of balance price payable over total payable.
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	23,955.50	16,271.50	7,684.00	32.08
Haryana	10,478.40	3,820.91	6,657.49	63.54

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
West U.P.	26,749.91	19,755.41	6,994.50	26.15
Central U.P.	34,827.81	17,650.71	17,177.10	49.32
East U.P.	16,015.79	10,696.14	5,319.65	33.22
Total U.P.	77,593.51	48,102.26	29,491.25	38.01
Uttaranchal	10,446.63	7,301.43	3,145.20	30.11
Madhya Pradesh	3,869.66	3,274.96	594.70	15.37
South Gujarat	22,780.31	18,813.76	3,966.55	17.41
Saurashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Gujarat	22,780.31	18,813.76	3,966.55	17.41
South Maharashtra	55,322.04	50,536.72	4,785.32	8.65
North Maharashtra	21,833.70	17,553.73	4,279.97	19.60
Central Maharashtra	39,332.14	33,235.05	6,097.09	15.50
Total Maharashtra	116,487.88	101,325.50	15,162.38	13.02
North Bihar	10,671.74	6,459.28	4,212.46	39.47
South Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Bihar	10,671.74	6,459.28	4,212.46	39.47
Assam	12.33	5.54	6.79	55.07
Andhra Pradesh	26,180.58	16,419.46	9,761.12	37.28
Karnataka	42,285.78	24,998.69	17,287.09	40.88
Tamil Nadu	28,591.85	16,634.58	11,957.27	41.82
Kerala	318.42	153.39	165.03	51.83
Orissa	291.71	110.56	181.15	62.10
West Bengal	350.84	230.10	120.74	34.41
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	453.85	0.00	453.85	100.00
Goa	214.70	132.38	82.32	38.34
All India Total	374,983.69	264,054.30	110,929.39	29.58

[English]

Strategy for Development of Silk Industry

342. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the four-day world congress of the International Silk Association was held in Bangalore on December 3, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the main subjects discussed therein;

(c) whether the Government have announced five point strategy for silk industry development;

(d) if so, the details of the strategy; and

(e) the time by which it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, International Silk Association held its 23rd Congress in Bangalore from 3rd to 6th December, 2001 to which its members were delegates. The Congress discussed technical as well as trade and market related issues. Sessions included the presentation of papers by delegates and discussions in regard to Sericulture and Reeling, Trade in raw silk, Trade in silk waste, Trade in thrown silk, Weaving, Trade in silk fabrics, silk furnishing, Dyeing, printing and finishing of silk, Technology and Research.

(c) to (e) Government have announced a National Textile Policy which lists steps in order to achieve international standard in all varieties of silk. The steps include the following five : -

- i. Improving Research & Development and the effective transfer of technology at all stages;
- ii. Considerably improving the production of non-mulberry varieties of silk;
- iii. Augmenting efforts for the spread of bivoltine sericulture;
- iv. Encouraging clustering of activities of reeling and weaving and strengthen linkages between the producers and industry;
- v. Periodically reviewing the import policy for raw silk taking into account the balanced interests of the sericulturists as well as export manufacturers.

The X Five Year Plan has been drawn up to give effect to the above steps.

Repeal of JPMA Act, 1987

343. SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of its composition and terms of reference; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to submit its Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To consider all representations received regarding the JPM Act and to suggest a road map for progressive dilution of compulsory packaging norms.

(c) The Inter Ministerial Committee consists of the following members :

(i) Minister of Textiles

(ii) Minister of Agriculture and

(iii) Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

The Committee is to formulate a road map for progressive dilution of compulsory packaging norms for foodgrains and sugar under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 to facilitate its repeal.

(d) The Committee is likely to submit its report, before the end of current Jute Year i.e. 30 June 2002.

Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme

344. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to bring the textile workers of Central Public Sector Undertakings under the Textile Worker Rehabilitation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In case of Central Public Sector Undertaking, Government being the owner, has been providing support to the employees of CPSUs.

[Translation]

Funds for the Economically Backward Classes

345. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has failed to fully utilize the funds sanctioned during the last year and current year till date for the welfare of the economically backward people (BPL);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the funds remain unutilized have been spent for other purposes;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to ensure the proper utilization of the funds sanctioned for the said purpose during the current financial year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (e) This Ministry administers welfare schemes and programmes for educational, social and economic development of the Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities through State governments and to a small extent through voluntary agencies. Utilization of funds, therefore is dependent upon the progress and pace of implementation of the schemes by the State Governments and additional funds are released to the States on proper utilization of the funds released earlier. The Ministry follows up with the State Governments and monitors full and proper utilization of the funds released to the States, so that the Ministry may be able to release additional funds to them for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and the Minorities.

[English]

Review of FCI's Performance

346. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of the Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the period covered under the review;

(c) whether FCI has been facing financial crisis;

(d) if so, the total liability of FCI at present; and

(e) the steps taken to improve the activities of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The Government regularly reviews various aspects of FCI's functions from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Constant efforts are being made to reduce administrative and operational costs. It is an ongoing process.

System to Identify the Fake Notes

347. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any fool-proof system to know the exact size of currency notes which will determine as to whether currency notes are fake or original;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the size of Rs.500 and Rs.1000 denomination currency notes are different in various series;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The size of bank note alone does not determine whether the notes are fake or genuine. However, the Indian bank notes have a unique size for every denomination, as per details below:

Deno. (Rs.)	Length (mm)	Breadth (mm)
1	2	3
1000	177	73
500	167	73
100	157	73

1	2	3
50	147	73
20	147	63
10	137	63
5	117	63

(c) and (d) The sizes of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 denominations are the same in various series though there may be negligible variations in some cases.

Restructuring of UTI

348 SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Advisory Committee on restructuring of UTI have submitted its report/ recommendations to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken thereon so far;

(d) the details of short-term and long term action plan finalised to restructure and re-orient UTI to restore public confidence; and

(e) the details regarding performance review of UTI schemes for the current year and new schemes proposed to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) With a view to restoring liquidity and ameliorating, possible hardship to investors in the US-64 scheme of UTI, Government has decided to provide financial assistance to UTI. As part of the financial assistance package, UTI has been asked to ensure time bound reforms based on recommendations of expert committees. The reforms measures include, inter-alia, formulating a comprehensive, cohesive and transparent investment policy, setting out objectives, investment/ disinvestment norms, exit norms, strategies of risk management (including stop-loss limits, a sound mechanism for identifying stickiness in investments and follow up of NPAs), internal control, asset allocation norms, tightening of accounting norms, institution of management audit and reconstitution of UTI Board to include more professionals.

UTI has set up a Standing Advisory Group to advise and assist UTI in implementing and operationalising the reforms measures suggested by various expert committees.

(e) As intimated by UTI, the performance of NAV based schemes for the last one year and six months as on January 31, 2002 is at enclosed statement.

UTI has intimated that launching of any new schemes will be done after the prior approval of the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

Statement

Performance of NAV linked schemes of UTI for Last 1 year and 6 month in terms of growth in NAV as on January 31, 2002

S.No	Scheme Name	For 1 Year-Period		For 6 month Period	
		% change in NAV	% change in BSE Natex	% change in NAV	% change in BSE Natex
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Master Value Unit Plan 1998	-11.79	-26.88	9.60	2.26
2	Mastershare 86	-31.36	-26.88	-6.72	2.26
3	Unit Scheme - 1992	-23.87	-26.88	9.35	2.26
4	MEP92	-20.33	-26.88	2.58	2.26
5	MEP93	-34.51	-26.88	-4.85	2.26

