

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Monday, August 18, 2003/Sravana 27, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Mr. Speaker Sir, democracy has been murdered in Gujarat. Farmers has been beaten badly...(Interruptions). Everybody in the country has right to agitate...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[English]

Let the business of the House be transacted.

11.01 hrs.

MOTION RE : SUSPENSION OF
QUESTION HOUR

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Sir, with your permission I beg to move :

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha insofar as it provides for the first hour of the sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up consideration of the listed Government Business for today, the 18th August, 2003. "... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr.

Speaker Sir, Business Advisory Committee have decided to hold a discussion on it but the government have not won the vote of confidence so far, so on moral ground no government business can be transacted in the House. ... (Interruptions) But we know that it is on immoral government ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I am putting the motion moved by the hon. Minister to vote.

The question is :

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha insofar as it provides for the first hour of the sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up consideration of the List of Business today, the 18th August, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

So, there will be no Question Hour today.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Security at IGI Airport

*361. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security has conducted any study on security arrangements at IGI Airport and other airports of the country in the context of possible terrorist attack;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the security arrangements around IGI Airport are adequate to face any terrorist attack; and

(d) if not, the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) As a part of the ongoing process, BCAS officials have conducted inspection of security arrangements at all the airports including IGI Airport. At all Airports in the country, inclusive of IGI Airport, adequate security arrangements are in force according to the guidelines of Annexure-17 of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and India's National Civil Aviation Security Programme.

No major shortcomings have been noticed. However, all concerned agencies have been sensitized to the need for maintaining utmost security. The existing instructions about access control, perimeter security, Quick Reaction Teams, pre-embarkation security checks, screening of registered baggage, handling of cargo, have been reiterated. A Quick Reaction Team (QRT) has also been stationed at IGI Airport.

[Translation]

Provision of 'Seeds' Mini-Kits

*362. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide mini-kits of the varieties of seed of peas, masur, mung, urad etc. to various States within a span of ten years under the pulse production programme;

(b) whether the Government are also contemplating to remove the restriction of ten years prescribed for providing 'seeds' mini-kits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) to (c) Under the National Pulses Development Project, Government are providing minikits of the varieties of seeds released within a span of ten years of peas, masur, mung, urad etc. to various States. The removal of the restriction of ten years old varieties is not under contemplation. However, this restriction is relaxed on a case to case basis to meet special circumstances.

[English]

Deforestation

*363. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :
SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI :

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

(a) whether in a bid to save the forests from deforestation the Union Government have decided to promote the use of non-wood forest products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have been asked to identify non-wood forest products;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reports submitted by the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) the further action the Union Government propose to take save forest from deforestation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Several measures have been taken by Government for conservation, protection and control of forests. Promotion of use of non-wood forest products to reduce the demand on forests for timber is one of such measures.

(b) Various other measures taken by Government inter-alia include the following:

(i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, Forest Conservation Act 1980 and Environment Protection Act, 1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.

(ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management.

(iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and externally aided projects.

(iv) Other measures like creation of Protected Areas, substitution of wood etc.

(c) State/UT Governments have been asked to take up at least 10% of the area to be covered under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "National Afforestation Programme" for Non-Wood Forest Products which include bamboo and medicinal plants.

(d) The target for the bamboo plantation under National Afforestation Programme during the 10th Five Year Plan is 50,000 hectares. Project involving plantation on 37,602 ha. have been sanctioned till date.

(e) Government has taken a decision to provide Central assistance to all the States/UTs for working plans and development of infrastructure under the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme.

Production of Bio-Pesticides

*364. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any strategy for increasing the production of 'Bio-Pesticides' in the country in view of its growing demand in organic farming;

(b) if so, whether the limited availability of quality bio-pesticides is discouraging farmers to undertake organic farming;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether less than 0.1 percentage of farmers use bio-pesticides due to lack of awareness; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to create awareness amongst farmers for use of bio-pesticides and augment its production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Registration Committee (RC) constituted under the insecticides Act, 1968 registers bio-pesticides after satisfying itself about the effectiveness of the product against the target pests and safety to human beings, animals and environment. To facilitate early registration of Bio-pesticides, Registration Committee has simplified the data requirement and commercial production of Bio-pesticides is allowed even during the period of provisional registration.

The Directors of Agriculture of respective States issue licences for manufacturing of bio-pesticides in their States after registration is granted. The use of bio-pesticides is being actively promoted under the ambit of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and organic farming by the Central and State Governments through the network of 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) located in 22 States/UT, State Department of Agriculture and Horticulture and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs). Central Government is also giving grants-in-aid to State Government to establish Bio-control Laboratories to produce bio-control agents including bio-pesticides.

Sufficient quantity of quality bio-pesticides is being produced in the country for use at farmers' level in organic farming as well as under Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programmes on various crops.

(d) and (e) By and large, the pest control is achieved by the farmers by using chemical pesticides being more readily available. However, keeping in view the various side-effects of the chemical pesticides, the use of bio-pesticides under the ambit of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and organic farming is picking up. In this respect, efforts are being made to promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and organic farming by Central and State Governments. The use of bio-pesticides has been recommended as part of the package of practices for the control of various pests in different crops. IPM training is imparted to farmers by organizing farmers' Field Schools (FFSs) on various crops. As a result, the use of chemical pesticides is declining while the use of bio-pesticides is on the increase.

Under the new Scheme of National Project on Organic Farming, various training programmes, field demonstrations/ farmers fairs and farmers training have been planned to create awareness amongst farmers to use various organic inputs including bio-pesticides.

[Translation]

Land Degradation

*365. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether quality of agricultural land is gradually being eroded in the country;

(b) if so, the total estimated area of such land at present and the percentage it constitutes of the total existing land.

(c) whether the agriculture production on the said land is declining;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any shedmen to develop the said degraded land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The soil formation and denudation is a natural process occurring simultaneously to maintain the equilibrium in eco-system. Due to over exploitation, unscientific use of natural resources and other reasons, the land denudation is more than natural formation. As per available estimate, over 5300 million tonnes of soil is lost every year through water erosion, resulting in a loss of around 8 million tonnes of plant nutrients annually. Out of geographical area of 328.73 million ha., about 173.64 million ha. (52.8%) is estimated to be under various degrees of land degradation in the country.

(c) and (d) The average productivity is lowered by 5 to more than 50% due to land degradation depending upon its intensity as compared to average yield of normal land.

(e) and (f) The Working Group on Watershed Development, Rainfed Farming and Natural Resources Management for Tenth Five Year Plan, constituted by Planning Commission, has suggested a perspective plan for development of 88.5 million ha. in 20 years through Watershed Development Programmes.

Government is implementing various programmes for treatment/development of degraded lands namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP), (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), (viii) Reclamation of Waterlogged Area (RWLA), (ix) Integrated Afforestation & Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS), (x) National Project on Development & Use of Biofertilizer (NPD&UB), (xi) National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) etc. through different Ministries in the country.

[English]

Water Pollution

*366. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

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

(a) whether water pollution in the country is increasing day by day and various agencies have failed to check the same;

(b) if so, the details therefore;

(c) the details of schemes formulated with regard to checking of water pollution in the country;

(d) the total amount spent on the implementation of these schemes during each of the last two years, scheme-wise;

(e) the extent of success achieved after implementation of the schemes; and

(f) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the water pollution enforce the Act effectively?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Water quality monitoring carried out by Pollution Control Boards reveals that about 33% of riverine length in the country is in the range of moderate to high pollution in respect to certain parameters. For the abatement of water pollution, Government has taken up several measures, which include:

1. Enforcement of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
2. Enforcement of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
3. Establishment of Water Quality monitoring network for assessment of water quality of rivers, lakes and groundwater;
4. Ensuring setting up of pollution control facilities by the industries discharging wastewater into rivers and lakes;
5. Formulation of action plans for restoration of river and lake water quality under the National River Conservation Plan and National Lake Conservation Plan;
6. Formulation and implementation of action plans for restoration of environmental quality in polluted areas (24 problem areas);
7. Preparation of zoning atlas for siting of

industries based on environmental consideration including prevention of water pollution; and

8. Implementation of the Charter of Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection.

(d) The total amount provided by the Central Pollution Control Board and the Government for implementing various schemes to control water pollution during the last two years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Scheme	2001-2002	2002-2003
National River Conservation Plan	282.52	276.89
National Lake Conservation Plan	9.98	12.19
National Water Quality Monitoring Programme	0.645	0.90

(e) and (f) On account of the various steps taken there is reduction in the water pollution. As a result of the action taken against the polluting industries, the Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) load discharge into the rivers and lakes in the country has come down from 2100 tonnes per day in August 1997 to 50 tonnes per day in June 2003.

Eco-System in Ladakh

*367. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether opening up of the high attitude wetlands in the Changthang region of Ladakh for tourism is disturbing the extremely fragile eco-system of the area, as reported by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature-India; and

(b) if so, the steps or proposed to be taken to safeguard the eco-system from further decay?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Opening of high altitude wetlands in the Changthang region for tourism has resulted in increase in vehicular traffic along the fringes of the wetlands. This seems to have affected the fragile eco-system of the region compelling larger animals to seek refuges away from disturbances. To preserve the natural habitat of Changthang region, an area of 4000 sq. kms. has been declared as Changthang cold desert sanctuary under J & K Wildlife Protection Act, 1978. Three wetlands have been identified under National Wetland Conservation Programme for conservation and management, namely, Pangong Tsar, Tso Maorari and Tsigul Tso-Tsokar. An amount of Rs. 26 lakhs for Tso Morari, Rs. 18.56 lakhs for Tso-Tsokar and Rs. 20 lakhs for Pangong Tso has been released for activities like fencing, watershed management, education awareness, protection, habitat improvement, etc. Tso Morari has been declared as a Ramsar site of International Importance.

Bonded Labour

*368. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of National Human Rights Commission's dismay over non-filing of status reports on bonded labour to help their rehabilitation, the Hon'ble Supreme Court on July 15, 2003 has directed 11 States to file such reports within four weeks before the Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States;

(c) whether the Government have urged these States to comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders;

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto; and

(e) the present position of rehabilitation of bonded labour in these States?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 15th July, 2003 in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 3922/85, Public Union for Civil Liberties Vs. State of Tamil Nadu and others, directed 11 State Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttaranchal and Kerala to furnish regular status reports as requested by the National Human Rights Commission with effect from 1st January, 2002. It has also directed that such status reports should be filed within a period of four weeks.

(c) and (d) After the above mentioned order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, request has been made by the Ministry of Labour to the State Governments for compliance of the said order. In the same Writ Petition, through order dated 13th May, 1994 also the Hon'ble Supreme Court had issued similar directions for prompt compliance of the State Governments. The Ministry of Labour requested the State Governments for compliance of these directions and to send a status report.

The State Governments have been reporting that the important provisions contained in the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, like constitution of the Vigilance Committees at the District and Sub-divisional levels and conferring of the powers of a Judicial Magistrate on Executive Magistrates have been complied.

(e) Number of Bonded Labourers rehabilitated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme so far in the above-mentioned eleven States are given below:

Sl. No.	State	No. of bonded labourers rehabilitated.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29552
2.	Haryana	49
3.	Rajasthan	6321

1	2	3
4.	Karnataka	57121
5.	Bihar including Jharkhand	12521
6.	Tamil Nadu	65573
7.	Chhattisgarh	124
8.	Madhya Pradesh	11897
9.	Gujarat	64
10.	Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal	27797
11.	Kerala	710

Ban on Burning of Waste

*369. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of a report of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) wherein it is stated that incinerators alone account for 69 per cent of dioxin emissions worldwide;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ban burning of waste which causes emissions of several Persistent Organic Pollutants;

(c) if so, by when a decision in the matter is likely to be taken; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Burning of municipal solid waste is prohibited under the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. As per the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, incineration / burning of chlorinated plastics is permissible.

(d) Does not arise.

New Tourism Policy

*370. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the New Tourism Policy has proved ineffective to remove encroachments from various tourist places in the States;

(b) if so, whether the said policy is not being followed by some State Governments *in toto*;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the areas encroached upon at various national tourist places, State-wise;

(e) the guidelines issued by the Union Government to the State Governments for removal of encroachments; and

(f) the steps taken by the State Governments to remove the encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Tourism Policy envisages conservation, preservation and integrated development of the area around the monuments and heritage sites which are a wealth of cultural tourism of the country. The National Tourism Policy 2002 gives emphasis to civilisational issues, civil administration and good governance. It has come to the notice of the Government that there are encroachments near some important monuments and tourist destinations. These encroachments have come up on account of violation of civil laws. The Ministry of Tourism and Culture in the past two years have been effectuating good governance and introducing elements of creativity and constructive working. A few examples of this phenomenon are Ajanta & Ellora, Red Fort, Kurukshetra and Humayun Tomb complex etc.

(d) to (f) There is no list available of areas encroached upon at various tourist places in different States. However, encroachments have been noticed during the course of visits/inspection at various places of tourist interest. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been strongly advised to remove encroachments on priority basis, ensure compliance of civic laws and laws pertaining to archaeological sites. The encroachments around Ajanta & Ellora, Red Fort, Kurukshetra and Humayun Tomb complex have been removed with the help and cooperation of the State Governments/UT Administrations.

[Translation]

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

*371. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to link each district of the country with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) during 2003-2004;

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

(c) the number of KVKs functioning in the country alongwith the financial allocation made for each KVK;

(d) whether the functioning of the KVKs have proved useful to the agriculturists;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government would come forward to set up more KVKs and release necessary financial assistance in the current financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) and (b) At present there are 578 rural districts in the country. In an effort to link each district of the country with KVKs, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have covered 288 districts, besides strengthening Zonal Agricultural Research Station in 53 districts to work as KVK. A proposal has been prepared for the Xth Plan for establishment of KVKs in the remaining 237 districts. The State-wise number of districts with KVKs, and districts proposed to covered are indicated in statement-I enclosed.

(c) An amount of Rs. 96.97 crores has been allocated to 288 KVKs presently functioning during 2003-04. The details of financial allocation made for each KVK are indicated in statement-II enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The KVKs for the remaining districts are yet to be considered. Setting up of more KVKs and release of necessary financial assistance is decided on the basis of availability of adequate land and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose.

Statement-I

Status of Establishment of KVKs in various districts of the States.