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	MEP94	-29.67	-26.88	4.68	2.26
7.	MEP95	-28.35	-26.88	4.46	2.26
8.	MEP96	-22.74	-26.88	7.04	2.26
9.	MEP97	-26.16	-26.88	8.00	2.26
10.	MEP98	-18.58	-26.88	11.52	2.26
11.	MEP99	-26.15	-26.88	11.46	2.26
12.	Grandmaster93	-14.41	-26.88	8.43	2.26
13.	Master Plus 91	-23.39	-26.88	4.36	2.26
14.	Mastergain 92	-21.23	-26.88	4.68	2.26
15.	Mastergrowth 93	-22.15	-26.88	5.89	2.26
16.	Primary Equity Unit Scheme	-11.31	-26.88	5.39	2.26
17.	UTI-UGS 10000	-4.68	-26.88	6.93	2.26
18.	UTI Equity Tax Savings Plan	-25.14	-26.88	12.20	2.26
19.	UTI Brand Value Fund	-8.96	-26.88	4.34	2.26
20.	UTI Petro Fund	-14.25	-26.88	15.43	2.26
21.	UTI Pharma & Healthcare Fund	-6.16	-26.88	9.32	2.26
22.	UTI Select Equity Fund	-16.71	-26.88	4.90	2.26
23.	UTI Service Sector Fund	-39.02	-26.88	-0.06	2.26
24.	UTI Software Fund	-42.66	-26.88	28.32	2.26
25.	UTI-Master Index Fund	-21.68	-26.88	1.62	2.26
26.	UTI Nifty Index Fund	-20.58	-26.88	1.72	2.26
27.	CCP	-0.66	-26.88	5.91	2.26
28.	CRTS81	-8.72	-26.88	-7.60	2.26
29.	Retirement Benefit Plan - 1994	-14.50	-26.88	-0.31	2.26
30.	ULIP-1971	-11.69	-26.88	-4.99	2.26
31.	UTI-Bond Fund	14.15	-26.88	6.13	2.26
32.	UTI G-Sec Fund	21.04	-26.88	11.08	2.26
33.	UTI Mahila Unit Scheme	NA	-26.88	5.26	2.26

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	UTI Small Investors' Fund	4.63	-26.88	-4.66	2.26
35.	Unit Scheme - 1995	-2.37	-26.88	5.87	2.26
36.	UTI Money Market Fund	8.81	-26.88	3.78	2.26
37.	Grihalaxmi Unit Plan - 1994	-1.68	-26.88	1.85	2.26
38.	UTI Equity Tax Savings Plan	-25.14	-26.88	12.20	2.26
39.	IISFUS '97	-3.96	-26.88	-1.37	2.26
40.	IISFUS '97 (II)	-8.43	-26.88	-5.56	2.26
41.	IISFUS '98	-16.24	-26.88	-8.88	2.26
42.	IISFUS '98 (II)	-21.94	-26.88	-3.94	2.26
43.	MIP 2000	-16.39	-26.88	0.38	2.26
44.	MIP 2000 (II)	-16.38	-26.88	-3.90	2.26
45.	MIP 2000 (III)	-5.36	-26.88	-15.62	2.26
46.	MIP 97	-6.49	-26.88	-6.49	2.26
47.	MIP 97 (II)	-7.07	-26.88	-7.07	2.26
48.	MIP 97 (III)	0.45	-26.88	0.45	2.26
49.	MIP 97 (IV)	-2.40	-26.88	-2.40	2.26
50.	MIP 97 (V)	-2.54	-26.88	-2.54	2.26
51.	MIP 98	-3.01	-26.88	-3.01	2.26
52.	MIP 98 (II)	-13.74	-26.88	-13.74	2.26
53.	MIP 98 (III)	-15.24	-26.88	2.59	2.26
54.	MIP 98 (IV)	2.59	-26.88	-5.47	2.26
55.	MIP 98 (V)	-5.47	-26.88	1.15	2.26
56.	MIP 99	1.15	-26.88	1.13	2.26
57.	UTI NRI Fund	1.13	-26.88	-0.78	2.26
58.	GCGIP94 (Cum.)	-13.09	-26.88	-21.96	2.26

Note :

Summary of performance of UTI Equity Schemes (6-monthly returns)

Category of schemes	Total no. of schemes	No. of schemes out performing the benchmark	No. of schemes under performing the benchmark
Diversified Equity	18	16	2
Sectoral	6	5	1
Index Funds	2	0	2

On the basis of 6 monthly return, 21 schemes out of 26 schemes have outperformed the benchmark BSE Natex.

Summary of performance of UTI Equity Schemes (12-monthly returns)

Category of schemes	Total no. of schemes	No. of schemes out performing the benchmark	No. of schemes under performing the benchmark
Diversified Equity	18	14	4
Sectoral	6	4	2
Index Funds	2	2	0

On the basis of 12 monthly return, 20 schemes out of 26 schemes have outperformed the benchmark BSE Natex.

Summary of performance of UTI Debt schemes (12 monthly returns)

On the basis of 12 monthly return, 26 schemes out of 32 schemes have performed the benchmark during last 12 months.

Summary of performance of UTI Debt Schemes (on basis of 6-monthly returns)

On the basis of 6 monthly return, out of 32 schemes 8 schemes have outperformed the benchmark during last 6 months.

Source - Credence Fund Navigator.

Academic Assistance to SC/ST Students

349. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set

up an institute of excellence in each State in order to provide academic assistance to students belonging to the SC, ST communities; and

(b) if so, the details of these institutes alongwith the facilities to be provided therein?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Auto Policy

350. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new Auto Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed policy; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) The policy is under formulation and will be announced once it is finalized.

Revival of Sick Jute Mills

351. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of poor conditions of jute mills of the country particularly of West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey/study to identify the root cause for the sickness;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for revival of these sick jute mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed/taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) Out of 76 jute mills in the country, as on 01.02.2002, 37 jute mills

are reported sick. In West Bengal out of 59 jute mills, 31 are reported sick at present. To safeguard the interests of jute workers, on its part the Government of India, has been providing following support to the jute sector :

- i) Compulsory packaging of foodgrains and sugar 100% under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.
- ii) No excise duty is levied on jute goods.
- iii) Minimum Support Price operation for raw jute through Jute Corporation of India (JCI).
- iv) Providing External Marketing Assistance for jute goods produced for export.
- v) Development of value added diversified jute products through National Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD).
- vi) R&D support to Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA) to provide technical know how to jute industries.

As regards revival of sick jute mills in West Bengal the Government of West Bengal has been providing support to the sick units under "The West Bengal Industrial Renewal Scheme, 2001."

World Bank Loan for Rural Water Supply Scheme

352. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Rural Water Supply Scheme which are being funded by World Bank/International Monetary Fund;

(b) the quantum of loans received under this scheme during the last three years; and

(c) the project under this scheme is proposed to be taken up in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) There are two Rural Water Supply projects, being funded by the World Bank presently, which are as under :-

Name of the Project	Date of signing/ Closing	Amount of assistance
Kerala Rural Water Supply Project	04.11.01/ 31.12.06	US\$ 65.50m
U. P. Rural Water Supply Project	22.7.96/ 31.05.03	US\$ 52.40m

(b) Agreements for the following loan amounts were signed with the World Bank for the rural Water projects during the last three years :

1999-2000	-	Nil
2000-2001	-	\$ 65.50 million
2001-Feb.2002	-	Nil

(c) At present there is no such proposal from the Government of Gujarat.

Wheat Export Policy

353. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether the current wheat export policy had expired in October, 2001;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to formulate new long-term wheat export policy;

(c) whether ASSOCHAM has also requested the Union Government in this regards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) The Government of India fixes the export price of wheat at which it is offered from the Central Pool to the exporters. ASSOCHAM requested the Government to announce the export price of wheat with a longer validity period. Taking into account the interest of the exporters, it has been decided that in future, export prices for wheat and rice will be announced for a period of three months and the announcement of export prices will be made 45 days in advance.

National Policy for Handicapped Persons

354. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are formulating a national policy for the handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a coordination committee with other Ministries are proposed to be constituted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) A national policy for persons with disabilities covering various aspects of welfare of disabled persons is at an advanced stage of preparation.

(c) and (d) The Central Coordination Committee has already been constituted in 1997 under the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

Compulsory Licence for Import of Drugs

355. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made licensing compulsory for import of all categories of drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the kinds of drugs which can be imported freely;

(d) whether the Government are considering to make licensing compulsory for import of these drugs; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (e) The Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family-Welfare vide Gazette Notification no. GSR 604(E) dated 24-8-2001 have amended the various provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules and thereby have introduced a new provision for the registration of the manufacturing premises of foreign drug manufacturers and the individual drugs prior to their import into the country. The notification has also introduced other provisions, viz, Import Licence for all categories of drugs, enhanced import licence fees, increased validity period of licence, deletion of exemption from requirement of import licence for bulk drugs for actual users, requirement of minimum 60% of retained shelf life for imported drugs and provision for import of small quantities of new drugs by Government hospitals for treatment of their own patients etc. These regulations are scheduled to become applicable as mentioned in the above notification w.r.t. January, 2003.

FCI Godowns in Rajasthan

356. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Rajasthan at present with its capacity;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains stored in these godowns since 1.4.1998;

(c) whether any complaints have been received regarding proper upkeep and security of foodgrains during the said period;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon;

(e) the quantity and value of foodgrains damaged during the said period alongwith the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mahila Bank Branches

357. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the RBI has advised the public sector banks to open more mahila branches;

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

(c) the other steps being taken by the banks to cater the credit needs of women customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised public sector banks to open specialized branches for women in identified areas for catering exclusively or at least predominantly to the requirements of women entrepreneurs in an integrated manner.

(b) Banks are exploring the possibility of opening specialized branches for women by identifying potential centers and their viability. As per information available, two banks viz. Union Bank of India and Allahabad Bank have

converted one branch each into Women's branch at Mumbai and New Delhi respectively. Canara Bank has recently opened one Mahila Banking branch at Bangalore which is exclusively catering to women clients.

(c) The feed back received from the banks indicate that they are making efforts by redefining their policies/long term plans by taking into account women's requirements. They are also increasing the percentage of credit to women and earmarking to achieve 5 per cent of Net Bank Credit (NBC) for women by March, 2004. The credit to women at 2.36 per cent of NBC at the end of March 2001 has increased to 3.38 per cent of NBC as at the end of September, 2001 (provisional). In addition, the reports from banks also show that there has been progress in banks regarding establishing of women cells at head office/regional offices and branches, orientation of bank officers/staff on gender concerns/credit requirements of women, launching publicity campaigns, conducting entrepreneurship development programmes for women, strengthening existing schemes, involving Non Government Organisations/Self Help Groups in providing credit facilities to women entrepreneurs. Banks are also now maintaining data base on credit flow to women under different categories.

Huge Stock of Foodgrains

358. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total foodgrain stocks in the country are getting accumulated year after year beyond the normal requirement of buffer stocks;

(b) If so, the level of accumulations during the past three years particularly that of wheat and rice;

(c) if so, the reasons for such huge accumulations and the manner in which they are going to be disposed off;

(d) whether some of the foodgrains in the godowns have rotted and have become unfit for human consumption; and

(e) if so, the State-wise details thereof of the foodgrains which have rotted during the last three years alongwith the steps initiated to protect the foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The stock of rice and wheat for the last three years in the Central Pool against the prescribed buffer stocking norms is indicated below :-

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

As on	Foodgrains		Buffer norms		Excess stock	
	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat
1-1-2000	14.72	17.17	8.40	8.40	6.32	8.77
1-1-2001	20.70	25.04	8.40	8.40	12.30	16.64
1-1-2002	25.62	32.41	8.40	8.40	17.22	24.01

(c) Accumulation of excess stock in Central Pool is due to bumper crops during the previous years, record procurement of wheat and rice and low offtake of foodgrains by States/UTs under TPDS and other Welfare Schemes due to easy accessibility of foodgrains in the open market. The steps taken by Government to increase the offtake of foodgrains are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) There has been no report of the foodgrains having rotted and consequently becoming unfit for human consumption in the godowns of FCI.

(e) Does not arise. FCI adopts the principle of "first in first out" in the issue of stocks, so that the older stocks are issued first.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government of India to increase off - take of foodgrains to liquidate the excess stocks.

- The allocation of foodgrains for Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families was revised w.e.f. 1.12.2000 on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. As a result, the number of BPL families eligible for subsidised foodgrains has increased from 5.96 crores families to 6.52 crore families.
- The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 10 kg. per family per month to 20 kg. per family per month from April 2000, and further to 25 kg. per family per month from July 2001.
- The Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice was reduced as under with effect from 12.7.2001, which will be valid till 31.3.2002 :

(Rs. per quintal)

	BPL	APL
Wheat	415	610
Rice	565	830

- (iv) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana was announced on 25.12.2000 for the one crore poorest of the poor BPL families. The scheme is now under implementation in all States/UTs. Each of the Antyodaya families is given 25 kg. of foodgrains @ Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg. for rice.
- (v) Foodgrains are made available at BPL rates for allotment to State Governments @ 5 kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions, such as beggar homes, orphanages/Nari Niketans, etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministry of the Government of India.
- (vi) Foodgrains at CIP applicable for BPL families are being allocated for all the welfare schemes including SC/ST/OBC hostels scheme, implemented by the various Ministries of the Government of India.
- (vii) Foodgrains are being allocated at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by NGOs, sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme
- (viii) Government has allocated 38.33 lakh MTs of foodgrains, free of cost, from January 2001 to 12.2.2002 for undertaking Food for Work programmes in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. Besides, Government had allocated one lakh MTs of foodgrains for distribution in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat in January 2001.
- (ix) Government of India has decided to give additional allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to the drought affected States for distribution to all the drought affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg per family per month for a period of three months in the current financial year. The Govts. of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have already been allocated additional foodgrains. The Govt. of Bihar has been given additional allocation of 1.80 lakh MTs of wheat at BPL rate for flood relief
- (x) In November 2000, it was decided to permit FCI to make wheat available from the Central Pool for

the purpose of export. A quantity of 42.96 lakh tonnes of wheat has been exported so far. With effect from the current financial year i.e. 2001-2002, FCI has also been making available rice for the purpose of export. The quantity lifted so far is 14.03 lakh tonnes.

- (xi) The Ministry of Rural Development has launched the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) on 25th September 2001 based on the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 15th August 2001. Under the programme, it is envisaged to utilize 50 lakh MTs of foodgrains every year. The allocation of foodgrains under SGRY upto 13.2.2002 has been 26.41 lakh MTs.
- (xii) The Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat was continued during the current financial year 2001-2002. The quantity sold from April 2001 to 15.2.2002 was 37.87 lakh tonnes.

[Translation]

Foodgrains for Mid-Day Meal Scheme

359. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether rotting foodgrains were recovered from the FCI godowns in November, 2001 which were purported to be provided under the Mid Day Scheme to the children of primary schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the erring officers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons thereto; and
- (e) the preventive steps taken by the Union Government in this regard and the number of the FCI godowns inspected for the purpose till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) The FCI is required to supply foodgrains conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act standards to the States for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes

including Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme. The State Governments are free to inspect the stocks and satisfy themselves about their quality before lifting the same from FCI depots. The State Governments have also been advised to depute an officer not below the rank of Inspector to check the quality of stocks.

During 2001-2002 (up to January 2002) 618 Food Storage Depots of FCI have been inspected by the Quality Control officers of the Ministry.

Policies for Industrial Promotion

360. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the policies adopted by the Government for promotion of industries in various States of the country particularly the North-Eastern States; and

(b) the amount allocated and actually provided to each State by the Union Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The 'New Industrial Policy and other concessions in the North East Region' was notified on 24th December, 1997 for promotion of industries in the North Eastern States.

(b) Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise release of Central assistance under Growth Centre Scheme in NER

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name(s)	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Arunachal Pradesh	48	50	--
Assam	--	250	200
Manipur	--	--	100
Meghalaya	--	--	--
Mizoram	--	--	250
Nagaland	500	500	195
Tripura	--	--	250
Total	548	800	995

Releases made to various states during the last three years, under transport subsidy scheme

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Assam	1250.53	1195.24	1669
2.	Manipur	24.41	4.01	-
3.	Tripura	51.40	26.19	69
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	277.21	606.46	-
5.	Meghalaya	127.45	703.96	262
6.	Nagaland	1169.19	649.02	-
7.	Mizoram	103.29	347.22	-
Total		3003.48	3532.10	2000

From May, 2000, NEDFI has been designated as the nodal agency for disbursement of subsidy to eligible units in North Eastern Region and accordingly funds are released in favour of NEDFI.