Sl. No.	State	Districts with KVKs	Districts with ZARS KVKs	Districts without KVKs	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	1	—	1	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	17	3	2	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	—	13	14

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Assam	5	6	12	23
5.	Bihar	17	2	18	37
6.	Chhattisgarh	4	—	12	16
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	1	1
8.	Daman & Diu	—	—	2	2
9.	Delhi	1	—	—	1
10.	Goa	1	—	1	2
11.	Gujarat	10	3	12	25
12.	Haryana	15	—	4	19
13.	Himachal Pradesh	9	3	—	12
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	—	5	14
15.	Jharkhand	6	1	11	18
16.	Karnataka	11	8	7	26
17.	Kerala	9	2	3	14
18.	Lakshadweep	1	—	—	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	21	4	20	45
20.	Maharashtra	26	4	3	33
21.	Manipur	2	—	7	9
22.	Meghalaya	2	—	5	7
23.	Mizoram	2	—	6	8
24.	Nagaland	3	—	5	8
25.	Orissa	13	2	15	30
26.	Pondicherry	2	—	2	4
27.	Punjab	9	1	7	17

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Rajasthan	30	1	1	32
29.	Sikkim	1	—	3	4
30.	Tamil Nadu	17	3	9	29
31.	Tripura	2	—	2	4
32.	Uttaranchal	2	1	10	13
33.	Uttar Pradesh	32	7	30	69
34.	West Bengal	8	1	8	17
Total		288	53	237	578

Statement-II*Financial Allocation for the KVKs during 2003-04*

Sl.No.	State/District	Rs. in lakhs
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar Islands		
1.	Andaman	29.60
	Total	29.60
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Anantpur	40.60
2.	Chittoor	27.40
3.	East Godavari	45.10
4.	Guntur	30.50
5.	Karimnagar	28.60
6.	Krishna	34.60
7.	Cuddapah	28.60

1	2	3
8.	Kurnool	29.50
9.	Mahaboobnagar	29.10
10.	Medak	28.75
11.	Nalgonda	36.10
12.	Ranga Reddy	39.10
13.	Srikakulam	41.60
14.	Visakhapatnam	32.50
15.	Vizianagaram	29.10
16.	Warangal	30.10
17.	West godavari	44.00
	Total	575.25
Arunachal Pradesh		
1.	West Siang	27.00
	Total	27.00

1	2	3
Assam		
1.	Cachar	32.70
2.	Golaghat	41.70
3.	Kokrajhar	39.70
4.	Sibsagar	18.10
5.	Sonitput	44.70
	Total	176.9
Bihar		
1.	Banka	25.85
2.	Barh, Patna	25.20
3.	Begusarai	28.65
4.	Bhabua	30.10
5.	Bhojpur	29.60
6.	Darbhanga	35.00
7.	Jamui	28.10
8.	Madhepura	37.60
9.	Madhubani	29.70
10.	Munger	25.90
11.	Muzaffarpur	31.50
12.	Nalanda	21.60
13.	Nawada	39.10
14.	Saharsa	33.45
15.	Shekhpura	24.50
16.	Vaishali	29.00
	Total	474.85

1	2	3
Chhattisgarh		
1.	Bastar	16.60
2.	Bilaspur	32.60
3.	Durg	34.10
4.	Surguja	30.60
	Total	113.90
Delhi		
1.	Ujwa	30.10
	Total	30.10
Goa		
1.	Goa	35.10
	Total	35.10
Gujarat		
1.	Banaskantha	28.70
2.	Baroda	19.10
3.	Bharuch	30.10
4.	Dangs	32.10
5.	Gandhi Nagar	32.10
6.	Kheda	28.70
7.	Kutch	26.10
8.	Mehsana	21.35
9.	Panchmahals	26.60
10.	Valsad	22.10
	Total	266.95

1	2	3
Haryana		
1.	Ambala	30.85
2.	Faridabad	51.85
3.	Gurgaon	34.75
4.	Hissar	33.00
5.	Jind	52.35
6.	Kaithal	50.75
7.	Karnal	32.60
8.	Kurukshetra	53.25
9.	Mahendergarh	16.10
10.	Panipat	51.75
11.	Rewari	32.35
12.	Rohtak	19.10
13.	Sirsa	16.10
14.	Sonepat	54.60
15.	Yamunanagar	52.10
	Total	581.50
Himachal Pradesh		
1.	Chamba	46.75
2.	Sirmaur	46.35
3.	Hamirpur	40.35
4.	Kangra	47.35
5.	Kinnaur	54.35
6.	Kullu	37.60

1	2	3
7.	Mandi	60.35
8.	Shimla	58.35
9.	Una	55.35
	Total	446.80
Jammu & Kashmir		
1.	Jammu	45.60
2.	Kathua	25.10
3.	Leh	37.25
4.	Phulwama	36.60
5.	Shuhama	46.10
6.	Kralpora Budgam	46.10
7.	Rajouri	45.10
8.	Doda	45.10
	Total	326.95
Jharkhand		
1.	Deoghar	27.45
2.	Dhanbad	29.40
3.	Hazaribagh	27.35
4.	Palamu	37.60
5.	Ranchi	15.60
6.	West Singhbhum	23.45
	Total	160.85
Karnataka		
1.	Belgaum	33.50

1	2	3
2.	Bellary	31.60
3.	Bidar	32.60
4.	Chickmagalur	33.60
5.	Gadag	36.10
6.	Hassan	36.20
7.	Haveri	43.10
8.	Kodagu	27.50
9.	Mysore	37.00
10.	Raichur	36.60
	Total	347.80
Kerala		
1.	Calicut	36.10
2.	Ernakulam	30.60
3.	Idukki	38.60
4.	Kasaragod	37.00
5.	Kollam	39.60
6.	Palghat	31.50
7.	Pathanamthitta	35.60
8.	Trivandrum	30.50
9.	Wynand	30.00
	Total	309.50
Lakshadweep		
1.	Lakshadweep	23.60
	Total	23.60

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh		
1.	Balaghat	18.10
2.	Chindwara	32.20
3.	Dhar	34.60
4.	Dinori	23.00
5.	Guna	28.60
6.	Gwalior	41.60
7.	Jhabua	25.10
8.	Khandwa	25.10
9.	Rajgarh	22.10
10.	Shahdol	29.60
11.	Sidhi	31.10
12.	Seoni	30.10
13.	Tikamgarh	34.00
14.	Bhopal	31.60
15.	Indore	29.00
16.	Ratlam	24.10
17.	Satna	33.10
18.	Sehore	30.60
19.	Vidisha	32.60
20.	Betul	29.50
21.	Panna	33.10
	Total	618.80

1	2	3
Maharashtra		
1.	Ahmednagar	39.70
2.	Amravathi (D)	31.10
3.	Amravati(G)	35.10
4.	Aurangabad	35.60
5.	Beed	28.60
6.	Bhandara	31.60
7.	Buldana	39.00
8.	Dhule	26.60
9.	Hingoli	33.10
10.	Jalgaon	29.10
11.	Jalna	22.60
12.	Kolhapur	43.10
13.	Nagpur	37.60
14.	Nanded	36.63
15.	Nandurbar	41.10
16.	Nashik	34.10
17.	Parbhani	40.70
18.	Pune	24.10
19.	Ratnagiri	31.10
20.	Sangli	34.60
21.	Sindhudurg	39.10
22.	Solapur	24.10
23.	Thane	31.10

1	2	3
24.	Wardha	32.60
25.	Washim	28.10
26.	Satara	17.60
	Total	547.73
Manipur		
1.	Senapati	52.10
2.	Imphal	43.60
	Total	95.70
Meghalaya		
1.	Ri-Bhoi	52.10
2.	West Garo Hills	41.60
	Total	93.70
Mizoram		
1.	Kolasib	38.05
2.	Lunglei	41.60
	Total	79.65
Nagaland		
1.	Dimapur	26.30
2.	Mokokchung	52.60
3.	Phek	77.60
	Total	156.50
Orissa		
1.	Angul	34.60
2.	Balasore	39.60

1	2	3
3.	bargarh	41.10
4.	Cuttack	28.60
5.	Dhenkanal	28.60
6.	Ganjam	34.00
7.	Jajpur	38.60
8.	Kalahandi	35.00
9.	Kandhamal	30.60
10.	Kendrapara	37.50
11.	Keonjhar	34.00
12.	Khurda	45.10
13.	Koraput	33.60
	Total	460.9
Pondicherry		
1.	Karaikal	48.00
2.	Pondicherry	29.10
	Total	77.10
Punjab		
1.	Bathinda	45.10
2.	Faridkot	54.60
3.	Ferozepur	38.00
4.	Ferozepur (Abohar)	26.60
5.	Gurdaspur	36.50
6.	Hoshiapur	38.85
7.	Kapurthala	44.75

1	2	3
8.	Nawanshahar	49.45
9.	Patiala	34.85
10.	Sangrur	48.10
	Total	416.80
Rajasthan		
1.	Ajmer	33.10
2.	Alwar	24.60
3.	Badgaon	29.60
4.	Banasthali	31.50
5.	Banswara	29.70
6.	Baran	26.50
7.	Barmer	28.10
8.	Bharatpur	29.10
9.	Bhilwara	31.60
10.	Bikaner	37.10
11.	Bundi	26.70
12.	Chittorgarh	37.00
13.	Chomu	27.70
14.	Churu	30.60
15.	Dausa	29.50
16.	Dholpur	15.60
17.	Dungarpur	27.60
18.	Jaisalmer	25.50
19.	Jalore	27.60

1	2	3
20.	Jhalawar	26.10
21.	Jhunjhunu	32.10
22.	Jodhpur	39.00
23.	Kota	33.60
24.	Kotputli	30.10
25.	Nagaur	23.10
26.	Pali	30.10
27.	Rajsamand	35.50
28.	Sawai Madhopur	32.00
29.	Sangaria	30.10
30.	Sikar	29.60
31.	Sirohi	32.60
	Total	922.6
Sikkim		
1.	East Sikkim	45.75
	Total	45.75
Tamil Nadu		
1.	Coimbatore	31.10
2.	Cuddalore	31.00
3.	Dharmapuri	27.10
4.	Dindigul	34.10
5.	Erode	22.10
6.	Kancheepuram	31.10
7.	Nilgiris	29.10

1	2	3
8.	Perambalur	31.50
9.	Salem	53.10
10.	Shivagangai	40.10
11.	Thanjavur	32.60
12.	Theni	19.20
13.	Thiruvannamalai	21.10
14.	Tirunelveli	34.60
15.	Trichy	42.00
16.	Tuticorin	30.20
	Total	510.00
Tripura		
1.	West Tripura	23.60
2.	South Tripura	36.55
	Total	60.15
Uttaranchal		
1.	Champawat	37.10
2.	Tehri Garhwal	29.65
	Total	66.75
West Bengal		
1.	Bankura	37.85
2.	Birbhum	28.55
3.	Burdwan	30.35
4.	Darjeeling	37.80
5.	Jalpaiguri	23.10

1	2	3
6.	Midnapore	37.45
7.	Purulia	33.55
8.	South 24 Parganas (Kakdwip)	38.35
9.	South 24 Parganas (Nimpith)	31.55
	Total	298.55

Uttar Pradesh

1.	Aligarh	42.50
2.	Badaun	35.00
3.	Ballia	36.10
4.	Basti	42.20
5.	Behraich	33.10
6.	Bichpuri	34.10
7.	Bijnour	23.35
8.	Chitrakoot	37.50
9.	Etah	45.65
10.	Fatehpur	34.35
11.	Ghaziabad	30.50
12.	Gonda	41.80
13.	Jhansi	34.90
14.	Mathura	27.80
15.	Mau	36.95
16.	Meerut	33.60
17.	Mirzapur	37.50
18.	Muzaffarnagar	43.80

1	2	3
19.	Pilibhit	28.60
20.	Raibareilli	32.10
21.	Rampur	33.60
22.	Saharanpur	39.70
23.	Shahjahanpur	30.50
24.	Sultanpur	42.80
25.	Varanasi	32.70
26.	Siddarth Nagar	34.90
27.	Allahabad	49.30
28.	Pratapgarh	34.30
29.	Unnao	34.60
30.	Bareilly	30.60
31.	Lucknow	17.60
32.	Ghazipur	31.80
	Total	1123.8
	Grant Total	9697.03

*[English]***Airport Modernisation Cells**

*372. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up new cells at the airports to oversee planning, development and upgradation of the airports;

(b) if so, the details of revamping plan, with special focus on security aspects; and

(c) the names of the airports where these cells are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India has set up an Airport Development Cell in December 2002 at its headquarters for development of non metro airports with the basic objective of upgrading airports with the latest technology and management know-how.

Erosion of Market Share of IA

*373. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the market share of Indian Airlines is getting eroded as indicated in Kelkar Committee Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Airlines has failed to augment its capacity and continue to operate on non-trunk routes despite huge losses;

(d) if so, whether the private airlines have made huge additions to their deployed capacity thereby eating into the market share of Indian Airlines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bail out Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The decline in market share is largely attributable to intense competition and capacity addition by the private airlines. Kelkar Committee had inter-alia recommended a fleet expansion strategy for Indian Airlines to ensure retention of its market share.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The details of percentage capacity increase by Jet Airways and Sahara Airline over the previous year for the last three years are as follows:

Year	Capacity Increase	
	Jet Airways	Sahara Airlines
2000-01	12.5	48.0
2000-02	13.8	1.55
2002-03	7.6	38.55

(f) As a part of implementation of recommendations of Kelkar Committee Report, the Government has decided, in principle, to infuse an equity of Rs. 325 crores in Indian Airlines in the form of margin money towards purchase of aircraft. This would be considered as and when the proposal of Indian Airlines to procure new aircraft is finalized.

Creation of Employment Opportunities

*374. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector companies are downsizing themselves by reducing the workforce;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such workforce that have been reduced during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA) : (a) to (c) Estimated employment in the quasi government establishments under Central and State governments which mainly include public sector companies as on 31st March, 2000, 2001 and 2002 (latest available was as given below.

Year (As on 31st March)	Employment in quasi government establishment (both Central and State) (in lakhs)	Reduction over the previous year (in lakhs)
1	2	3
2000.	63.25	-

1	2	3
2001	61.92	1.33
2002	60.19	1.73

Right sizing of the workforce and limited scope for growth of employment in this sector may have led to the decline.

National Institute of Organic Farming

*375. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a scheme for giving a major push and support to organic farming in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has approached the Union Government for locating the proposed National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF) in Kerala;

(d) if so, whether the Government of Kerala has offered 200 hectares of land for the proposed NIOF with all necessary facilities; and

(e) if so, the action/decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) and (b) A proposal for a new scheme, 'National Project on Organic Farming' is under process for approval which includes setting up of a National Institute of Organic Farming (NIOF), whose function will be to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming in the country. The Scheme envisages inter-alia the following:

- Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce including prescribing National Standards of organic farming.
- Capacity building for organic farming.

— Support for commercial production units of organic inputs like fruit and vegetables waste compost units, biofertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture.

— Promotion and extension of organic farming.

(c) and (d) The Kerala Government has offered 200 hectare of land at Kerala Agricultural University, Thiruvizhamkunnu, district Palakkad with necessary assistance and facilities for setting up of NIOF.

(e) The NIOF will be set up at Ghaziabad by subsuming National Biofertilizer Development Centre, Ghaziabad. The existing Regional Biofertilizer Development Centre, Bangalore will be converted into Regional Organic Farming Centre for undertaking promotion of organic farming in all southern States including Kerala.

Fishery Sector

*376. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the income and employment generated by the fishery sector in the country, during the past three years State-wise; and

(b) the efforts being made by the Government to encourage the fishery sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) Statements I and II showing State-wise income and employment generated by the fishery sector in the country are enclosed.

(b) Government implements various schemes through the State Governments/UTs to develop the fishery sector. Focus of these schemes is to enhance production and raise productivity in the sector. Major schemes implemented by the Government in the fishery sector include Motorization of traditional craft, Development of Freshwater and Brackish water Aquaculture, Establishment of Fishing harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports & fish landing centres, Fisheries Training and Extension, Welfare Programme for Fishermen and Inland Fisheries Statistics.