Central Capital Investment Subsidy Status as on 31.3.2000

(Rs. in crores)

State	Released amount
Arunachal Pradesh	-
Assam	-
Meghalaya	-
Mizoram	-
Nagaland	-
Tripura	0.26
Manipur	-
Total	0.26

Total amount released Rs. 2.00 crores

Total amount disbursed Rs. 0.26 crores

Balance Rs. 1.74 crores

Regarding Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme, a provision of Rs. 10 lakhs was made in 2000-2001.

[English]

Cooperative Banks

361. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) the number of cooperative banks working in Gujarat;

(b) whether some of the cooperative banks in the State have defaulted and duped the investors of several crores;

(c) if so, the names of such banks and the action being taken against them;

(d) whether Government/RBI are monitoring functioning of these banks;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for their failure to streamline the banks whose financial position was dwindling; and

(f) the steps being taken to avoid such defaults in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as on 31 January 2002 there were 359 primary urban co-operative banks functioning in the State of Gujarat of which 11 banks are scheduled.

(b) and (c) According to RBI a few of the banks have faced liquidity problems and have defaulted in meeting their commitments to their depositors. The names of these banks are given below :

- 1) The Madhavpura Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad
- 2) The Baroda Peoples Co-operative Bank Ltd., Baroda
- 3) The Natpur Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad
- 4) The Janata Commercial Co-operative Bank Ltd., Dholka
- 5) The General Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad
- 6) The Ahmedabad Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad

7) The Majoor Sahakari Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad

8) Shri Laxmi Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ahmedabad

9) The Ahmedabad Mahila Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd.

Against all these banks RBI has taken suitable action as warranted under Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (As Applicable to Cooperative Societies). These include issue of directions under Section 35A of the Act *ibid* for protecting the interest of the depositors and to avoid preferential payment to favoured depositors, placing certain restrictions on withdrawal of deposits and sanction of fresh loans, suppression of the Board of Directors and appointment of administrators, filing of criminal complaint against the chief executives of the banks, cancellation of the licence to carry on banking business and where necessary liquidation of the bank.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The position is regularly monitored by RBI. The urban co-operative bank function under a regime of dual control. Administratively, the urban banks fall under the jurisdiction of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, while the banking related functions are controlled by the RBI. To ensure smooth functioning of the banks RBI take various types of measures as also corrective measures against defaulted banks such as :

- Off-site surveillance and On-site inspections.
- issue directions to the banks under provisions of section 35A of the BR Act, 1949(AACS).
- Impose restrictions on operations, such as prohibition on acceptance of fresh deposits, granting fresh loans and advances and incurring further liabilities etc.

(f) As a part of the Monetary and Credit Policy, RBI announced certain measures in April 2001 to strengthen the urban banking sector. Accordingly, the urban co-operative banks were advised to desist from maintaining deposits with other urban co-operative banks, except for maintaining balances in current accounts for meeting their clearing and remittances requirements. Further, the banks have also been advised to increase their SLR investments in Government and other approved securities upto certain specified levels. Their borrowals in the call/Notice Money markets have been restricted. Also, Capital Adequacy/Norms have been made applicable to urban co-operative banks with effect from 31 March 2002. Recently, RBI has also advised the urban co-operative banks to bring down the interest rates on deposits to the level of prevailing market rates.

Apparel Parks

362. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received project proposals for setting up of Apparel Parks for export from various State Governments particularly from Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the number of proposals out of them cleared so far, State-wise;

(d) the amount likely to be incurred thereon and the contribution of the Union Government in this regard, Apparel Park-wise; and

(e) the time by which the rest of the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) A scheme has been announced in the Union Budget 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence i.e. "Apparel Park for Exports".

In anticipation of launch of the scheme, certain State Governments have forwarded project proposals for setting up of Apparel Parks for Exports in their respective States as Visakhapatnam and Kuppam (Andhra Pradesh), Ludhiana (Punjab), Surat and Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Chennai and Tirupur (Tamilnadu), Kolkata and Howrah (West Bengal), Bangalore and Bellary (Karnataka), Tronica City and Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Indore and Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh), Gannaure (Haryana).

The project proposals would be considered as per the guidelines of the scheme, as and when these are finalised.

Antyodaya Yojana

363. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the introduction of Antyodaya scheme for people below poverty line, essential commodities are not issued to holders of ration cards issued before the introduction of the said scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of families deprived of access to the Public Distribution System (PDS) after the introduction of the new scheme;

(d) the number of the new card holders, State-wise/ Union Territory-wise till date;

(e) the criteria adopted for identification of beneficiaries belonging to BPL families;

(f) the quantity and value of the different commodities issued per person per month;

(g) the percentage of the total entitlement lifted by the intended families till date? :

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) No family has been deprived of access to the Public Distribution System after introduction of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

(d) A statement showing the State-wise estimated number of BPL households and the number of families identified by the States/UTs as per the reports received is annexed.

(e) The identification of BPL families under Targeted PDS is carried out by the States /UTs. The number of BPL families has been worked out on the basis of the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1993-94 adopting the methodology of the "Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor" based on the projected population as on 1.3.2000. The States / UTs have been requested in the guidelines for implementation of TPDS that the thrust should be to include only the really poor and vulnerable sections of the society such as, landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/craftsmen such as potters, tappers, weavers, blacksmith, carpenters etc. in rural areas and slum dwellers and persons earning their livelihood on a daily basis in the informal sector like porters, rickshaw pullers and hand cart pullers, fruit and flower sellers on the pavements etc., in urban areas. States/UTs have been advised to actively involve the Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas in the identification of eligible families.

(f) The Central Issue Price (CIP) and monthly scale of issue of foodgrains for BPL families are as under :-

S.No.	Commodities	CIP (Rs./quintal)	Scale of Issue (kg./month)
1	2	3	4
1.	Rice -		25 kg (wheat and/or rice)
	Antyodaya	300	
	BPL Families	565	25 kg (wheat and/or rice)

1	2	3	4
2.	Wheat - Antyodaya	200	25 kg (wheat and/or rice)
	BPL Families	415	25 kg (wheat and/or rice)
3.	Sugar	1325	500 grams*

* Minimum per capita per month allotment of levy sugar in respect of States /UTs other than North Eastern States, Hill States and Island territories is 500 gram for BPL families. In case of NE States, Hill States and Island territories the per capita per month allotment of levy sugar has been fixed at 700 grams.

(g) During the period April, 2001 to January, 2002 the offtake of rice under BPL category was 57.55% and under AAY 80.57% of the allocation. Offtake of wheat under BPL category was 48.23% and under AAY category 67.13% of the allocation.

Statement

State-wise Estimate of BPL Families and Number of BPL Families actually identified by the State Governments

(As on 14.02.2002)

SL. No.	States	No. of BPL Households estimated as on 1.3.2000	No. of BPL Households identified by the State Govt. (in lakhs)	Reported as on
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	113.60	Nov, 2001
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	1.20	9.11.2001
3.	Assam	18.36	18.85	Aug, 2001
4.	Bihar	65.23	84.26	Nov, 1997
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	17.48	Aug, 2001
6.	Goa	0.48	0.13	Aug, 2001
7.	Gujarat	21.20	33.93	July, 2001
8.	Haryana	7.89	6.64	Nov, 2001
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	2.19	August, 2001
10.	J & K	7.36	5.82	Nov, 2001

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Jharkhand	23.94	22.21	Aug, 2001
12.	Karnataka	31.29	66.50	Sept, 2001
13.	Kerala	15.54	20.4	Sept, 2001
14.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	44.87	Aug, 2001
15.	Maharashtra	65.34	56.70	March, 2001
16.	Manipur	1.66	1.29	Feb, 1999
17.	Meghalaya	1.83	1.72	15.1.2001
18.	Mizoram	0.68	0.91	Aug, 2001
19.	Nagaland	1.24	1.24	Aug, 2001
20.	Orissa	32.98	48.57	Dec, 2001
21.	Punjab	4.68	5.02	Sept., 2001
22.	Rajasthan	24.31	23.82	6.12.2000
23.	Sikkim	0.43	0.44	Jan, 2002
24.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	65.51	Aug, 2001
25.	Tripura	2.95	2.50	Aug, 2001
26.	Uttaranchal	4.98	4.30	Dec, 2001
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	95.48	Aug, 2001
28.	West Bengal	51.79	47.87	July, 2001
29.	A&N Islands	0.28	0.12	Oct, 2000
30.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.23	12.2.2001
31.	D&N Haveli	0.18	0.16	Aug, 2001
32.	Daman & Diu	0.04	0.02	May, 2000
33.	Delhi	4.09	4.11	25.1.2001
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.01 (1285)	24.10.2001
35.	Pondicherry	0.84	0.95	Oct, 2001

Hostels for SC Girls and Boys

364. SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

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

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has urged the Union Government to release central assistance for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the construction of hostels for the Scheduled Castes girls and boys;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have yet to release its share for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to release the above mentioned funds to avoid further delay in the construction of hostels?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) Proposals submitted by Government of Karnataka for release of assistance for construction of hostel for Scheduled Caste boys and girls have been processed as per guidelines and assistance, as indicated below, have been sanctioned.

Year	Amount sanctioned as Central Share (Rs. in lacs)	
	Boys	Girls
1999-2000	483.82	35.44
2000-2001	495.00	148.96
2001-2002	563.19	207.42
Total	1542.01	391.82

GDP Growth

365. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central for Monitoring Indian Economic cuts (CMIE) GDP Growth to 5 per cent;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) in its Press Release dated December 10, 2001 captioned "CMIE cuts GDP growth to 5.7 per cent for 2001-02" has stated that the Indian economy is estimated to grow by 5.7 per cent during 2001-02 as against the earlier projection of 6 per cent. This downward revision in the growth of real GDP to 5.7 per cent for 2001-02 is based on lower estimated growth in the industrial sector at 3.5 per cent compared with its earlier projection of 4.5 per cent. However, the forecast for agricultural sector and services sectors remain broadly unchanged at 6.5 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively. The various economic reforms measures undertaken by the Government in area of industry, external sector and taxation etc. together with the reduction in the bank rate to 6.5 per cent and reduction and rationalisation in the cash reserve ratio for the banking system undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India are expected to have a favourable impact on growth.

External Commercial Borrowings

366. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government allowed all companies to enjoy the benefit of exemption from withholding on External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) prior to June 1, 2001;

(b) if so, the names of the companies benefited by this and the amount of money involved during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have taken a final view to deny tax benefits to certain companies in the form of exemption on withholding ECBs aggregating to billion of Dollars; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to realise the money at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Government was giving exemption from withholding tax on interest payment and associated fees and charges to industrial undertakings raising foreign currency borrowings for specified end uses under Section 10 (15) (iv) (a) to (h) of Income Tax Act (ITA), 1961. The IT Act, 1961 as amended through Finance Act, 2001 provides that with effect from 1st June 2001 for External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) under fresh loan agreements, the above exemptions would not be available under section 10(15) (iv) (a) to (f).

(b) Information in respect of companies in India who have accessed ECB and which were given exemption during the last three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) For ECBs contracted on or after 1st June 2001, the tax exemption under section 10(15) (iv) (a) to (f) is not available. In respect of ECBs contracted prior to 1st June 2001 and granted tax exemptions, companies/borrowers adhering to all the terms and conditions of ECB approval including end use conditions would continue to enjoy tax exemptions. In case of one company the tax exemption granted has been withdrawn prospectively, as there has been a breach of the condition of the ECB approvals.

Procurement of Rubber

367. **SHRI A.C. JOS :**

SHRI SURESH KURUP :

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

SHRI P. C. THOMAS :

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the State Trading Corporation (STC) and State Government of Kerala to procure rubber from the domestic market;

(b) if so, whether any target has been fixed in this regard;

(c) if so, whether STC and State Government have started procurement of rubber;

(d) if so, the quantity of rubber that has been procured from the domestic market till date;

(e) the extent to which this process has provided relief to the rubber planters;

(f) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance to State Government and STC for procurement of rubber; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) To stabilise the declining prices of Natural Rubber, the Govt. of India had from 1997 to April 2001 made a market intervention through STC to procure Natural Rubber from the domestic market. During this period a quantity of around 54,000 MT of Natural Rubber was procured. The procurement helped the rubber growers to get a reasonable price for their produce. However, with the fixation and notification of minimum price, which is based on import parity price, for trading in Natural Rubber, procurement of Natural Rubber through STC has been stopped.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

India's Share in World Exports

368. **DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :** Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution of Indian export is not even 1% of the total world export;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has been decided to achieve the target 1% by the year 2007; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The share of India's export in world trade is 0.67% in 2000. Though this is less than the percentage share of China and some other South East Asian countries, India's share in World Trade has risen from 0.41% in 1992-93 to 0.6% in 1998-99 and 0.67% in 2000.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Medium Term Export Strategy (MTES), for the period 2002-2007, has been announced which aims at increasing India's share of merchandise exports to 1 % of World exports by 2006-07. Medium Term Export Strategy gives a road map for the export sector including key macro & sector-wise strategies. Further, focus products have

been identified by examining the import basket of major trading partners and India's export basket.

NGOs for Disabled in Gujarat

369. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

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

(a) the NGOs working on schemes to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities in Gujarat;

(b) the assistance extended to organizations involved therein since operation of the scheme; and

(c) the achievements made therein so far?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) 25 NGOs have been assisted since the inception of the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities in Gujarat. An amount of Rs. 227.35 lacs has been released as grant to these organizations under this Scheme in the last 3 years. A Statement indicating the name of the NGOs, the projects sanctioned and the amount of the grant released to them is enclosed.

(c) The Scheme has been helpful in providing facilities of education, training and rehabilitation services to the disabled in the State. About 60000 persons have benefited under the programmes funded under this Scheme.

Statement

Details of Grants given during last 3 years to Voluntary Organisations under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities

District	Name of the Organisation	Name of the project	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	Total Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ahmedabad	Gujarat Kelavani Trust	Care & Rehabilitation Centre for PH	0	27180	390420	417600
	Sadbhavana Rural Development Trust	Special School for VH	0	0	20700	20700
	SOPAN	School cum VTC for MR	0	416765	51550	468315
	Andh Apang Kalyan Kendra	Home Visit Scheme	113447	150390	161424	425261
	Blind People's Association	Bakery & Skill Development	84746	157770	160920	403436
		BMA News Letter	51754	79650	79650	211054
		Computer Training Centre	97843	156456	60750	315049
		Electronic Training Centre	130311	169560	84780	384651
		Employment and Placement Services	92213	116010	125190	333413
		Gujrati Shorthand	58302	95508	92160	245970
		Low Vision Centre	0	0	658156	658156
		Multicategory Workshop for PH	384552	568620	568620	1521792
		National Rehabilitation Engineering Unit	81851	403438	290160	775449
		School of Physiotherapy	67551	303660	303660	674871
		Talking Book Library	88449	160200	160200	408849

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Indian Council of Social Welfare (Ahmedabad)	Resource Centre for Handicapped	0	27450	399600	427050
	Light House for Blind Girls	Multicategory Workshop for Blind Girls	293088	518850	298183	1110121
	Rachnatmak Abigam Trust	Growth and Development Centre for the Handicapped	200128	410760	433980	1044868
Banaskantha	Viklang Sarwangi Vikas Trust	School and Hostel for PH	0	199440	1038420	1237860
Vadodara	Akshar Trust	Special School for Hearing Handicapped	0	0	217485	217485
		Teacher's Training Centre	0	0	119250	119250
	ARPAN	Diagnostic & Development Centre	248400	526500	257450	1032350
	The Baniyan City Jaycee Education Trust	VTC & Rehabilitation of MR	0	140175	213705	350880
	Medical Care Centre	Centre for Development of MR Children	306468	322985	581544	1210997
Bhavnagar	Ankur Special School for MR	Special School for MR	0	0	284643	284643
	Shri Apang Parivar Kalyan Kendra	KG School for PH (SALARY)	0	9405	54600	64005
	Smt. Parsanben Narandas Ramji Shah (Talajawala) Society for Relief & Rehabilitation of the Disabled	Salary of the Staff (CP Centre)	0	0	139950	139950
	Shri K.L. Institute for the Deaf	Salary of Adult Training Institute	160070	215820	185580	561470
		Salary of Librarian	56052	66960	66960	189972
		Teacher's Training Institute	71206	170460	197460	439126
		Transport Allowance	55900	179550	170100	405550
Kutch	Hari Asro Trust	Construction of Building	200000			200000
Jamnagar	Andhjan Vividhalaxi Talim Kendra	Multicategory Workshop for Disabled	357587	720270	535994	1613851
		Transport Allowance to Day Scholars (Upaasana)	0	0	8978	8978
	Mata Lachmi Rotary Charitable Society	Low Vision Centre	0	0	428160	428160
		Transport Allowance to Day Scholars	0	0	9765	9765
Mahesana	Apang Seva Trust	Construction of Building	200000	0	200000	400000
Rajkot	The Society for the Mentally Retarded	Adults Training Workshop for MR	302580	468453	451198	1222231