Statement-I**Statewise Estimates of GSDP from Fisheries at Current Prices**

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	318855	422417	520303
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1459	1525	1717
3.	Assam	56115	56607	58455
4.	Bihar*	69415	82251	92628
5.	Jharkhand	32425	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Goa	13061	19645	17632
7.	Gujarat	147207	132622	N.A.
8.	Haryana	6750	7434	7778
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3052	3057	N.A.
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	11665	11343	N.A.
11.	Karnataka	59648	63596	N.A.
12.	Kerala	153325	169792	186364
13.	Madhya Pradesh*	16551	18014	18355
14.	Chhattisgarh	28683	35326	38605
15.	Maharashtra	91468	89919	97948
16.	Manipur	6889	7365	7841
17.	Meghalaya	2234	3087	2473
18.	Mizoram	1628	1781	N.A.
19.	Nagaland	2278	N.A.	N.A.
20.	Orissa	67720	86551	96068

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Punjab	16587	18271	N.A.
22.	Rajasthan	5515	5458	6711
23.	Sikkim	72	72	72
24.	Tamil Nadu	176318	190943	198586
25.	Tripura	16623	18151	N.A.
26.	Uttar Pradesh*	60147	67445	N.A.
27.	Uttaranchal	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
28.	West Bengal	451839	525396	541342
29.	A & N Islands	7318	N.A.	N.A.
30.	Chandigarh	2	2	N.A.
31.	Delhi	1910	2040	N.A.
32.	Pondicherry	7425	7616	779
Total		1834184	2047726	1900657

Source : Directorate of Economics & Statistics of respective State Governments.

*Divided states.

N.A.—Stands for Not Available.

Statement-II

State-wise Number of Workers (Main & Marginal) engaged in fishing (including collection of sea-products)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Main Fish Workers	Marginal Fish Workers	All Fish Workers (Main + Marginal)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	132320	2422	134742

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	178	0	178
3.	Assam	16265	234	16499
4.	Bihar	21469	313	21782
5.	Goa	5934	155	6089
6.	Gujarat	52686	3178	55864
7.	Haryana	519	1	520
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1003	6	1009
9.	Karnataka	39032	720	39752
10.	Kerala	186205	8511	194716
11.	Madhya Pradesh	24456	553	25009
12.	Maharashtra	88100	4383	92483
13.	Manipur	5050	110	5160
14.	Meghalaya	298	5	303
15.	Mizoram	73	4	77
16.	Nagaland	228	0	228
17.	Orissa	65449	1811	67260
18.	Punjab	584	1	585
19.	Rajasthan	2397	39	2436
20.	Sikkim	53	1	54
21.	Tamil Nadu	111440	1231	112671
22.	Tripura	1269	29	1298
23.	Uttar Pradesh	14671	176	14847
24.	West Bengal	119337	9328	128665

1	2	3	4	5
Union Territories				
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	1502	26	1528
26.	Chandigarh	57	1	58
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	53	2	55
28.	Daman & Diu	6927	103	7030
29.	Delhi	313	1	314
30.	Lakshadweep	1244	209	1453
31.	Pondicherry	5289	104	5393
All India		904401	33657	938058

Source: Economic Tables, B-series, Population Census, 1991, Office of the Registrar General.

Note: 1. The figures indicate no. of persons engaged in actual fishing as per National Industrial Classification (Division 06) and excludes persons involved in related activities such as processing, marketing, boat drivers, etc.

2. The number of workers engaged in fishing as per Population Census 2001 are not available.

[Translation]

Child Labour Courts

*377. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up additional child labour courts/industrial tribunals and lok adalats to dispose of the case relating to child labour expeditiously;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) the number of cases disposed of by the courts

and the number of cases lying pending as on June 2003, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Section 17 of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 has empowered the State Governments and other appropriate agencies for enforcement of the Act. The Act prohibits employment of children under the age of 14 in certain occupations and processes contained in Schedule – A & B of the Act.

(c) The details are in the enclosed statement.

(d) The State Governments are requested from time to time to pursue the cases pending in various courts vigorously.

Statement

State-wise Statistics (Provisional)*

Act : Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation)
Act 1986 For the Year : 2002

State/UTs	Prosecutions	Convictions	Acquittals
1	2	3	4
Assam	0	0	0
Bihar	307	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	17	0	2
Daman and Diu	0	0	0
Delhi	22	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
Goa	0	0	0

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	2	5	0
Haryana	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0
Punjab	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	60	9	12
Tripura	0	0	0
Uttaranchal	0	0	7
Uttar Pradesh	70	12	25
Total	478	26	46

*based on reports received from States and Union Territories.

0 = Nil information reported by States/UTs.

+ Information from other States/UTs awaited.

State-wise Statistics (Provisional)*

Act : Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986
For the Year : 2003 upto 31.05.2003

State/UTs	Prosecutions	Convictions	Acquittals
1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
Bihar	354	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0	0
Goa	0	4	3
Gujarat	7	3	5

1	2	3	4
Haryana	11	23	0
Himachal Pradesh	3	3	0
Karnataka	300	56	0
Kerala	1	1	0
Maharashtra	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0
Orissa	1	0	20
Pondicherry U.T.	0	0	0
Rajasthan	55	57	92
Sikkim	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	808	127	48
Tripura	0	0	0
Uttaranchal	3	4	13
Total	1543	278	181

*based on reports received from States and Union Territories.

0 = Nil information reported by States/UTs.

+ Information from other States/UTs awaited.

[English]

Protection of Wildlife Sanctuaries

*378. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Wildlife preservation department is ill equipped to conduct raids or to protect the various wildlife sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to equip the department with arms etc. to conduct raids or to protect the wildlife properties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Poaching and illegal trade in wildlife has become highly organised and wildlife offenders use sophisticated weapons and equipment. As compared to this, the wildlife protection staff in the States is ill-equipped in terms of both modern weapons and other equipment for conducting raids and protecting wildlife inside and outside the Protected Area.

(c) and (d) Protection of wildlife including conducting raids to curb wildlife offences is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments for conservation and protection of wildlife which, *inter alia*, includes procurement of weapons and other equipment. The financial assistance provided in this regard to the State Governments under the various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Scheme	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	2479.98	2342.07	3694.00
Project Tiger	1910.88	1834.83	2879.90
Project Elephant	636.85	775.04	939.00

Setting up of Wildlife Crime Intelligence Cell

*379. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wildlife crimes are increasing in the country and the Union and State Governments have failed to check the same;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and if not, the extent of success achieved during the last three years as well as current year in controlling the wildlife crimes;

(c) whether the Union Government have been actively considering setting up a Wildlife Crime Intelligence Cell in the country;

(d) if so, the *modus operandi* of the proposed cell; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to check wildlife crimes?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details of the number of poaching cases reported in respect of major wild animals during the last three years and in 2003 are given below which show that poaching of wild animals is on decrease.

Year	Tiger	Leopard	Lion	Elephant*	Rhino
2000	39	213	1	61	18
2001	47	86	0	43	11
2002	4	10	0	38	2
2003	1	0	0	4	NA

*Figure pertains to financial year.

(c) to (e) A Wildlife Crime Cell has been set up at National level. It has the mandate to gather intelligence on wildlife poaching and illegal trade through various NGOs working in the field of wildlife conservation and intelligence organisations of the Government of India and after processing, pass it on for necessary action to the enforcement agencies like State Forest Departments, Regional offices of Directorate of Wildlife Preservation, etc. This will significantly help in developing a wildlife crime

data base and intelligence network to effectively deal with wildlife offences.

Fortification of Processed Products

*380. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the majority of the processed food products are not fortified;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make it mandatory to fortify products like biscuits, vegetable oil, bread, infant milk food etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to organise more workshops, conferences to educate the manufacturers about the need to fortify processed products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) : (a) Food Processing Industries are both in organized and unorganized sectors. It is also a de-licensed sector. As such, comprehensive data on units manufacturing fortified food is not centrally maintained.

(b) and (c) Use of vitamins is mandatory in hydrogenated vegetable oil, infant milk food/infant formula weaning foods, fortified atta, fortified malda.

(d) and (e) The Ministry organizes workshops, conferences in association with concerned organizations to popularize the concept of fortified foods and at the same time orient food industry into adopting fortification as a part of their production plan. Ministry also formulated action plan for promotion of fortification in processed food through various means including organizing workshops.

Modernisation of Cochin Airport

3319. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given any financial assistance for Cochin International Airport Limited Nedumbasseri to modernise and increase the passengers amenities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the CIAL Nedumbasseri has submitted any proposal before the Government to get financial assistance for the development of CIAL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government of Kerala had requested to extend the benefits of financial concession package for Greenfield airports, announced in the Budget 2002 - 03, to Cochin International Airport. The State Government was informed that Airports Authority of India will invest Rs. 50 crores in the equity of Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) subject to certain changes in the management of CIAL, reduction of combined share of Central and State Government in CIAL to 26% and reduction of Sales Tax rate on ATF.

Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institutes

3320. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of locations and functioning of the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institutes (IGFRIs) of ICAR in the country at present;

(b) the expenditure incurred on these IGFRIs during 2002-03;

(c) whether the contribution of this institute do not commensurate with the investment made; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to review the functioning of IGFRIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute is located near Pahuj Dam, Gwalior Road, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. The Institute is mandated to carry out research at the national level of both fundamental and applied nature on all the aspects of fodder production and utilization including grasslands. The institute has three regional stations located at Avikanagar (Rajasthan), Dharwad (Karnataka) and Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) for conducting research in various agroclimatic regions of the country.

(b) The expenditure incurred by IGFRIs during 2002-03 is as follows :

Plan	Rs. 20.00 lakhs
Non-Plan	Rs. 1000.00 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir. The contribution made by the Institute is commensurate with the expenditure made.

(d) The functioning of the Institute is reviewed periodically by the Quinquennial Review Team (QRT). The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has already constituted QRT team for reviewing the functioning of the Institute for the period 1996-2002. The Research Advisory Committee, the Scientist Research Council as well as Institute Management Committee also reviews various functions of the Institute regularly.

[Translation]

Decline In Ground Water Level

3321. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to check the declining ground water level in the country;

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

(c) whether the World Bank has released some funds for implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States where funds are proposed to be spent to recharge the ground water?

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

(a) and (b) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes to check decline in ground water level. However, with a view to check the declining ground water level in the country, the Central Government has also formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rain Water Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crore for implementation during the X Plan. The scheme is at consultation stage. State-wise details of the scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

In addition to the above, the following measures have also been taken in this regard:-

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (iv) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (v) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(vi) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does no arise.

Statement

State-wise Details of Recharge Structures to be taken up Under the Scheme on "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting"

Sl. No.	States/Union Territory	No. of recharge structures	Cost (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	185	1350
2.	Bihar & Jharkhand	205	750
3.	Chhattisgarh	104	500
4.	Delhi	235	300
5.	Goa	30	150
6.	Gujarat	240	1350
7.	Haryana	260	350
8.	Himachal Pradesh	64	350
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	40	350
10.	Karnataka	373	1350
11.	Kerala	95	350
12.	Madhya Pradesh	232	1100
13.	Maharashtra	212	1100
14.	North-Eastern States	165	600

1	2	3	4
15. Orissa		100	800
16. Punjab		425	500
17. Rajasthan		196	1350
18. Sikkim		170	150
19. Tamil Nadu		184	1350
20. Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal		770	1500
21. West Bengal		236	900
22. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		77	100
23. Chandigarh		100	100
24. Lakshadweep		100	100
25. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		140	100
26. Daman & Diu		110	100
27. Pondicherry		38	100
28. Eastern Coastal States		1	200
29. Western Coastal States		1	200
Total		5088	17500

[English]

APEX Fare Scheme

3322. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO :

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for selecting routes for introduction of APEX fares by Indian Airlines;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce APEX fares on Delhi-Srinagar, Delhi-Vishakhapatnam, and Hyderabad-Vishakhapatnam Sectors;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the private airlines have also introduced similar schemes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) Indian Airlines introduced 'APEX Fares' on limited selected sectors on the basis of market considerations such as market side and its potential, capacity deployment, fares offered by the competitors, seasonality etc.

While APEX fares are available on Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam sector, these have not been introduced on Delhi-Srinagar and Delhi-Visakhapatnam sector, keeping in view the above criteria.

(e) and (f) No such information is maintained in respect of private airlines.

Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme

3323. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme is being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the cost of project;

(c) the amount spent so far the project and the details of the work done thereunder;

(d) when the project as expected to be completed; and

(e) whether the funds have been properly managed by KSCST and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) The Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme is under implementation in Karnataka since 1997. As informed by Government of Karnataka the total cost of the project is Rs. 34.25 crore.

(c) and (d) As per the Karnataka Government, the project is to end in December 2004. Rs. 28.05 crore has been spent upto July 2003. The component wise break-up of expenditure is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Yes, Sir. The Project activities are monitored by Indo-Norwegian Environment Programme Secretariat, which has constituted a committee consisting of members from donor agencies, various State Government Departments, Department of Economic Affairs and Ministry of Environment and Forests. Physical and financial (audited) progress has been periodically reviewed in the Semi Annual Meetings as agreed in the agreement between Government of the Kingdom of Norway and Government of India.

Statement

INR in Crores

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Total Project Cost	Expenditure
1	2	3	4
1.	Integrated Ecological Environmental Developmental Project for Mysore Urban – Chamundi Hills.	4.59	4.56
2.	Integrated Urban Environment Improvement Project – BDA	3.79	3.79
3.	Integrated Development of Madivala & Habbal Lakes	9.01	6.73
4.	Doddabommasanda-Lake	3.12	0.00
5.	Pico-Hydel Project – TIDE	0.47	0.61
6.	Fly Ash Utilisation Project – KPCL	5.80	5.22
7.	Establishment of an Arboretum – Pilikula Nisarga Dhama Society	3.02	3.15
8.	Iron Ore Waste tilings based building products., R & D Centre, KREC, Surathkal.	1.09	0.78
9.	Bioreactors for clean coffee effluents – ASTRA, IISc.	0.60	0.62
10.	Bio Medical Waste management for Gulbarga City – CEE	1.99	0.52
11.	Empowerment of Pourakarmikas – ESG, Bangalore.	0.06	0.06
12.	Cleaner and Sustainable Industrial Development through cleaner production – KCPC, Bangalore	0.26	0.15

1	2	3	4
13.	Eco-Development through Urban Forestry – Eco-Watch. Bangalore.	0.46	0.34
	Sub Total	34.25	26.56
14.	KSCST & Secretariat – INEP		1.48
	Total	34.25	28.05

[Translation]

Increase in Retirement Age by AI

3324. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air Indian has recommended restoration of the superannuation age of its employees from 58 years to 60 years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the extent to which employment opportunities will be effected due to this change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Consequent to the ban on recruitment in Air India since 1996 resulting in shortage of manpower, Air India management suggested for restoration of the superannuation age of its employees from 58 years to 60 years. However, Government has no plans to increase the superannuation age in Air India. Government has relaxed the ban on recruitment in operational areas.

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

Theft of Jaina Idols

3325. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jain idols are being stolen from Jain Temples of historical and archaeological importance from Purulia in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the idols stolen during the last three years;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to protect the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No incident of theft of Jain idols has been reported from centrally protected Temple at Purulia in West Bengal during the last three years.

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

[English]

Illegal Trade in Wildlife

3326. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether unscrupulous traders touch up the horns of buffaloes, bamboo shoots to make them appear to be rhinoceros horns, camel bones are passed off as ivory, filling animal hide with scented ponds and charcoal to give the impression of deer musk; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the steps the Government have taken to protect the wildlife and other animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) The possibility unscrupulous traders using fakes of rhinoceros, ivory and musk etc. is not ruled out.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to protect the wildlife and other animals are as under:-

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (iii) State Wildlife Authorities carry out regular checking of the stocks of dealers in captive animals.

(2) Steps taken at the National level:

- (i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and Infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, provided for raising 'Strike

Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

(iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(3) Steps taken at International level:

- (i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- (ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and a MOU has been signed with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
- (iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Putting up of Statue Near Monument

3327. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per Government stipulation no construction is allowed within 300 metre on a National Heritage Site;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has sought permission from the Central Government for construction of a statue of Tamil Poet in front of Swami Vivekananda Rock in Kanya Kumari;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have given its approval; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 and Rules 1959 amended in 1992 stipulate that no construction/mining is allowed within 100 metres which is the prohibited area of the protected monument. Beyond the prohibited area within 200 metres designated as regulated area prior permission is required for construction activities.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Use and Manufacturing of Ozone Damaging Products

3328. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have failed in implementing the montreal protocol and not take any decision on granting custom's duty concessions to seven industries that had put up their proposals and reiterated its commitment to achieve the target of phasing out the use and manufacture of ozone damaging products as per the protocol; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Salar Jung Museum

3329. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad is under the Administrative control of Ministry of Tourism and Culture;

(b) if so, the total fund allocated to the above museum during the last three years;

(c) the total amount utilized by the museum out of the allocated fund;

(d) whether there is an urgent need to allocate more funds to the above museum for its upkeep;

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken or being taken by the Government to release more funds to the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad;

(f) whether some rare objects of historical importance in this museum are in bad condition; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government for better management and preservation of the objects in the museum?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Each year, funds are allocated to the Salar Jung Museum after a careful assessment of its fund requirements based on its budget proposals, projects included in its Annual Action Plan, progress in implementation of the projects, and income generated by the Museum through internal sources. The funds allocated to the Museum during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Plan Grant	Non-Plan Grant
2000-01	385.00	250.00
2001-02	400.00	340.00
2002-03	470.00	385.00

The total expenditure during last three years under Plan and Non-Plan is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Plan Grant	Non-Plan Grant
2000-01	318.56	378.86
2001-02	569.57	454.00
2002-03	470.00	487.54

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Investment in Tourism Sector

3330. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of Global Investor Meet 2003 held in Kerala thereby boosting the tourism and making investment in this sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala had organized a Global Investor Meet (GIM) in January 2003 to attract investment under various sectors in Kerala. There was keen interest in the Tourism sector also.

(b) According to the information received from State Government of Kerala, seven Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed for the following projects during GIM:

- (1) Bekal Tourist Resorts.
- (2) Kannur Airport.
- (3) Vagmon Hill Resorts.
- (4) Catamaran service linking various ports of Kerala.
- (5) Air taxi service linking various tourist spots of Kerala.

(6) Veli Amusement Park.

(7) Hotel and air catering service in Cochin International Airport.

*[Translation]***Development of Fisheries in Bihar**

3331. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented any scheme for development of fisheries in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the works undertaken during the last two years, district-wise; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture" is being implemented in Bihar through 33 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) for development of Inland Fisheries. The expenditure on developmental activities is shared on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and State Government. Two pilot schemes viz Integrated Development of Inland Capture Fisheries Resources (Reservoir Fisheries) and Development of Waterlogged Areas into aquaculture Estates with 100% central assistance were also sanctioned to the State Government of during 2001-02. As informed by the State Government of Bihar, fisheries developmental activities in 13 ha. of waterlogged area in Rotas district and Madhyagiri and Bilasi reservoirs in Banka District and Kharagpur reservoir in Munghyr district have been taken up during the last two years.

(c) During the last two years, the State Government was provided Rs. 56.10 lakh as central share under the above schemes.

Scheme to Attract Tourists

3322. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for attracting foreign and domestic tourists towards tourists places in the country;

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

(c) the funds allocated/released, if any, to the State Governments for implementation of the said scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Promotion of India's tourism products is an on going process. This is done through various marketing tools which include advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organizing of seminars and workshops, inviting of media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers under the hospitality programme, dissemination of information through brochures, CD Roms etc.

The above activities are undertaken directly by the Department of Tourism and no funds are allocated to the State Governments for this purpose.

[English]

Construction of Tunnels along Kaziranga National Park

3333. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether responding to the Assam Government's plea, the Union Government have sanctioned a feasibility study for construction of tunnels both underground and overground along Kaziranga National Park, as a safety measure to protect the endangered Rhinos;

(b) if so, the details and estimated cost of the project as well as feasibility study; and

(c) the latest population of rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park and the plan for promotion of rhinos' population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Central Government has agreed to the plea of Assam Government regarding a feasibility study for the construction of tunnel/flyover at points that are used by wild animals as corridors.

(c) As informed by the State Government, there are approximately 1550 Rhinos in Kaziranga National Park. Technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government for the management of rhino population in Kaziranga.

Sunflower Cultivation

3334. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started sunflower cultivation in Orissa;

(b) if so, the total hectares of land brought under its cultivation in the State;

(c) whether any steps has been taken to promote said cultivation in the KBK districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total area under sunflower cultivation in the State of Orissa during the year 2001-02 is 8.3 thousand hectare.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in the State of Orissa for increasing the production of oilseeds including sunflower cultivation. The scheme is being implemented in 13 districts including Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) for increasing the production of

sunflower cultivation including other oilseed crops. The scheme provides assistance on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture and micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst the farmers frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. and block demonstrations are organized by the State Deptt. of Agriculture.

Revenue Paying Passengers

3335. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to reply given to Stared Question No. 362 dated December 16, 2002 and state :

(a) the capacities of different types of aircraft being operated by Indian Airlines and Air India, aircraft-wise.

(b) the number of "revenue paying passengers" accommodated in each of the aircraft of Indian Airlines and Air India;

(c) the number of seats treated as non-revenue paying passengers seats;

(d) whether the airlines do not accommodate revenue paying passengers on such non-revenue paying seats and prefer keeping these seats vacant; and

(e) if so, the details therefor/

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The capacity of different types of aircraft operated by Air India and Indian Airlines is as follows:-

Type of aircraft	No. of aircraft	Capacity-first/executive/ Economy Class/Revenue Paying Passengers
1	2	3
A310	8	201

1	2	3
A310 (Leased)	9	200
B747-200	4	410
B747 (Combi)	2	293
B747-400	6	423
B747-400 (Leased)	1	420
A300	4	247-255
A320	38	145
B737	11	119
Dornier DO228	2	18
ATR-42	4	44

(c) to (e) Both the airlines do not have specific non-revenue paying seats on its aircraft. However, a few seats are available which are used for crew rest and meals. These seats cannot be sold to fare paying passengers as these seats do not have adequate comfort and amenities that are supposed to be provided to revenue paying passengers.

[Translation]

Damage to Monuments in Delhi

3336. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether damage is being caused to number of world famous monuments located in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to preserve these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The normal wear and tear is attended to. Moreover, a comprehensive programme of restoring and conserving the World Heritage Sites has been drawn up and is under execution.

[English]

Bilateral Agreements

3337. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of bilateral air service agreements/negotiations concluded on the basis of balance of advantage and reciprocity to either side, during the last one year;

(b) the details of flights/frequencies agreed to in the bilateral negotiations, country-wise/airlines-wise;

(c) whether Air India/Indian Airlines are not fully utilising their allotted frequencies of air services on many sectors which is detrimental to the business prospects of Air India/Indian Airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Review of bilateral air service agreements is on ongoing process to make the adequate capacity available on different routes to meet expected demand. The details of bilateral air services agreements/negotiations concluded during the last one year including additional capacity agreed to are as under:-

Country	Additional Capacity to Either Side	
1	2	
Kenya	—	2120 Seats
Sri Lanka	—	600 Seats

1	2	
Saudi Arabia	—	3 frequencies (900 Seats approx.)
South Korea	—	2 frequencies (800 Seats approx.)
Malaysia	—	3100 Seats in phased manner
Turkey	—	900 Seats
Italy	—	7 frequencies
Gulf States	—	607 Seats
Dubai	—	500 Seats
Thailand	—	5795 Seats in phased manner
Ukraine	—	250 Seats
Slovakia	—	750 Seats

(c) and (d) Though Air India and Indian Airlines are constrained by their fleet availability, they are in the process of finalising their fleet expansion plans. In the mean time Air India has taken 9 A310-300 aircraft and 1 B747-400 aircraft on dry lease and endeavouring to utilise increase bilaterals fully. Whenever there are unbalance in operations, foreign airlines have to have commercial arrangement with Air India/Indian Airlines to achieve reciprocity and balance of advantage to Indian side.

[Translation]

Labourers Employed in Foreign Countries

3338. SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labourers of Tamil Nadu who went to foreign countries to seek employment since January 1, 2003 to till date;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints from some labourers and employees regarding injustice and exploitation,

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the preventive steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The number of workers from Tamil Nadu who have obtained emigration clearance from the Office of Protector of Emigrants, Chennai for employment abroad since January 1, 2003 to August 12, 2003 is 46,262.

(b) to (d) Some complaints have been received relating to injustice and exploitation. As and when such complaints are received, the Indian Missions/local agents are requested/directed to settle the matter with the help of concerned Governments/Sponsors. If the recruiting agent does not comply with the directions of the Government, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration. Foreign employers who violate the terms of employment are placed in the 'Prior Approval Category'/blacklisted.

[English]

Hiring of Private Trucks/Matadors by Mother Dairy's (F&V) Plant

3339. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9423 dated April 04, 2003 and state :

(a) whether it was stipulated to hire only three years old vehicle in the Tender issued by Mother Dairy's (F&V) for hiring private trucks/matadors;

(b) if so, the reasons for changing the tender norms;

(c) whether the transporters have been pressuring

the officials of the plant to hire vehicle which are more than three years old; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Since the procurement vehicles bring perishable fruit and vegetables from distant places, it was stipulated only to hire vehicles less than three years old to strengthen the supply chain and reduce the breakdowns. However, no such condition has been laid down for local distribution/supply vehicles to retail outlets.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

Pending Proposals with NCDC

3340. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals pending with National Cooperative Development Corporation for reforms in cooperative sugar mills of the country, particularly of Maharashtra; and

(b) by when the above proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The National Cooperative Development Corporation has not received any proposal for reforms in cooperative sugar mills of the country, including Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

Lightening Conductor at Monuments

3341. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the 140 A.S.I. protected monuments in Delhi have been protected against lightening/Thunderstorm by providing latest equipments;

(b) the number of cases recorded during the last year where the lightning has struck the monuments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) In Delhi, the Qutub Minar, the Humayun's Tomb, the Safdarjung Tomb and the Quila-i-Kuhna Mosque in Purana Quila have been provided with lightning conductors so far. However, the work of providing lightning conductors and maintenance of those already fixed on the monuments has been assigned to the Central Public Works Department which is the competent authority in such a task. Furthermore, it is stated that no protected monument in Delhi has been struck by lightning during the last one year.

Environmental Pollution by Coca Cola

3342. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the serious environmental pollution caused by the sludge produced at Coca Cola India's factory in Kerala's Palakkad district containing dangerous chemicals and pollution water supplies, the land and the food chain;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure ecological balance in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There have been media reports that the sludge supplied by the bottling unit of M/s. Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Limited located at Plachimada, Palakkad district, Kerala to farmers for use as fertilizer contains "dangerous levels of Cadmium and Lead".

(c) The sludge and effluent generated by the Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Limited, Palakkad were

analysed by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) recently. As per the analysis report, while the levels of Cadmium and Lead are within permissible limits in the effluent, the level of Cadmium in the sludge is higher than the permissible levels. KSPCB has therefore classified the sludge generated by this unit as a hazardous waste and has instructed the unit not to let the sludge out of their premises and not to use it as manure even within the factory premises. The unit has complied with the directions of the KSPCB.

Films on Heritage

3343. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to make films on the cultural heritage of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of films on culture, tourism and pilgrimage centres of Gujarat made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Department does not produce films on individual States.

[Translation]

Recovery of Antiques from Smugglers

3344. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many stolen/smuggled antique statues worth crores of rupees have been recovered recently near Jhalawar-Kota region of Rajasthan and some of the smugglers were caught with these stolen idols;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made to check the smuggling and theft of valuable idols from the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rajasthan Police have reported recovery of large number of antiquities from various parts of Rajasthan, including Jhalawar-Kota region, and the matter is under investigation.

(c) Steps have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India in consultation with the law enforcing agencies like the Central Bureau of Investigation, Customs, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the State Government Police to check thefts of antiquities and their smuggling by stepping up vigilance and intensifying checking at the customs exit-channels as well as enforcement of the Antiquities & Art Treasures Act, 1972.

Armed guards as well as security agencies have also been deployed at selected monuments/museums.

[English]

Crash of Helicopter

3345. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a helicopter carrying Amarnath pilgrims crashed near Ganderbal in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of casualties;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted to ascertain the cause of accident;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the policy of the Government in granting permission to private helicopters and small aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Bell 407 helicopter VT-FJK operated by Jammu and Kashmir Government met with an accident at Gunderbal, Srinagar at approximately 0730 hours IST on 5th August, 2003. Five persons including the pilot of the helicopter died

in the accident and one passenger received serious injuries.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The accident is being investigated under Rule 71 of Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(e) Regarding operation of aircraft/helicopter by a private owner; at the stage of acquiring an aircraft/helicopter, the owner has to decide whether he wants to use it for private or for hire and reward purposes. A private aircraft/helicopter can be operated within the country provided the same is having valid Certificate of Airworthiness and other safety requirements of certification and operation are met. For using the aircraft/helicopter for hire and reward purposes, the owner must obtain Non-scheduled Operator's Permit in accordance with Civil Aviation Requirement apart from having valid Certificate of Airworthiness and meet all the requirements spelt out in the approved Operations Manual.

Employment Provision

3346. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the success of the Government in making a provision of one crore employment every year during the last three years in the spheres of infrastructure and industry could not find place in the Financial Review of Ministry of Finance as well as in the plan document of Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Employment perspective is included in the 10th plan document and performance of special employment generation schemes finds place in the Economic Survey of the Ministry of Finance.

Housing Scheme for Fishermen of Kerala

3347. SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have not yet released its share of housing scheme for fishermen of Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing the same; and

(c) by when the money is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The Government of India have released Rs. 200 lakh during 2002-2003 as Central share for construction of houses to the Government of Kerala under the Central Sponsored Scheme on Welfare of Fishermen.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Special Package to Karnataka

3348. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide a special package to Karnataka for development of cattle rearing, poultry farming and fisheries and seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the ongoing schemes in this regard; and

(d) the central assistance provided to the State during the last three years and the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (d) The Government has no proposal to provide special package to Karnataka for the development of livestock, poultry, fisheries and seeds. However, the Government is providing financial assistance to all the States including Karnataka for the implementation of on-going Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to livestock development, poultry farming, fisheries and seeds. A Statement indicating the funds released to the State of Karnataka during the last three years and the current year is enclosed.