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sabarkantha	National Association for the Blind	Low vision centre	0	0	446175	446175
Surat	Disabled Welfare Trust of India	Special School for OH	0	723285	1426950	2150235
Surendranagar	Shree D.S. Parekh Amrutben Parekh Deaf & Dumb School	Craftman and Trademan	45057	30240	77760	153057
			3747555	7535810	11452230	22735595

Ways and Means Advances

370. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of days each of the States has availed ways and Means Advances and taken resort to overdrafts during fiscal 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till January 31, 2002;

(b) the amount of interest during each of last three years ending 2000-2001 of each of the States on Ways and Means Advances and overdrafts;

(c) whether the Government are planning to bail out chronically deficit affected States i.e. States having deficits on revenue account for continuously more than ten years ending 2000-2001;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the alternative arrangement Union Government are contemplating for survival of such deficit States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Transactions between a State and the RBI is conducted as per an agreement between the two. Since disclosure of information on Overdrafts by the States impinges upon the relationship between the banker and the clients (between the RBI and the State Governments), such information is not published/made public by the Government of India.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government of India has created a Fiscal

Reform Facility for 1999-2000 to 2004-2005 as recommended by Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) for incentivising States to undertake fiscal reforms. An Incentive Fund has been constituted and release to States from this Fund are based on improvements in their Revenue Deficit/Surplus position. However, in order to meet temporary mismatches in the revenue receipts and revenue expenditure, ways & means advance from Government of India is available to States. Besides, Government of India also releases in advance feasible monthly entitlements of the States for the year where necessary.

Export Growth Target

371. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export growth target has been slashed to 3% during this year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have slashed the export growth target for 2000-01 to 3% as against an earlier projection of 12 per cent;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, The overall annual export target of India has been revised to 3% from a level of 12% which was originally envisaged at the beginning of the current financial year, keeping in view the global economic conditions in general and the lower growth of world exports during the first half of 2001.

(d) Export promotion continues to be a major thrust area. Several measures to boost exports have been under-

taken in order to provide competitive edge to the Indian goods in the International market. Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crore or above for a period of one year, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports for a period of one year and upward revision of duty draw back rates on a number of product groups. All this and other factors have helped to arrest the declining trend in exports experienced during the early part of the current financial year. Further, taking Stock of the developments in the recent past and considering the current global economic environment, the Medium Term Export Strategy for the period 2002-2007 has been announced.

Loan to Sick Industries

372. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated amount of loan, the public sector banks and other public sector financial institutions extended to sick industries during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the loan outstanding against these sick industries; bank-wise and financial institution-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the government to recover the outstanding loan from these sick industrial units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information regarding estimated amount of loan the PSBs & FIs extended to sick industries is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House to the extent available.

Record of OCB Transaction

373. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India does not monitor and maintain the date regarding siphoned off the money by Overseas Corporate Bodies from India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expenditure on Maintenance of Godowns

374. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expenditure incurred on maintaining the foodgrains stocks in godowns in the proper condition have considerably gone up;

(b) if so, the amount spent during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated steps to reduce the expenditure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The expenditure on maintaining the foodgrains stocks during the last 3 years alongwith quantity of buffer stocks is as under :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)	Average stocks (Lakh Tonnes)
1998-99	5454	165.02
1999-2000 (P)	5636	182.98
2000-2001 (P)	6624	246.16

(P) Provisional

(c) to (e) In order to reduce the buffer carrying cost, Government has initiated following steps to liquidate the stock :

1. Increased allocation of foodgrains @ 25 Kg. Per family per month under BPL.
2. Reduction of Central Issue Price w.e.f. 25th July, 2000 and further reduction in APL price by 30% during July, 2001.
3. Offering of wheat and rice at price lower than economic cost under open sales.
4. Issues under various welfare schemes like Mid Day Meal, Nutrition Programme, Food for Work, Annapurna and schemes for Indigent People (Destitute women & children), SC/ST & OBC Hostels etc. at BPL prices instead of economic price.

5. Wheat & Rice are being issued @ Rs.2/- & Rs.3/- per Kg. respectively under Antyodaya Anna Yojana.
6. Export of wheat and rice at prices lower than economic cost.
7. Wheat and Rice is also being issued under Sampoorne Gramin Rojgar Yojana sponsored by Ministry of Rural Development in the States of Chattisgarh, Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

Theft in RBI, Delhi

375. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several lakhs of rupees have been found missing in RBI, Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof along with action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) RBI, New Delhi Office has reported that a remittance was received from Jalandhar (Adarsh Nagar) branch of Oriental Bank of Commerce on 3rd July 1999. The note boxes were opened and the notes stored in the boxes after preliminary verification by packet and bundles in the presence of chest representative on 6th July 1999. During the physical verification of balances conducted on 20th December 2001, a shortage of three bundles of Rs 500 notes valuing Rs. 15 lakhs was detected.

(c) and (d) RBI has initiated departmental action and issued charge sheets to two officers who were joint custodians holding charge of the notes. They have also been placed under

suspension. RBI has also placed an embargo on the retirement benefits of a third officer who was working in the vault at the relevant time. The matter has also been reported to the police.

Import of Cotton

376. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of cotton has increased while the production of cotton textiles has decreased during the last year;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Import of cotton and production of cotton textiles during ,999-2000 and 2000-01 are as under :

Year	Import of cotton * (in thousand ton)	Production of cotton textiles	
		Cotton Yarn (in million kg.)	Cotton cloth (in million sq. mtr.)
1999-2000	237.40	2204	18989
2000-2001	212.07	2267	19627

* Source : DGCIS

(c) Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton to improve the productivity and quality of cotton.

Stoppage of PDS Commodities to Income Tax Payers

377. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided not to issue subsidised ration to Income tax payees;

(b) if so, the number of cardholders in the country, who are not being issued subsidised ration as a consequence thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue special ration cards to income tax payees under a special scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir. However, the supply of levy sugar under PDS has been restricted only to BPL families in all States/UTs except the North-Eastern States, Hill States and Island territories w.e.f. 1.2.2001.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Atrocities Against SCs

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

(a) the number of offences of untouchability committed against Scheduled Castes registered during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 reports submitted to Parliament during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Total number of cases registered under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 as reported by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for the year 1997, 1998 and 1999 are enclosed as statement.

(b) Three Annual Reports for the calendar years 1993, 1994 and 1995 on the working of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 have been laid in both the Houses of the Parliament during 1997 to 1999.

Statement

Number of cases registered under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999.