Statement

Scheme-wise Release of Funds to Karnataka

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	2000-2001	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	National Project on Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	0.00	0.00	0.00	465.00
2.	National Ram/Buck Production Programme	0.00	5.00	0.00	
3.	Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4.	Assistance to States for Fodder Development	93.00	0.00	38.55	
5.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	54.83	76.50	160.90	74.00
6.	Professional Efficiency Development	18.50	10.35	15.00	4.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	39.50	30.00	24.43	25.00
8.	Livestock Census	15.00	10.00	15.62	
9.	Conservation of Threatened Breeds	0.00	0.00	63.80	
10.	Integrated Sample Survey for Livestock Production	22.65	15.00	26.00	
11.	Assistance to Cooperatives	500.54	200.00	90.00	
12.	Development of Freshwater Aquaculture	0.00	0.00	40.00	
13.	Fishing Harbours at Major & Minor Ports	30.00	0.00	55.59	33.52
14.	Development of Marine Fisheries	90.36	133.00	0.00	
15.	Integrated Coastal Aquaculture	8.15	7.84	0.00	
16.	National Welfare of Fishermen	60.25	259.01	211.77	
17.	Training & Extension	17.42	12.50	12.00	
18.	Establishment & Maintenance of Seed Bank	37.84	56.00	101.15	
19.	Quality Control Arrangement on Seeds	5.00			

[Translation]

Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh

3349. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has received proposals from Madhya Pradesh in regard to irrigation projects namely Mahan, Rajghat Canal, Upper Narmada Project and Punasa Lift Irrigation Scheme for techno-economic evaluation for the benefit of drought prone areas of the State;

(b) if so, the date on which these projects were received; and

(c) by when the evaluation work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project proposals of Mahan, Rajghat Canal, Upper Narmada Project and Punasa Lift Irrigation have been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal on 17.05.02, 08.02.90, 16.09.96 and 12.03.03 respectively.

(c) Out of these projects, two projects namely, Mahan and Rajghat Canal have been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations. Remaining two projects namely, Upper Narmada and Punasa Lift Irrigation Projects are under various stages of appraisal.

The clearance of project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arranges to provide compliance to the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

Workers in Industrial Units

3350. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than 50 per cent of the workers engaged in the industrial sector are working in industrial units having maximum 50 workers; and

(b) if not, the assessment of the Government in this regard and the total percentage of workers working in the industries of the said category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As per the Annual Survey of Industries (1999-2000), about 23 percent of workers were employed in factories [registered under Section 2m(i) and 2m(ii) of Factories Act 1948] employing 50 or less workers.

[English]

Subarnarekha Barrage Project of West Bengal

3351. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government has utilised the funds allocated for Subarnarekha Barrage Project in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the total amount allocated and actually utilised alongwith total cost of the project;

(c) whether the project would be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The State Government of West Bengal has not utilised the funds allocated for Subarnarekha Barrage Project in the Ninth Plan. Against the outlay of Rs. 100.00 crore, the expenditure incurred during the Ninth Plan is Rs. 16.48 crore only. Outlay provided for the Tenth Plan is Rs. 375.00 crore out of which Rs. 33.894 crore have been spent upto March, 2002. The cumulative expenditure under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is Rs. 36.35 crore upto March, 2003. The latest estimated cost of the project at 2002-2003 price level is Rs. 902.53 crore.

(c) and (d) Irrigation is a State Subject, such projects are planned, executed and funded by the State Government out of their own resources and priorities. The completion of the project depends upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.

Social Security for Unorganised Sector

3352. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought assistance of the Planning Commission to provide funds for introducing scheme to give social security and to protect the interest of the unorganised workers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and response of the Planning Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) A proposal to enact a legislation to provide social security to the unorganised sector workers is being processed in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments including Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Diversification of Agricultural Production

3353. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various States including Bihar have sought financial assistance for diversification of agricultural production;

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

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The States of Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have sought financial assistance for diversification of agricultural production in their State. No financial assistance has been sought by Bihar Government for this purpose.

(b) The State-wise details are as follows:

Punjab : The State Government of Punjab have submitted two proposals. Under one scheme they have sought financial assistance of Rs.1280 crores under crop diversification for shifting one million hectare of land from rice-wheat system to oilseeds & pulses etc. In another proposal the Government of Punjab has sought an assistance of Rs.773.61 crores including 25% margin money to promote contract farming for diversification under Crop Adjustment Programme.

Haryana : The Government of Haryana has submitted the proposal for Crop Diversification under which an amount of Rs. 960 crores has been sought as a compensation package for three years.

Maharashtra : The Government of Maharashtra has

submitted a concept paper on Agricultural Intensification & Diversification Project for an amount of Rs. 1792.50 crores for seeking external assistance. The project has been designed for a period of five years to treat an area of 2.5 million hectare.

Uttar Pradesh: The State Government had sought financial assistance for diversification of Agriculture under 'Uttar Pradesh Diversified Agriculture Support Project' which was implemented during IX Plan with the support of the World Bank. The State Government has sought extension for its second phase implementation during X Plan. The State Government has also submitted proposal for Crop Diversification for an amount of Rs.145.58 crores for the period 2004-05 to 2008-09.

(c) The Agriculture diversification, especially from cereals to high value crops, has been emphasized by the Planning Commission in Tenth Plan Document. The Union Government is supporting diversification initiatives of the State Governments.

[English]

Dues with Private Airlines

3354. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are yet to receive arrears from private airlines that have closed down their operations in India as a result of Open Sky Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these companies are making timely payments;

(d) if not, penalties the Government propose to impose on such private airlines for not making timely payments; and

(e) the total amount received by the Government from private airlines as penalties during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Government has no information if any private airline has closed down as a result of Open Sky Policy. However, some private airlines have closed operations and the amounts outstanding to Airports Authority of India (AAI) from these airlines as on 31.03.2003 are as under:-

	(Rs. in crores)
East-West Airlines	18.31
NEPC Airlines	2.96
Skylines NEPC	1.91
Elbee Airlines	0.92
Mesco Airlines	1.27
Continental Aviation	1.26
VIF Airways	0.61
Others (Less than 50.00 lakhs)	1.08

(c) No, Sir.

(d) AAI imposes penal interest on these defaulting airlines and court cases/arbitration and cases under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupation) Act 1971 have been filed against them in various courts of the country.

(e) No amount has been received by the Government as penalties from these private airlines during the last three years.

[Translation]

Mine Security

3355. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the preventive measures taken at the level of the Directorate General of the Mine Safety (DGMS) to stop the reoccurrence of the accidents like Bagdighi Mine disaster of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL);

(b) whether the DGMS has issued any guidelines to the management of BCCL in view of the monsoon and likely dangers of the underground mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the efforts are being made that the guidelines are complied with; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) has taken following measures to prevent the recurrence of accidents like Bagdighi Mine disaster:-

(i) The recommendations made by the Bagdighi Court of Inquiry were circulated to all mine managements for their compliance.

(ii) The Mine Management have been instructed to conduct check survey and make the plan of all underground coal mines up-to-date. DGMS is also undertaking a drive to inspect all underground coal mines to ensure the compliance.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The DGMS has issued guidelines to all the managements of coal mines of BCCL, before the onset of the monsoon for taking precautionary measures in their mines during the monsoon period to guard against inrush of surface water into mines.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A special drive was undertaken to see the compliance of guidelines issued by the DGMS. Action for non-compliance by BCCL mines was taken in ten cases, by way of prohibiting/restricting employment in their underground workings during the period from 15th June to 31st October.

[English]

Setting up of Golf Course of International Standard in Goa

3356. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.K. based Golf Association has requested to set up a Golf Course of International Standard in Goa;

(b) if so, whether the Government have agreed to this proposal;

(c) if so, the facilities extended by the State Government and the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of Goa has appointed M/s. Professional Golfers Association, Design Consulting, U.K. to prepare a feasibility study report for developing an international standard Golf course in Goa. The Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned financial assistance to the State Government for getting the study done.

(c) and (d) As per information received from the Government of Goa, the feasibility study has not been undertaken so far. The question of completion of the Golf course and the facilities being provided by the Government does not arise at this stage.

[Translation]

Minimum Support Price of Cotton

3357. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the Minimum Support Price of Cotton; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for cotton for 2003-04 season and fixed the MSP for F-414/H 777/J-34 variety and H-4 variety at Rs.1725 and Rs. 1925 per quintal respectively indicating an increase of Rs. 50/- each over the MSP fixed in the previous year.

[English]

Duty Free Shops at Airport

3358. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has been losing crores of rupees annually on the award of contracts for running duty free shops at airports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in Production

3359. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of several commodities has

fallen during the last three years including vegetable oils mustard and cotton; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The production of foodgrains including rice, wheat, coarse cereals, pulses and other commercial crops like oilseeds including mustard and cotton fluctuated from year to year during the last 3 year as shown in the table below:

(Production in million tonnes)

Crop	2001-01	2001-02	2002-03*
Rice	84.98	93.08	75.72
Wheat	69.68	71.81	69.32
Coarse Cereals	31.08	33.94	26.22
Total Pulses	11.07	13.19	11.31
Cotton ②	9.52	10.09	9.31
total Oilseeds of which :	18.44	20.80	15.75
Rapeseed & Mustard	4.19	5.04	3.97

* 4th Advance Estimates released on 1.7.2003.

② Million Bales of 170 Kgs. each.

[Translation]

Passenger Load on Rajasthan Sector

3360. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of passengers travelling on Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur sector; and

(b) the percentage of aircraft flying on this route vis-a-vis other routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Alliance Air operates a daily flight CD 7471/7472 on the route Delhi/Jaipur/Jodhpur/Udaipur/Mumbai and return. During the year 2002-03, this sector accounted for 8.3% of the total network passenger carriage by Alliance Air.

In capacity terms, the flight CD 7471/7472 accounted for 6.57% of the total network capacity.

[English]

Setting up of National Institute on Bio-technology

3361. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to set up a National Institute on Bio-technology;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of "ASSOCHAM'S" declaration on Bio-technology 2003; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has already created seven institutions in specialized areas of bio-technology.

(c) Yes, Sir. One of the declarations is to "start new national institutions of Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Bio-technology (IIBTs), on the same pattern as Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIITs) or Indian Institute of Technology (IITs). Alternatively, re-engineer selected national laboratories to up-grade their status to Indian Institute of Biotechnology where industrial research and academic work go hand in hand".

(d) The Government has already set up various institutions where industrial research and academic work is undertaken in close coordination. The Department of Biotechnology is using to a great extent the existing infrastructure to set up specialized facilities for industry oriented biotechnology.

**New Industrial Units without
Environmental Clearance**

3362. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many industrial units have come up without clearance from environmental angle during the last two years;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against such industrial units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Twenty four units have come up in different States during the last two years without obtaining prior environmental clearance under the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 1994. Of these, ten units are in Chhattisgarh, one in Karnataka, one in Kerala, two in Punjab, three in Rajasthan and seven in Tamil Nadu.

(c) All such defaulting units were asked to apply for environmental clearance by 31st March, 2003 failing which directions for closure shall be issued under Section 5 of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986. In respect of those units which had not applied by this time limit, the concerned State Governments have been asked to issue directions for closure under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

**Threat from East-West
Corridor Project**

3363. SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken stock of the situation of the tremendous disturbance to be caused to famous Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, Kalingpong Division, Baikunthapur Division, Garumara Park, Chapra Mari Sanctuary, Jaldapara National Park and Baksha Tiger Project of North Bengal in the process of construction of East-West Corridor project from Gujarat to Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations drawing attention on these issues; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps contemplated by the Government to protect the flora, fauna and the environment along the proposed super highway passing specially through North Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) The Forest Department of State Government of West Bengal has brought this matter to the notice of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and requested for a discussion in the National Board of Wildlife.

(d) Adequate safeguards, as necessary, exist to meet such exigencies under the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act 1980, Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and Environment (Protection) Act 1983, as applicable.

Committee on Flow of Water in Yamuna

3364. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government constituted any high powered committee on maintenance of minimum flow in river Yamuna;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for rehabilitation of Sewerage system and augmentation of Sewerage Treatment Plants (STPs)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A High Powered Committee was constituted in January, 1998 under Member (Environment), Planning Commission. The Chief Secretaries of riparian states namely, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are members. The Committee has held 10 meetings till now and its proceedings are informed to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The committee has outlined certain short-term and long-term measures for meeting the desired minimum flow. Rehabilitation of trunk sewerage system of Delhi and setting up of requisite number of Sewage Treatment Plants and their satisfactory operation to meet the desired standards are some of the suggested measures.

(c) 91 km of trunk sewerage in Delhi is not functional due to settlement/siltation. 30 kms of this trunk sewer is proposed to be rehabilitated under Yamuna Action Plan phase-II. The remaining part of sewerage system is being renovated by Government of Delhi from their own resources.

Out of the 3300 million litres per day sewage generated in Delhi, a treatment capacity of 2350 million litres per day exists at present. Additional sewage treatment capacity of 135 million litres per day alongwith rehabilitation of 624 million litres per day of existing capacity is proposed under Yamuna Action Plan phase-II.

[Translation]

Maintenance of Heritage

3365. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has been assisting the UNESCO in the restoration and conservation of ancient heritages of various countries of the World; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) render assistance through UNESCO or bilaterally, as

and when such a request is received. In response to a request from UNESCO, India had sent an expedition team from ASI to the Nubian Valley in Egypt in 1961-62 for helping in salvaging the archaeological remains threatened by submergence under the waters of the Aswan High Dam. ASI has also rendered assistance bilaterally to other countries, like Angola, Bahrain, Nepal, Maldives, Bhutan, Afghanistan and Cambodia.

Funds for Gaushalas

3366. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Central Institution apart from the Union Government has provided funds for Gaushalas during the last three years and thereafter; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds provided for the purpose. State-wise and Gaushala-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Animal Welfare Board of India receives grants-in-aid from Central Government for providing financial assistance to the Gaushalas.

[English]

Technology Mission on Oil Seeds/Pulses

3367. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the technology mission on oils seeds and pulses has been instrumental in increasing the production of oils seeds;

(b) if so, the consumption, total production and import of edible oils recorded during the Ninth Five Year Plan and also during the last three years, separately;

(c) whether the import of edible oils has increased over the years;

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

(e) whether the technology mission on oil seeds and pulses has slipped down in the present priorities of Government; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total availability of Edible Oil for consumption and the total production of indigenous edible oil as well as the import of edible oil during the Ninth Five Year Plan and also during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. There is no restriction on the import of edible oils other than the applicable rate of custom duty. The gap between the domestic demand and domestic production of edible oils is met through imports which depend upon domestic demand, domestic production and international prices of edible oils.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

(Quantity in Lakh metric tonnes)

Financial Year	Production of indigenous edible oil	Import of edible oils	Total availability of of edible oil for consumption
1996-97	70.89	14.16	85.05
1997-98	60.32	12.66	72.98
1998-99	69.61	26.22	95.83
1999-2000	61.14	41.96	102.10
2000-2001	55.04	41.77	96.81
2001-2002	61.22	43.22	104.44
2002-2003	—	42.66	—

Airport at Kannur

3368. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the Government to evaluate construction of airport at Kannur in Kerala has submitted its report;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken on the report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The report is under examination.