S.No.	States/UTs	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197	199	279
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	Nil	1	2
5.	Goa	1	1	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	22	19	3
7.	Haryana	5	1	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	Nil	2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	1	1
10.	Karnataka	234	137	106
11.	Kerala	7	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	67	58	13
13.	Maharashtra	154	108	53
14.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Orissa	7	4	4
19.	Punjab	3	1	5
20.	Rajasthan	4	1	2
21.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	68	49	32
23.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20	8	Nil
25.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	1	Nil	Nil
28.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.	Delhi	8	9	10
31.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Pondicherry	21	12	10
Total		831	611	526

*[English]***Textile Exports**

379. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of exports of Indian textile and finished apparels separately, during the last three year, year-wise;

(b) the target of export of these items fixed for each financial year during the above period;

(c) whether the targets fixed in this regard were achieved;

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

(e) the various steps taken to achieve the targets so fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The targets and achievements of exports of textile products including ready-made garment during the last three years are given below :-

(US\$ in Million)

Item	1998-99		1999-00		2000-01	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Textile Exports	14275	12558.7	14385	13324.8	15532	14470.2
Of which						
Ready-made Garment	5900	5268.4	6000	5524.5	6500	6217.7

N.B.1 : Based on data reported by Textile Export Promotion Councils

N.B.2 : DGCI&S data on non-quota exports used for deriving export figures for 2000-01.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Due to the general recession in the world market, slow growth in cotton yarn exports in South East Asian economy and low unit value realisation in non-restrained items in the case of apparel articles, the exports targets could not achieved during these period.

(e) Various facilities such as duty drawback, concessional rate of duty for import of machineries under EPCG Scheme, allowing import of restricted items under the Advance Licence Scheme of the Export-Import Policy, duty free import of essential items of trimmings & embellishments like fasteners, polywadding, labels, tags, buttons, hangers, stickers, polybags and lining and interlining materials, full/partial exemption under 80 HHC of Income Tax has been allowed.

Government have also been taking several steps from time to time to achieve the textile exports target. Some of the important initiatives are :-

i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector.

ii) A provision of Rs.10 crores has been earmarked in the R.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e. apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 10 crores has also been made in R.E. 2001-02 for scheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.

iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade. Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted.

iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

v) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focused steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture

and export of competitive downstream textile products.

- vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- vii) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.
- viii) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought to 5%.
- ix) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.
- x) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of improving countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.
- xi) The National Textile Policy - 2000 (NTxP-2000) has been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.
- xii) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalised.
- xiii) A programme has been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- xiv) The following relaxations under the Quota Policy have been recently announced.
 - Large additional quantities are being opened for most of the categories under the FCFS/RGE systems of the Quota Policies with a view to providing quotas to the garment and textile exporters on a continuous basis.
 - In order to reduce transaction costs and time of the exporters, EMD/BG amounts were reduced during year 2001 for certain

categories and the date for utilising quotas were extended. Further, the L/C condition under the FCFS system was also waived for all such categories which had quantities left over for the rest of the year.

[Translation]

Earning from Textiles Export

380. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country earns foreign exchange by exporting textiles;

(b) If so, the year-wise details of foreign exchange earned by said exports during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the year-wise and percentage-wise details of the said foreign exchange earned as compared to the entire foreign exchange earned during the aforesaid years; and

(d) the additional incentives announced by the Government during the aforesaid years for promoting exports with regard to the textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The value of textile exports from the country and foreign exchange earned as compared to the entire foreign exchange earned during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are given below :-

(in US\$ Million)

Year	Textiles including Jute, Coir and Handicrafts	Overall Exports	Textile Exports as %age of total exports
1998-99	9548.2	33641.5	28.4%
1999-2000	10508.5	36805.4	28.6%
2000-2001	12097.4	44103.8	27.4%

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta

(d) Various facilities such as duty drawback, concessional rate of duty for import of machineries under EPCG Scheme, allowing import of restricted items under the

Advance Licence Scheme of the Export-Import Policy, duty free import of essential items of trimmings & embellishments like fasteners, polywadding, labels, tags, buttons, hangers, stickers, polybags and lining and interlining materials, full/partial exemption under 80 HHC of Income Tax has been allowed.

Government have also been taking several steps from time to time to strengthen and promote textile exports. Some of the important initiatives are :-

- i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector.
- ii) A provision of Rs.10 crores has been earmarked in the R.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e. apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 10 crores has also been made in R.E. 2001-02 for scheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.
- iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade. Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted.
- iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.
- v) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focused steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products.
- vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- vii) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.

- viii) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought to 5%.
- ix) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.
- x) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of improving countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.
- xi) The National Textile Policy - 2000 (NTxP-2000) has been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.
- xii) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalised.
- xiii) A programme has been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.
- xiv) The following relaxations under the Quota Policy have been recently announced.
 - Large additional quantities are being opened for most of the categories under the FCFS/RGE systems of the Quota Policies with a view to providing quotas to the garment and textile exporters on a continuous basis.
 - In order to reduce transaction costs and time of the exporters, EMD/BG amounts were reduced during 2001 for certain categories and the date for utilising quotas were extended. Further, the L/C condition under the FCFS system was also waived for all such categories which had quantities left over for the rest of the year.

[English]

Investment Limit of OCBs

381. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

state :

(a) whether the five Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) viz. European Investment Limited, Far East Investment Limited, Wakefield Holding Limited, Brentfield Holdings Limited and Kensington Investment Limited with a total capital base of Rs. 7.53 lakh repatriated a net of Rs. 2900 Crore during the two years ending March, 2001;

(b) if so, how with so very small capital these OCBs transacted in such large quantities of scrips as to repatriate nearly three thousand crores of rupees outside the country;

(c) whether is there any investment limit for these OCBs;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not the reasons therefor;

(f) whether there is any proposal to insert investment limit for OCBs; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The net outflow may include sales/repatriation of underlying shares acquired by Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) outside India with foreign exchange resources through ADR/GDR/FCCB route, purchases from other NRIs/ OCBs and sale in India of the underlying shares and for which there may be no corresponding inflow under the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) data.

(f) and (g) It has been decided that with effect from 29.11.2001, OCBs shall not be permitted to invest under the PIS in India.

FDI in Tobacco Sector

382. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in tobacco sector to promote production of tobacco leaf; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No change is contemplated in the present practice of not permitting FDI in tobacco sector.

(b) Does not arise.

15-Point Programme for the Minorities

383. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to recast the 15-point programme for minorities;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government for the effective implementation of the 15-point programme?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) Revision of the 15-point programme for the welfare of Minorities for making it more effective for welfare of the minorities is under consideration. As it requires consultation with several organizations, it is not possible to indicate exact time limit for completing the work.

Ban on Investment by OCB

384. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering banning of investments by Overseas Corporate Bodies in Indian companies and the stock market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the effect of it on Indian stock market and on the small investors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps being taken to monitor flow of funds through the OCB route;

(f) whether the Government have set up any high level committee in this regard;

(g) if so, the recommendations made by the committee; and

(h) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of high level committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (h) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that during the course of preliminary investigations by SEBI into recently reported market manipulations, indications of use

of certain Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) for circular trading, concentration of holding, parking of shares by a few stock brokers were noticed. Further investigations into the role of OCBs in possible price manipulation, violation of SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of shares and Takeover) Regulations etc. are in progress.

The issues regarding possible misuse of the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) by certain OCBs was considered by the High Level Committee on Financial and Capital Markets and in the light of recommendations made by the Committee it has been decided that with effect from 29.11.2001, OCBs shall not be permitted to invest under the PIS in India.

Procurement of Coarse-Grains

385. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) the quantity of coarse-grains procured by the FCI during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the policy adopted by the FCI for distribution of coarse-grains through their outlets;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to distribute coarsegrain to poor consumers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The quantity of coarsegrains procured, State-wise, by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given below :-

(Figures in Tones)

State	Quantity procured by the FCI		
	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	15	73	20451
Karnataka	53	-	12325
Madhya Pradesh	1336	-	-
Maharashtra	283	89	-

(b) FCI does not undertake distribution of coarsegrains directly through the Public Distribution System

(PDS). However, the State Governments, which procure coarsegrains, distribute the same through their Public Distribution System. The surplus quantity is handed over to FCI for disposal. The FCI's stocks, alongwith these stocks, are sold through open tender on 'as is where is' basis. As and when a particular State requires coarsegrains for distribution under their PDS, the same is made available to the concerned State Governments depending upon availability of stocks with the FCI.

(c) to (e) As per the information received from the States, there is no demand for coarsegrains under the PDS, except for a small quantity in Gujarat. Therefore, there is no proposal to distribute coarsegrains under the PDS at present.