Ban on Mining in Safety Zone

3369. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had cleared the project of Durgapur open cast mines of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) in 1977-78 after allotting 338.85 hectares of forest land and directing WCL to spare 125.5 hectares of the allotted land as safety zone;

(b) if so, whether the WCL started mining work on the banned areas of 125.5 hectares and reduced it to 7.5 hectares as safety zone;

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

(d) whether WCL has submitted a revised proposal to the Conservator of Forests during 1999-2000 and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have agreed to the revised proposal to WCL and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the action taken against the erring officials of WCL for continuing mining activities on the banned areas of the safety zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) Approximately 1177.34 hectares of private, revenue and forest land was acquired under Coal Bearing (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 by the Government of India in 1979. Nearly 338.85 hectares of forest land was a part of this area. Out of 338.85 hectares of forest land, 40.47 hectares was handed over to the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) on 23-05-1980 i.e. before the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 came into operation. Further, the Government of Maharashtra, in 1981, handed over the remaining 298.38 hectares of forest land to WCL. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, in 1989, informed the Ministry of Coal that the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was attracted and prior permission of the Central Government was necessary in this case. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, in 1991, also clarified that the forest area required for safety zone should not form part of the area proposed for diversion.

(d) to (f) Accordingly, a proposal was submitted by the State Government to the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2001 for diversion of 172.54 hectares of forest land in favour of WCL for extraction of coal from Durgapur Open Cast Project. After detailed discussion on the issue, the Ministry of Environment and Forest, while taking a holistic view of the background and nature of public utility involved in the proposal, approved it in 2002 with imposition of penal Compensatory Afforestation in view of the violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

World Heritage Sites

3370. SHRI A.K. PREMAJAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of World Heritage Centres/ Monuments in India, State-wise;

(b) details of measures taken to preserve and protect these monuments;

(c) whether any one of them is under threat of damage due to pollution; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to protect them from environmental pollution?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) State-wise list of World Heritage Sites is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Preservation, conservation, protection and environmental development of World Heritage Sites is a continuous process.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Statement

Name of Monuments and sites which have been accorded World Heritage status by UNESCO, State-wise

Sl. No.	Name of World Heritage Sites	Name of the State
1	2	3
1.	Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya	Bihar
2.	Humayuns Tomb, Delhi	Delhi
3.	Qutb Minar and its monuments, Delhi	Delhi
4.	Churches and Convents of Old Goa	Goa
5.	Group of Monuments Hampi	Karnataka
6.	Group of Monuments at Pattadakal	Karnataka
7.	Painted Rock-shelters Bhimberka	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Budhist Monuments Sanchi	Madhya Pradesh
9.	Khajuraho Group of Monuments	Madhya Pradesh
10.	Ajanta Caves	Maharashtra

1	2	3
11. Ellora Caves		Maharashtra
12. Elephanta Caves		Maharashtra
13. Sun Temple, Konarak		Orissa
14. Brihadishvara Temple, Thanjavore		Tamilnadu
15. Group of Monuments Mahabalipuram		Tamilnadu
16. Agra Fort		Uttar Pradesh
17. Taj Mahal, Agra		Uttar Pradesh
18. Fatehpur Sikri		Uttar Pradesh

*Natural sites in India included in
the World Heritage List*

19. Kaziranga National Park	Assam
20. Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	Assam
21. Sunderbans National Park	West Bengal
22. Nandadevi National Park	Uttar Pradesh
23. Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan

*Industrial heritage Site in India included
in the World Heritage List*

24. Darjeeling Himalayan Train	West Bengal
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[Translation]

Fishing Harbours

3371. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fishing harbours functioning and under construction at present in the country; State-wise;

(b) whether several proposals for construction of fishing harbours are lying pending;

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

(d) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) State-wise details of fishing harbours functioning and under construction are furnished in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. State-wise details of the proposals for construction of fishing harbours are furnished given in the statement-II enclosed. The proposals are presently in formulation stage requiring confirmation from various agencies in the Centre and States/UTs in respect of availability of land, environmental clearance and budgetary provision besides techno-economic investigations/evaluation wherever necessary. Therefore, the time frame for clearance of these proposals cannot be envisaged at this stage.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of Fishing Harbours	
		Functioning	Under construction
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam Kakinada Nizamapatnam	Machilipatnam
2.	Gujarat	Veraval Mangrol stage I & II Porbandar	Jakhau
3.	Kerala	Coching	Kayamkulam

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		Vizhinjam Stage-I	Vizhinjam Stage-II & II	6. Orissa	Paradip		Dhamra Stage-II
		Puthiappa	Muthalapozhi		Gopalpur		
		Munambam	Ponnani		Dhamra Stage-I		
		Neendakara			Naugarh (Astrang)		
		Chombal		7. Tamil Nadu	Chennai		
		Mopla Bay			Tuticorin		
		Thangassery			Mallipatnam		
4. Karnataka	Karwar Stage-I	Malpe Stage-II			Pazhayar		
	Honnavar	Mangalore Stage-II			Chinnamuttom		
	Tadari	Karwar Stage-II		8. West Bengal	Fraser Ganj		Sultanpur (Diamond Harbour)
	Mangalore Stage-I	Gangolli			Digha Stage-I and II		Harwood Point
	Malpe Stage-I						
5. Maharashtra	Sassoon Dock	Agrao		9. Pondicherry	—		Pondicherry
	Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri)			10. Andaman and Nicobar	Phoenix Bay	—	

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the Fishing harbour	Present Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Gujarat	Okha	The State Government has been requested to confirm (i) availability of land for development of fishing harbour (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) necessary budget provision in the State Budget to share capital cost of the project.
		Dholai	CICEF, Bangalore has been requested to update the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report.

1	2	3	4
	Veraval	The project report has been referred to CICEF for details examination from technical angle	
	Umargam	The State Government just intimated their decision for selection of site and CICEF is yet to take up preparation of TEFR.	
	Bhadeli Jagaglala	In the investigation stage.	
2.	Orissa	Chandipur	At the request of the State Government, CICEF has been requested to carryout detailed investigations and preparation of TEFR.
		Bahabalpur	The State Government has been requested to confirm (i) availability of land, (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) necessary budget provision in the State Budget to share capital cost of the project.
3.	Karnataka	Alvekodi	The State Government is yet to take final view on the project size.
4.	Tamil Nadu	Rameshwaram	The State Government has been requested to confirm (i) availability of land, (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget to share capital cost of the project.
		Poompuhar	The State Government to carryout detailed hydraulics model studies.
		Pazhyar	The State Government has been requested to confirm (i) availability of land, (ii) Environmental clearance and (iii) adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget to share capital cost of the project.
		Mallipattinam Stage-II	The State Government has been requested to confirm availability of land, environmental clearance and adequate budgetary provision in the State budget.
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Nizamapatnam	The State Government has been requested to confirm availability of land, environmental clearance and existence of budgetary provisions in the State budget.
		Biyyaputhippa/ Anthervedipalem	In the Investigation stage.
6.	Goa	Vasco Bay (Proposal of Mormugao Port Trust)	In the Investigation stage.

1	2	3	4
7.	Daman & Diu	Vanakabara	UT Administration to complete the model studies.
		Nani Daman	At the engineering and economic investigation stage.
8.	Kerala	Thalia	In view of availability of a fishing harbour at Chombal, which is in very close proximity of the proposed FH, the proposal is not in the priority.
		Koyilandi	State Government is to forward detailed project report (DPR) together with confirmation such as (a) availability of necessary land, (b) necessary environmental clearance and (c) adequate budgetary provision exists in the State Budget to share capital cost of the project.
		Thottappally	The State Government is to confirm availability of necessary land and existence of adequate budgetary provision in the State budget.
		Bey pore Stage-II	In the Investigation Stage.
9.	Pondicherry	Karaikal	UT Government is to confirm availability of land and obtaining of environmental clearance.
		Mahe	Government of Pondicherry to carryout detailed hydraulic model studies.
		Yaman	Detailed investigation and preparation of TEFR stage.
10.	Maharashtra	Agardanda	The State Government is to complete the model studies.
		Deogad	TEFR preparation stage.
		Jivana Bandar	Engineering investigations/techno economic feasibility study/ model studies stage.
		Karanja	-do-
		Dabhol	-do-
		Jaigad	-do-
		Borya	-do-
		Arnala	-do-
		Vijaydurg	-do-
		Hamai	Detailed Project Report (DPR) stage.
		Sakhrinate	-do-

**Sugarcane Research Centre in
Motipur, Bihar**

3372. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sugarcane Research Centre is situated in Motipur of Bihar;

(b) if so, the research projects undertaken so far in the said research centre;

(c) whether the assistance provided by it to the farmers has been reviewed;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the objectives of the establishments of the research centre and the achievements thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the desired objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Research projects undertaken so far are:

- Evaluation of sugarcane germplasm.
- Evaluation of inter-specific and inter-generic hybrids of sugarcane.
- Identification of promising clones of early, mid-late and late maturity groups.
- Identification of varieties for planting in autumn, spring and summer season in North Central Zone.
- Breeder Seed Production.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the quality seed production programme, three varieties and promising clone were selected for seed

multiplication. Accordingly, seed has been supplied to sugar factories for the purpose of foundation seed production, and finally making it available to the farmers.

(e) The objectives of establishment of the Centre are: to evaluate sugarcane germplasm, varietal crosses, and pre-release sugarcane clones for its suitability to North Central Zone including Bihar, and to multiply and exchange pre-released genotypes. Efforts of this Centre have resulted in (i) release of three sugarcane varieties viz. 'Sarayu', 'Moti' and 'Gandak' for commercial cultivation, (ii) identification of promising early and mid-late clones, and (iii) production of breeder seed for supply to sugar factories.

(f) Breeding programmes are being strengthened for varietal development, alongwith similar efforts to utilize wild genetic materials available in the region to augment production of quality seed and offer training facilities for biofertilizer production.

[English]

**Extension of Market Intervention
Scheme**

3373. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to extend Market Intervention Scheme for some period further in view of falling prices of palm oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

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

**Private Sector Investment in
Agriculture Sector**

3374. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private sector investment in agriculture sector has been declining for the past few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the agriculture sector requires a separate lending rate on the pattern of the prime lending rate available for other categories; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) The private sector investment measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2000-2001 are Rs. 13,083 crores, Rs.12,768 crores and Rs.13,263 crores respectively at 1993-94 prices. As such, there is no declining trend in the agricultural GCF in the recent past.

(c) and (d) The public sector banks have been advised recently to reduce their lending rate to 9% or less per annum on credit loans upto a ceiling of Rs. 50,000. This rate will benefit most of the crop loan account holders and will cover almost all the small and marginal farmers. The banks have been advised to ensure that the volume of credit to the agriculture sector does not decline due to the reduction in interest rate.

Lifting of Ban on Fishing of Fish Species

3375. SHRI K. MALAISAMY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an arbitrary ban Shark and Ray fishing apart from certain other species rendering lakhs of fishermen jobless in the Coastal States, particularly in Tamil Nadu besides affecting the ecological balance;

(b) if so, whether Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (C.M.F.R.I.) is in favour of periodical and regular harvest of Shark;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to review its ban and relax the ban in conformity with the views of aggrieved States and Experts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) The decision to impose ban on rare and endangered marine species including Sharks and Rays has been taken after careful consideration by experts from various organisations including Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI). The CMFRI is in favour of sustainable harvest of sharks species other than rare and endangered ones.

(c) and (d) Government is firm on its commitment to the conservation of rare and endangered fauna and flora. A final view to relax the ban can be taken only on the basis of scientific data obtained from expert institutions.

[Translation]

Soyabean Industry

3376. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations to declare soyabean industry as primary sector industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) : (a) to (c) A representation dated 3rd April 2003 has been received from the Soyabean Processors Association of India suggesting inter alia for declaration of soyabean industry as a priority sector industry, imposition of oilseed development cess, maintenance of prevailing customs duty on edible oils for next three years etc. These suggestions require inter

ministerial consultations taking into account the over all economic perspective.

**Offices of Employees State
Insurance Corporation**

3377. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the offices of Employees State Insurance Corporation functioning in Uttar Pradesh, location-wise; and

(b) the number of sanctioned posts of groups A, B, C and D in each office and the details of the employees/officers of different categories in position as on June 30, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Details of ESI Corporation's Offices functioning in Uttar Pradesh are enclosed as statement-I.

(b) Sanctioned strength of Officers/Employees in group A, B, C and D in respect of each office and the officers and employees in position (Category-wise) as on 30.06.2003 are enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of the ESIC Office	Location
1	2	3
1.	Regional Office	Panchdeep Bhawan, Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur
2.	Camp Office	H-3, Sector-22, Noida
3.	Local Office, Agra	33/2, Radha Nagar, Balkeshwar Road, Agra
4.	Local Office, Allahabad	51, Tilak Road, Balua Ghat, Allahabad

1	2	3
5.	Local Office, Amausi	9-E, Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow
6.	Local Office, Aligarh	Malviya Market, Avas Vikas Yojna No. 3, 1st Floor, Building No. 2, Aligarh
7.	Local Office, Bareilly	Clutter Buck Ganj, Rampur Road, Bareilly
8.	Local Office, Barabanki	Malti Bhawan, Plot No.17, 2168-M, Near Bolehra House, Deva Road, Barabanki
9.	Local Office, Daud Nagar	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, 391, Chak Raghu Nath, Mirjapur Road, Opp. UCO Bank, Naini, Allahabad
10.	Local Office, Etawah	1st Floor, Paliwar Dharmshala, Station Road, Etawah
11.	Local Office, Firozabad	Chidami Lal Jain Mandir, Trust Bhawan, Jain Nagar, Firozabad
12.	Local Office, Gunti No. 5/Lajpat Nagar	123/46, Suresh Bagh, Kanpur
13.	Local Office, Ghaziabad	Navyug Market, Jawahar Lal Marg, Ghaziabad
14.	Local Office, Gorakhpur	Arya Samaj Mandir Wali Gali, H.No. 292, Bakhshipur, Gorakhpur
15.	Local Office, Hathras	25/77, Kila Ward, Gopal Bhawan, Mandu Gate, Hathras
16.	Local Office, Jhansi	22, Charliganj, Sipri Bazar, Jhansi
17.	Local Office, Lucknow	278/19, Naka Hindola Crossing, Lucknow

1	2	3
18. Local Office, Moradabad	Opp. Kunwar Cinema, Behind Union Bank, Moradabad	
19. Local Office, Modi Nagar	Opp. Modipan Factory, Hapur Road, Modi Nagar	
20. Local Office, Maunath Bhanjan	Pratibha Kutir, 155, Munsipura, Maunath Bhanjan	
21. Local Office, Meerut	256, Sabun Godown Bagpat Road, Meerut	
22. Local Office, Mirpur	C-11(2), Khopra Mohal, Shashi Nagar, Kanpur	
23. Local Office, Navin Market/Arya Nagar	8/173, Arya Nagar, Kanpur	
24. Local Office, Naini	Opp. UCO Bank, 391, Chak Raghu Nath, Naini, Allahabad	
25. Local Office, Noida-1	H-3, Sector-22, Noida	
26. Local Office, Noida-2	C-50, Sector-9, Noida	
27. Local Office, Noida (Phase-II)	Salarpur Gate, Bhangel Town, Noida Phase-II, Noida	
28. Local Office, Greater Noida	Vill. Devala, P.O. Surajpur Distt. G.B. Nagar	
29. Local Office, Pratapganj	123/419, Pratapganj, Kanpur	
30. Local Office, Renukoot	ESI Hospital Prangan, Murdhawa, Renukoot, Distt. Sonbhadra	
31. Local Office, Rai Bareilly	62, New House, Mehpal, Nagar, Rai Bareilly	
32. Local Office, Sarvodaya Nagar-1	Regional Office, Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur-208005	
33. Local Office, Saraojini Nagar	Opp. Mariyampur Hospital, Kanpur	