[Translation]

Foreign Banks

386. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the name of foreign banks which have been permitted to do business in India following the implementation of liberalisation policy alongwith the name of those banks which have already started their operations;
- (b) the total profit earned by these banks during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the total money in foreign exchanges being sent by these banks to their parent countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) According to information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) 24 foreign banks were permitted to do business in India and started the operations since 1993 i.e. the beginning of the liberalisation process. Out of these, two banks have since closed their operations. The names of these banks are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The overall total profits/losses made by these banks and the total remittance made to their parent countries during each of the last three years, year-wise, is as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Profits/Losses	Remittance made
1998-1999	(-) 8.69	8.07
1999-2000	(-) 43.51	1.87
2000-2001	(-) 52.60	Nil

Though together all these Banks have reported losses, the remittance have been made by banks who's operations have resulted in net profits.

Statement

Name of the foreign banks which have permitted to do business in India following the implementation of liberalization policy, and started the operations (since 1993)

1. Barclays Bank
2. ING Bank
3. Chase Manhattan Bank
4. State Bank of Mauritius
5. Development Bank of Singapore
6. Dresdner Bank
7. Bank of Ceylon
8. Commerz Bank
9. Siam Commercial Bank
10. Bank International Indonesia
11. China Trust Commercial Bank
12. Arab Bangladesh Bank
13. Chohung Bank
14. Fuji Bank
15. Krung Thai Bank Public Co.
16. Overseas - Chinese Banking Corpn.
17. Commercial Bank of Korea (Closed)
18. Hanil Bank (Closed)
19. Sumitomo Bank
20. Toronto Dominion Bank

21. Mashreq Bank
22. Bank Muscat Intl. SAO
23. Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York
24. KBC Bank

[English]

Fund for Infrastructure Development

387. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether the Government have created a fund for the infrastructural development of the rural areas;

(b) if so, the fund allocated to various States for the purpose during last three years; and

(c) the funds spent by the State Governments on infrastructural development during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) In order to encourage quicker completion of rural infrastructure projects Union Government had set up Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in April 1995. Since then it is continuing on a year to year basis.

(b) The loan sanctioned out of the Fund to State Governments for the purpose, since inception is given at statement-I.

(c) Loan from RIDF utilized by various State Governments since inception is given at statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise Details of Sanctions - Year-wise

(As on 15 February 2002)

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	State	Year-wise Sanctions							Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	227.09	334.22	290.79	305.42	383.09	573.52	509.37	2623.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh					25.10	88.50	32.80	146.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Assam		63.29	16.07	64.72	196.14	49.57		389.79
4.	Bihar	22.17		57.96		9.51	43.71	85.07	218.42
5.	Chhattisgarh	79.12	8.98	57.07	65.32	34.10	50.86	46.79	342.24
6.	Goa	6.85			8.93		19.09		34.87
7.	Gujarat	150.90	133.79	160.60	136.36	254.06	554.75	40.90	1431.36
8.	Haryana	26.70	61.06	74.98	56.25	99.07	67.43	152.79	538.28
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14.23	52.96	51.12	88.58	112.80	135.03	138.75	593.47
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.14	8.06	35.95	105.87	110.88	161.52	37.80	466.22
11.	Jharkhand			4.35	118.50	91.42			214.27
12.	Karnataka	172.63	195.21	170.84	173.87	173.85	303.13	315.71	1505.24
13.	Kerala	95.93	87.60	89.88	64.55	127.58	186.33	72.99	724.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	161.32	198.62	191.63	177.52	228.87	292.79	270.77	1521.52
15.	Maharashtra	186.81	231.66	254.31	301.98	350.28	439.17	421.08	2185.29
16.	Manipur	1.75					8.33		10.08
17.	Meghalaya	3.39		7.06	9.33	35.10	30.49	13.86	99.23
18.	Mizoram	2.38				54.17	3.76	4.54	64.85
19.	Nagaland	1.38			0.72	16.52	61.49	0.95	81.06
20.	Orissa	169.50	128.64	162.91	162.56	134.62	107.43	142.50	1008.16
21.	Punjab	60.50	62.50	88.85	115.94	102.79	236.66	222.88	890.12
22.	Rajasthan	123.51	151.50	162.88	72.29	153.08	253.75	285.24	1202.25
23.	Sikkim				21.29	8.72	4.55	5.48	40.04
24.	Tamil Nadu		245.79	195.11	176.56	254.01	261.84	224.67	1357.88
25.	Tripura				21.70	45.01	35.40		102.11
26.	Uttar Pradesh	295.72	491.65	411.30	474.97	348.94	247.72	277.31	2547.61
27.	Uttaranchal			21.68	50.80	4.98			77.46
28.	West Bengal	102.52	156.94	173.55	214.32	222.29	413.23	290.22	1573.07
	Total	1910.54	2612.47	2678.89	2988.35	3576.98	4630.05	3592.37	21989.65

Statement-II**State-wise & Year-wise Disbursement under RIDF***(As on 15/02/2002)**(Rs. in crore)*

State	Disbursement							
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	39.20	70.25	146.71	227.22	240.15	353.05	333.76	1410.34
Arunachal Pradesh					6.02	27.54	16.44	50.00
Assam				38.81	79.23	53.63	8.37	178.04
Bihar						17.43	0	17.43
Chhattisgarh							19.39	19.39
Goa	4.17	2.67		0.89	4.08	2.85	8.35	23.01
Gujarat	31.00	103.23	65.15	72.04	145.40	272.55	125.88	815.25
Haryana		15.98	53.93	18.33	37.29	65.42	40.38	231.33
Himachal Pradesh	3.60	14.89	23.86	40.66	56.01	106.90	84.67	330.59
Jammu & Kashmir	0.62		10.17	6.46	55.18	71.64	36.51	180.58
Jharkhand *							0	
Karnataka	23.06	66.60	64.41	118.86	143.37	204.88	125.99	747.17
Kerala	7.87	57.43	35.90	39.65	60.96	74.71	85.21	361.73
Madhya Pradesh	36.69	118.53	74.63	94.98	123.66	188.66	176.94	814.09
Maharashtra	82.01	136.84	94.17	32.91	303.40	421.98	22.81	1094.12
Manipur			0.96				0	0.96
Meghalaya			2.79	1.42	10.81	13.07	8.34	36.43
Mizoram		0.40	1.97		9.08	11.49	12.95	35.89
Nagaland		1.38			5.05	9.82	0	16.25
Orissa	50.71	68.62	98.37	37.46	157.23	80.12	83.56	576.07
Punjab	20.00	39.16	52.46	79.40	65.07	120.01	156.87	532.97
Rajasthan	43.23	68.52	64.77	103.69	103.60	201.92	141.23	726.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tamil Nadu		11.60	84.03	111.60	184.83	261.27	180.03	813.12
Tripura					4.31	7.90	3.32	15.53
Uttar Pradesh	30.66	238.89	97.87	221.05	319.80	352.46	109.27	1370.00
Uttaranchal *							0	0.00
West Bengal	14.52	72.09	36.88	69.93	134.01	268.04	174.95	770.42
Sikkim					11.90	6.94	8.76	27.60
Total	387.34	1087.08	1009.03	1313.12	2277.87	3176.85	1943.98	11195.27

* Disbursement in respect of newly formed States viz. Uttaranchal and Jharkhand are yet to commence since the formation of these States.

Closure of PSUs

388. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Rehabilitation Industries Corporation and Cycle Corporation of India have been closed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether majority of workers of these undertakings have opted for Voluntary Separation Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Government have not made any effort to revive these Central Public Sector Undertakings though there was a possibility of revival; and

(f) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Continued poor performance, huge accumulated losses, continued dependence on Government for meeting the liability of salary/wages, and non-emergence of any viable revival plan despite repeated efforts were the main reasons leading to the action for closure of the undertaking.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The number of employees who opted for Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) in these PSUs was :

(a)	Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation (MAMC)	3967
(b)	Rehabilitation Industries Corporation (RIC)	1087

(c) Cycle Corporation of India Limited (CCIL) 1492

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.00 hours.

11.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

12.00½ hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri E. Ahamed and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again on 4th March, 2002 at 11 a.m.

12.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 4, 2002/ Phalguna 13, 1923 (Saka).

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