1	2	3
34. Local Office, Sikandra	42/98, Billoohpura, Sikandra, Kanpur	
35. Local Office, Saharanpur	Plot No. 5/2 & 7/2 Cooperative Assurance Building, Ambala Road, Saharanpur	
36. Local Office, Shikohabad	557/2, Station Road, Shikohabad	
37. Local Office, Sahjanwa	Mahavir Jute Mills Complex, Sahajanwa, Gorakhpur	
38. Local Office, Mohan Nagar	B-1, B-4, 1st Floor, Shyam Park Extension, 'B' Block Market, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad	
39. Local Office, Sikandrabad	Hari Singh Mukhtiyar Ki Kothi, Railway Road, Sikandrabad	
40. Local Office, Unnao	42, Atul Bihari, UNNAO	
41. Local Office, Vinoba Nagar	'T' Block, ESI Dispensary, Juhi-2 Complex, Vinoba Nagar, Kanpur	
42. Local Office, Varanasi	S-8/314, A-id, Khajuria, Varanasi	
43. ESI Dispensary, Noida	Sector-2, Noida	
44. ESI Dispensary, Noida	Sector-12, Noida	
45. ESI Dispensary, Noida	NEPZ, Phase-II, Noida	
46. ESI Dispensary, Greater Noida	Greater Noida	
47. ESI Model Hospital, Sahibabad	Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad	
48. ESI Hospital, Noida	Sector-24, Noida	

Statement-II

Sanctioned Strength of Officers/Staff in Group A, B, C and D in Respect of
Each Office and Officers and Staff in Position as on 30.06.2003

Sl. No.	Name of the ESIC Office	Sanction Strength of Officers and Staff as on 30.06.2003				Officers and Staff in position in different categories as on 30.06.2003			
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Regional Office, Kanpur	20	7	338	85	Regional Director - 1 Medical Referee - 2 Dy. Director - 8 Total : 11	Asst. Director - 4 Asst. Director (OL) - 1 Total : 5	Sr. PA/Steno - 6 Superintendent - 22 Insurance Inspectors 34 I.I. (LR) - 4 I.I. (Recovery) - 3 Head Clerk / Asstt-104 UDC - 96 LDC - 11 Total : 282	Record Sorter - 26 Peon - 9 Sweeper - 7 Farash - 6 Mali - 1 Gestetner Operator - 1 Total : 50
2.	Camp Office, Noida	1	—	5	1	Dy. Director - 1		Superintendent - 2 I.I. (Recovery) - 3 UDC - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 7	Record Sorter - 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Local Office, Agra	—	—	4	2			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 3	Nil
4.	Local Office, Allahabad	—	—	4	3			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-2
5.	Local Office, Amausi	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
6.	Local Office, Amausi	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
7.	Local Office, Bareilly	—	—	4	3			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
8.	Local Office, Barabanki	—	—	1	1			Mgr. Gr.II - 1	Record Sorter-1
9.	Local Office, Daud Nagar	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10. Local Office, Etawah		—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
11. Local Office, Firozabad		—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 3	Record Sorter-1
12. Local Office, Gunti No.5 Lajpatnagar		—	—	4	2			Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 Head Clerk-1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC-2 Total : 5	Record Sorter-1 Peon-1 Total : 2
13. Local Office, Ghaziabad		—	—	9	4			Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 Head Clerk-1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC-1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1 Peon-1 Total : 2
14. Local Office, Gorakhpur		—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 Head Clerk-1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC-1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1

15. Local Office, Hathras	—	—	2	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC-1 Total : 3	Nil
16. Local Office, Jhansi	—	—	2	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
17. Local Office, Lucknow	—	—	5	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 2 Total : 3 (one cashier for Pay Office, Sandilla)	Record Sorter-1
18. Local Office, Moradabad	—	—	2	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
19. Local Office, Modi Nagar	—	—	3	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1 Peon - 1
20. Local Office, Maunath Bhanjan	—	—	3	1	Mgr. Gr.II. — 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21. Local Office, Meerut		—	—	4	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 3	Peon - 1
22. Local Office, Meerpur		—	—	2	—			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 3	Nil
23. Local Office, Navin Market Arya Nagar		—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
24. Local Office, Naini		—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 3	Record Sorter-1
25. Local Office, Noida-1		—	—	6	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 4	Peon -1
26. Local Office, Noida-2		—	—	6	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1	Peon -1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27.	Local Office, Noida (Phase-II)	—	—	6	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1
28.	Local Office, Greater Noida Noida - IV	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
29.	Local Office, Pratapganj	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 2 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1
30.	Local Office, Renukoot	—	—	4	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1
31.	Local Office, Rai Bareilly	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Peon -1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32.	Local Office, Sarvodaya Nagar-1	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 3	Peon - 1
33.	Local Office, Sarojini Nagar	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 UDC - 1 Total : 3	Record Sorter-1
34.	Local Office, Sikandra	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1
35.	Local Office, Saharanpur	—	—	4	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 3	Peon - 1
36.	Local Office, Shikohabad	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
37.	Local Office, Sahjanwa	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
38.	Local Office, Mohan Nagar	—	—	6	3			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1
39.	Local Office, Sikandrabad	—	—	2	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
40.	Local Office, Unnao	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 Total : 2	Record Sorter-1
41.	Local Office, Vinoba Nagar	—	—	3	1			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 1 Total : 3	Record Sorter-1
42.	Local Office, Varanasi	—	—	4	2			Mgr. Gr.II. - 1 Head Clerk - 2 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 2 Total : 6	Record Sorter-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
43. ESI Dispensary, Sector - 2 Noida		6	—	15	13	GDOs/IMOs - 5	Nil	Head Clerk - 1 UDC/UDC-Cashier - 2 LDC - 1 Pharmacist - 5 ANM - 3 Total : 8	Record Sorter-2 Peon/Sweeper/ Dresser - 6 Total : 8
44. ESI Dispensary, Sector - 12 Noida		10	—	24	18	GDOs/IMOs - 8 Ayurvedic - 1 Total : 9	Nil	Head Clerk - 1 UDC/UDC-Cashier - 2 LDC - 3 Pharmacist - 9 ANM - 5 Lab Assistant - 1 Total : 21	Record Sorter-2 Peon/Sweeper-12 Dresser - 4 Total : 18
45. ESI Dispensary, NEPZ Noida		3	—	8	10	GDOs/IMOs - 3	Nil	UDC/UDC-Cashier - 2 LDC - 2 Pharmacist - 2 ANM - 2 Total : 8	Record Sorter-1 Peon/Sweeper-4 Dresser - 1 Total : 6
46. ESI Dispensary, Suraj Pur Greater Noida		2	—	10	10	GDOs/IMOs - 2	Nil	UDC/UDC-Cashier - 2 LDC - 1 Pharmacist - 1 ANM - 1 Total : 4	Record Sorter-1 Peon/Sweeper-2 Dresser - 1 Total : 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
47.	ESI Model Hospital, Sahibabad	60	5	149	103	Medical Suptd. - 1 Asst. Med. Suptd. - 1 Specialists - 3 GDMO - 14 Ayu. Physician - 1 Homeopathic - 1 Dy. Dir.(Admn) - 1 Total - 22	Nil	Head Clerk/Asst - 2 UDC-2 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC-3 Staff Nurse-9 Nursing Sister - 5 Lab Technician - 2 Radiographer - 1 ECG Technician - 1 Physiotherapist - 1 Pharmacist - 3 Ayurvedic Pharmacist - 1 Total : 31	Laundry Cook-2 Operator-2 Stretcher Bearer /Nursing Orderly-19 Total : 23
48.	ESI Hospital, Noida	72	1	202	148	Director - 1 Dy. Med. Suptd. - 1 Dy. Director (A) - 1 Dy. Director (F) - 1 Specialists - 11 GDMO - 28 Dental Surgeon - 1 Sr. Residents - 6 Total - 50	Private Secretary-1	Office Superintendent - 2 Head Clerk/Asstt - 4 UDC - 6 UDC-cum-Cashier - 1 LDC - 7 Steno / P.A. - 1 Caretaker - 1 Hindi Translator - 1 ANS - 6 Staff Nurse - 50	Record Sorter - 2 Peon - 6 Dresser - 3 Laundry Operator-4 Cook - 4 Cook mate Masalachi - 6 Stretcher Bearer-6 Nursing Orderly-30

[English]

Loss due to Borrowing by AAI

3378. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airports Authority of India has been investing its money at a lower rate and borrowing at a higher rate simultaneously since 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this was in clear violation of instructions of Department of Public Enterprises;

(d) if so, the reasons for adopting this wrongful practice;

(e) whether the Government propose to investigate this matter; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Foreign Operation

3379. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI :
SHRIMATI RAMA PILOT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India on their International flights to U.S.A., U.K, Europe and Gulf countries operate on a longer route via Ahmedabad and West Mumbai instead of Kutch territorial route causing loss due to extra expenditure on fuel and also consume more time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the amount lost annually on extra fuel; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to operate these flights over Bhuj territorial route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently there are restrictions from Defence Authorities for the shorter route. Therefore, the air-route is not direct and aircraft have to cover additional distance. Due to this increased distance on the present route, about Rs.14.90 crores per annum is spent additionally.

(c) The matter has been taken up with Defence authorities to allow operation on the shorter route over Bhuj.

Funds for Tiger Project

3380. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released for Tiger Project in the country including Karnataka during 2002-03;

(b) whether due to inadequate funds certain states especially Karnataka has not been able to effectively implement the above project;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide sufficient funds to the Tiger Project in the country including Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the amount proposed to be released during 2003-04 for the above project, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) The financial assistance provided under the Project Tiger Scheme to various States including Karnataka during 2002-03 is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) No, Sir. In some States, due to their ways and means position, fund flow for field implementation has been tardy despite release of financial assistance from the Centre.

(c) The allocation under Project Tiger Scheme for the States including Karnataka during the current financial year is Rs. 28.50 crores.

(d) The amount sanctioned under Project Tiger Scheme for the current financial year to different States is given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

*State-wise Expenditure Project Tiger
Scheme 2002-2003*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.70	21.10
2.	Bihar	62.91	25.00
3.	Jharkhand	41.25	18.00
4.	Kerala	118.00	63.75
5.	Madhya Pradesh	944.02	786.44
6.	Maharashtra	708.257	621.79
7.	Orissa	120.41	32.88
8.	Uttaranchal	249.23	168.00
9.	Rajasthan	496.47	294.92
10.	Chhattisgarh	42.33	32.48
11.	Uttar Pradesh	87.10	32.75
12.	Karnataka	380.75	289.56
13.	West Bengal	254.05	168.33
14.	Tamilnadu	216.5	125.00
Total		3753.977	2680

North East States

Sl. No.	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Assam	130.60	65.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	39.75	35.875
3.	Mizoram	128.94	98.32
Total		299.29	199.895

Statement-II

*State-wise Expenditure Project Tiger
Scheme 2003-2004*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	64.50	22.89
2.	Bihar	91.38	50.00
3.	Jharkhand	52.97	25.00
4.	Kerala	112.86	60.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	680.59	270.00
6.	Maharashtra	209.65	79.45
7.	Orissa	140.75	60.00
8.	Uttaranchal	207.35	100.00
9.	Rajasthan	248.45	95.00
10.	Chhattisgarh	98.77	55.00
11.	Karnataka	336.77	100.00
12.	West Bengal	263.10	125.00

1	2	3	4
13. Tamilnadu		107.75	35.00
Total		2614.89	1077.34

North East States

Sl. No.	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Assam	166.39	50.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	127.05	65.00
3.	Mizoram	72.61	45.00
Total		366.05	160.00

[Translation]

Reserved Posts

3381. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees working in the Ministry, its subordinate departments and undertakings, grade-wise, category-wise;

(b) the grade-wise break-up of those belonging to other Backward Classes, Schedule Tribes, Schedule Castes and General Category, separately; and

(c) the category-wise and grade-wise number of employees among them due to retire by March 31, 2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Flight hours of Pawan Hans

3382. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise number of hours of flights operated by Pawan Hans Helicopter Limited (PHHL) during the last three years;

(b) the details of the spare parts purchased by the Pawan Hans Helicopter Limited for its helicopters during the last one year stating the price;

(c) the names of the companies from which these spare parts have been purchased;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints of corruption against any senior functionary of Pawan Hans Helicopter Limited; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) has flown 19206 hours, 19246 hours and 21043 hours during the financial years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 respectively.

(b) and (c) PHHL purchased spare parts for Aero Engine Parts, Air Frame Parts, Avionics spares, Rotor Parts and Main Gear Box Spares for its Dauphin helicopters from M/s. Sofema (France), M/s. Kessler (USA), M/s. SPRO (Singapore) and M/s. Merlin Hawk (USA) at a total cost of Rs. 13,97,39,030/-, for its Bell helicopter from M/s. Bell H/c Asia (Singapore) and M/s. Aviall (Singapore) at a total cost of Rs. 2,74,78,315/-, for its Robinson helicopters from M/s. Robinson H/c Co. (USA) at a total cost of Rs. 24,17,633/- and for its Mi-172 helicopters from M/s. Avionexperts (Russia), M/s. Aviabaltika (Lithuania), M/s. Heisota (Lithuania), M/s. Aviaexport (Russia) and M/s. Aerazur (France) at a total cost of Rs. 9,03,25,070/-.

(d) and (e) On 30.5.2001 Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had registered a preliminary enquiry against a General Manager (Engineering) and others unknown officers of PHHL to investigate (i) alleged irregularities in the matter of expenditure of Rs. 3.00 crores in the repair of Bell VT-PHD helicopter which got damaged in June, 1988 during a cyclone in Jam Nagar, Gujarat. The

allegation was that M/s. Aerospace, Singapore was assigned the repair work in violation of tender procedure and at very high rate without even consulting the original manufacturer, (ii) alleged irregularities in inviting tender and manipulation of transport contract for the said damaged helicopter. After preliminary enquiry the CBI have not found any irregularities in the allegation mentioned at (i). As regards the allegation mentioned at (ii), the CBI has registered on 31.10.2002 a regular case against a Senior Manager (Materials), PHHL, M/s. Fly Jac Forwarders & others to investigate the alleged irregularities.

[English]

**Land Acquisition for Establishment of
BSP in Jharkhand**

3383. SHRI SHIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of land acquired for the establishment of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP) in Jharkhand;

(b) the details of the surplus lands lying idle in BSP;

(c) the policy/agreement, if any, in connection with the use of surplus lands;

(d) whether the management of BSP is sub-letting/leasing out the lands acquired for the plant;

(e) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years; and

(f) the reasons for not returning back the unused lands to its original owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Total area of land acquired for BSL is 31287.24 acres out of which 824.85 acres of land has not been handed over by the State Government.

(b) There is no surplus land. However, an area of 8602.82 acres, earmarked for future utilisation, is lying vacant at present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details are given in the statement.

(f) Since, the entire land is either in use or earmarked for future use, the question of returning the unused land to its original owner does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Description	No. of Plots	Area in Acres
1	2	3	4

Year 2000-01

1.	Utkal Sewa Samaj for Jagannath Temple	1	00.25
2.	YMCA	1	00.25
3.	IOC at Sector XII	1	00.37
4.	Hindustan Auto Agency	1	00.37
5.	Dhanbad Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd.	1	00.12
6.	Vihangam Yoga Sansthan	1	00.25
7.	LIC Branch Office-II	1	00.3
8.	Utkal Sewa Samaj for Cultural Centre	1	00.25
9.	Bokaro Institute of Technology	1	17.3
10.	Smt. Shail Singh, HB-8/CC	1	00.03
11.	Smt. Rita Lal, HB-9/CC	1	00.02
12.	Plots Allotted Against 1987 Advertisement	184	03.9

Total	195	23.41
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1	2	3	4
Year 2001-02			
1	Gayatri Pariwar Trust	1	0.25
2	The Assemblies of God Church of North India	1	0.25
3	Abdul Gaffar Ansari, S-22B/CC	1	0.099
4	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. for Petrol Pump	1	0.344
5	Bharat Sevashram Sangh	1	0.25
6	Plots Allotted Against 1987 Advertisement	41	0.848
Total		46	2.041

Year 2002-03			
1.	IOC-Extension of Existing Petrol Pump	1	0.14
2.	LPG Plot to IOC	1	0.617
Total		2	0.741

**Financial Assistance to
Unemployed Youth**

3384. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to financially assist the unemployed youth in food processing industry sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T.

SHANMUGAM) : (a) to (c) This Ministry provides financial assistance under its Plan Schemes to Private Industries, Public Sector Undertakings, Non-Government Organizations, Co-operatives, Human Resources Development and Research & Development Institutions for the development of processed food sector. These schemes are project oriented and not category specific. Development of processed food sector, however, facilities generation of employment opportunities covering among others, the unemployed youth.

Menu of Food In IA Flights

3385. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the flight service menu in Indian Airlines is planned by the non-professional managers according to the availability of the flights service time;

(b) if so, whether similar practice is followed by other countries;

(c) if not, the reasons for entrusting the flight service menu by the Indian Airlines to Managers not qualified for the job; and

(d) the steps being contemplated by the Government for entrusting professionals for deciding the menu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir. Indian Airlines' menus are compiled by professionally qualified personnel.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Reopening of Qutub Minar

3386. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reopen Qutub Minar for public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CLUTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) A decision has been taken to open the first floor of Qutub Minar to public by the end of September after completing the repair works now in progress an after requisite security arrangements.

[English]

Manpower Racket

3387. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increase in manpower racket in Delhi and other States;

(b) if so, the number of incidents which came to the notice of the Government during the last one year and thereafter, State-wise; and

(c) the action initiated to stop such racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Sporadic complaints are received alleging cheating and exploitation. As and when such complaints are received, the concerned recruiting agents are directed to settle the complaints within a reasonable timeframe. If the recruiting agents fail to do so, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration. Foreign employers who violate the terms of employment are placed in the 'Prior Approval Category'/blacklisted. Police complaints are also filed against persons/agencies engaging in illegal recruitments for employment abroad.

Assistance for Development of Biosphere

3388. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided

financial support for development of Biospheres in different parts of the country during the last three years and thereafter;

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

(c) whether the Government are considering to set up more number of such biospheres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) New Biosphere Reserves are declared as per the recommendations of the state governments and on the basis of floral and faunal bio-diversity of the region.

Statement

List of operational Biosphere Reserves in the country

Sl. No.	Name of Bio-sphere Reserve	Date of Notification	States
1	2	3	4
1.	Nilgiri	01.08.1986	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala
2.	Nanda Devi	18.01.1988	Uttranchal
3.	Nokrek	01.09.1988	Meghalays
4.	Great Nicobar	06.01.1989	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
5.	Gulf of Mannar	18.02.1989	Tamil Nadu
6.	Manas	14.03.1989	Assam

1	2	3	4
7.	Sunderbans	19.03.1989	West Bengal
8.	Similipal	21.06.1994	Orissa
9.	Dibru Saikhowa	28.07.1997	Assam
10.	Dehang Debang	02.09.1998	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2	3	4
11.	Pachmarhi	03.03.1999	Madhya Pradesh
12.	Khangchendzonga	07.02.2000	Sikkim
13.	Agasthyamalai	12.11.2001	Tamil Nadu and Kerala

Details of financial assistance to the Biosphere Reserves

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Biosphere Reserve	Financial Assistance			
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 (so far)
1.	Nilgiri (Tamil Nadu Portion)	15.00	24.50	50.00	40.46
	Nilgiri (Karnataka Portion)	49.30	30.00	nil	35.86
	Nilgiri (Kerala Portion)	43.05	28.25	23.79	
2.	Nanda Devi	40.00	63.00	71.70	
3.	Nokrek	18.50	7.20	25.00	
4.	Great Nicobar	14.88	15.00	nil	
5.	Gulf of Mannar	12.00	02.91	06.00	
6.	Manas	21.50	nil	06.96	
7.	Sunderbans	26.00	46.82	50.00	37.83
8.	Similipal	34.00	14.52	50.00	31.90
9.	Dibru Saikhowa	35.00	14.35	15.00	
10.	Dehang Debang	35.00	nil	nil	35.00
11.	Pachmarhi	35.40	35.00	50.00	
12.	Khangchendzonga	24.50	37.90	42.23	25.90
13.	Agasthyamalai (Kerala)	nil	nil	12.00	38.00

Libraries in Rural Areas

3389. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to set up libraries in the rural areas of the country;

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

(c) the State-wise number of libraries proposed to set up in the country particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) "Libraries" being a State subject under Schedule 7 of the Constitution of India the Union Government is not in position to set up libraries in the rural areas. Union Government, however, provides assistance for refurbishing libraries by supply of books, furniture, equipments renovation and extension of building through different schemes of Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata.

(c) Does not arise.

Irregularities in Reserved Postings

3390. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding the non-implementation of reservation policy meant for SC/ST by the Nehru Memorial Museum (NMM) Library and irregularities regarding the continuance of General candidates against the reserved posts on ad-hoc basis for years together;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of posts reserved for SC/ST and filled up by General candidates stating the reasons therefor;

(d) the efforts made by the NMM Library to fill up the reserved posts by SC/ST candidates; and

(e) the steps contemplated by the Government to rectify the irregularities in implementation of reservation policy for SC/ST persons in the N.M.M. Library?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A representation from one Shri R. Sangeeta Rao, President, All India Federation of SC/ST/OBCs & Minorities Employees Association was received through Lok Sabha Secretariat.

(b) The details of various points raised in the said representation are indicated in statement-I.

(c) Statement-II showing the vacancies advertised as reserved for SC/ST but filled by general candidates is enclosed. The reason for filling up the reserved vacancies by general candidates was non-availability of suitable SC/ST candidates.

(d) During 1969-70 two SC candidates were selected and offered the post of Assistant Research Officer and Assistant Librarian but both of them did not join. During 1972 a post of Librarian was advertised as reserved for SC candidates but was not filled up due to non-availability of a SC candidate. One post of Assistant Librarian was filled by promotion of a SC candidate on 17.6.1997. After reconstruction of the post-based roster during 1997, two posts reserved for SC/ST were filled up by SC/ST candidates as detailed hereunder :

1. Assistant Research Officer—filled on 23.7.2001 by SC candidate (direct recruitment).
2. Assistant Keeper—filled on 11.12.2002 by ST candidate (direct recruitment).

Further, during 2003 two posts one each of Research Officer and Senior Reprography Officer have been notified as reserved for SC candidates.

(e) Efforts are made to fill up the vacancies strictly as per the roster points reserved for SC&ST categories.

Statement-I

Details of points indicated in the representation received through Lok Sabha Secretariat

- (i) The roster system as per the Govt. of India instructions has not been followed.
- (ii) The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library authorities have not appointed even a single SC/ST candidate either through direct recruitment or promotion in the pay scale of Rs. 8,000-10,000 and above.
- (iii) From the year 1986 no recruitment for the post carrying the pay scale of Rs. 8000-10000 and above was made.
- (iv) The authorities of Nehru Memorial Museum & Library have changed the service bye-laws without the Govt of India approval.

- (v) The post of Administrative Officer, which fell vacant in the year 1994 was advertised as reserved for SCs during 1995 and subsequently under special drive but not filled so far.
- (vi) The Delhi High Court gave a verdict on 13.8.1999 to fill up all the posts as per the Recruitment Rules in force. A post of Assistant Research Officer was advertised as reserved for SCs in January 2000 but no interview was held.
- (vii) The vacant post of Deputy Director should be reserved for SCs as backlog.
- (viii) The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library authorities are making no efforts to fill up the backlog vacancies. Instead a committee has been set up to change the rules to make it 100% promotion.

Statement-II

The vacancies advertised in SC/ST category but filled in by general category due to non-availability of suitable SC/ST candidates

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Reserved for SC/ST	Date of Advertisement	Date of filling
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assistant Research Officer	S.T.	April 1969	25-09-1969
2.	Assistant Research Officer	S.T.	April 1970	13-05-1971
3.	Librarian	S.C.	February 1972	(not filled)
4.	Research Officer	S.T.	March 1972	23-07-1973
5.	Assistant Librarian	S.C.	October 1973	10-05-1974
6.	Assistant Keeper	S.C.	October 1972	14-04-1973
7.	Assistant Research Officer	S.C.	January 1974	20-01-1975
8.	Deputy Librarian	S.C.	September 1976 Again advertised in February 1977	24-05-1977

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Research Officer	S.T.	March 1977	04-06-1977
10.	Sr. Reprography Officer	S.C.	May 1978 Again advertised in August 1978	18-11-1978
11.	Research Officer	S.C.	November 1983 Again advertised in May 1984	30-04-1996

[Translation]

**Contract System in Multinational
Companies**

3391. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the practice of contract system in the factories has increased in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is proving harmful to the workers;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check this system;

(d) whether this system has also made its way into the Multi-national companies operating in India; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (d) The Government is aware that contract labour system is prevalent in the factories and Multi National Companies in India. A majority of these establishments come within the jurisdiction of State Governments. However, no specific survey has been conducted to ascertain whether contract system in the factories has increased.

(b), (c) and (e) It can not be said with certainty whether the effects of this practice has been harmful of otherwise to the workers. However, the interests of the contract workers are protected by the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) act, 1970 and the rules made thereunder. The Act provides for abolition of the contract labour system, wherever necessary, under certain circumstances and regulates the working conditions of contract labour, wherever, it has not been abolished. Several notifications have been issued by both the Central and State Governments, prohibiting employment of contract labour in various jobs/works/processes.

[English]

Pawan Agreement with CHC

3392. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH BARWALA :
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Canedian Helicopter Company (CHC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this was in violation of order by DGCA banning all commercial and financial agreement with foreign company;

- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of the objectives of MoU;
- (f) whether these objectives have been achieved; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the PHHL has been benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with M/s. CHC Helicopters International Inc. (CHIL) of Canada on 7th of June, 2002. The MoU, inter-alia, envisages CHIL assistance to PHHL in upgrading its maintenance facilities and further improving its operational and management systems through induction of state-of-the-art technology. As a sequel to the above, PHHL and CHIL further signed MoU on 07.07.2003 under which PHHL agreed to provide operational & maintenance support in case Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) award contract to CHIL, subject to all regulatory requirements including guidelines issued by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(c) No, Sir. The MoUs have not been in violation of DGCA guidelines since it does not involve equity participation or management control by CHIL in PHHL.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The MoU would help in providing business opportunities to PHHL through possible operation of its helicopters abroad, and increasing revenue due to the upgraded maintenance facilities.

(f) and (g) Efforts to achieve the objectives is an on-going process. At present, two PHHL engineers are getting free training at CHIL's facilities in Canada.

Shifting of Cultivation

3393. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers have been advised to shift their cultivation from cereals to oilseeds and pulses to check the huge outflow of foreign exchange on import of these items;

(b) if so, the ways in which the Government purpose to help the farmers to achieve the desired goals; and

(c) by when the country is likely to become self-sufficient in these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Governments are being advised to undertake diversification programmes substituting traditional crops with suitable crops giving thrust on oilseeds and pulses. In order to increase production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) are being implemented in various states of the country to increase the production of these crops. Under both these schemes financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture and micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst the farmers frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. and block demonstrations are organized by the State Deptt. of Agriculture.

The production of these commodities depends upon the weather conditions. In case the weather conditions remain favourable in coming years, the production of these commodities is expected to increase to the targeted level to make the country self sufficient.

Setting up of Indian Council of Veterinary Research

3394. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate research work has not been conducted in the veterinary sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up Indian Council of Veterinary Research (ICVR); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) No, Sir.

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

Minimum Support Price of Paddy

3395. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka and other Southern States have demanded early announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Paddy and certain other crops along-with some concessions for farmers in these drought hit States;

(b) if so, the details of the demand put forth by the States; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (c) The State Governments of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have demanded higher Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Crops including Paddy for 2003-04 season as compared to those recommended by the CACP. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has concurred with the recommendations of CACP and the State Government of Kerala has not given any specific recommendation.

The Government have recently announced the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Crops for 2003-04 season (October-September) on the basis of the recommendations made by the CACP, views of the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which, in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of support prices. The MSPs are uniform throughout the country.

A statement showing the MSPs demanded by Karnataka and other Southern States and those announced by the Government of India for Kharif Crops of 2003-04 season is enclosed.

Statement

*MSPs demanded by Southern States and fixed by the Government of India
for Kharif Crops of 2003-04 season*

Sl. No.	Commodities	MSP recommended by				MSP announced by Govt. of India
		Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Paddy Common	650	—	—	550	550
	Grade 'A'	680	—	—	580	580
2.	Jowar —	770	557	—	505	505

Rs. per quintal

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3. Bajra	—	700	720	—	505	505
4. Maize	—	520	708	—	505	505
5. Ragi	—	730	526	—	505	505
6. Tur (Arhar)	—	1770	1582	—	1360	1360
7. Moong	—	1590	—	—	1370	1370
8. Urad	—	1850	—	—	1370	1370
9. Groundnut-in-shell	—	2050	1987	—	1400	1400
10. Soyabean	Yellow	—	—	—	930	930
	Black	—	—	—	840	840
11. Sunflowerseed		1970	1581	—	1250	1250
12. Seasum		—	—	—	1485	1485
13. Nigerseed		—	—	—	1155	1155
14. Cotton	F-414/					
	H777/J-34	2600	—	—	1725	1725
	H-4	3010	2115	—	1925	1925

[Translation]

**Death of Fishes Due to
Pollution in Rivers**

3396. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

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

(a) whether shoal of fishes have died recently in
several rivers of the country due to pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Govern-
ment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH
JUDEV) : (a) to (c) Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme
of National River Conservation Plan, the Government is
providing assistance to various State Governments to
implement pollution abatement works in 157 towns along
polluted stretches of 31 rivers spread over 18 States. No
specific case of fish mortality due to pollution only in these
river stretches has been reported recently.

[English]

Purchase of Tur by Tur Board

3397. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tur Board has decided to intervene in the market from January 16, 2003 and buy tur (red gram) at Rs. 1,650 per quintal in Gulbarga and Bidar districts of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful to the affected farmers;

(d) whether it has also been decided that the farmer would be paid immediately through a cheque for the tur; and

(e) if so, the total tur procured and stored by the Tur Board at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Tur Board decided to intervene from 16th January, 2003 to 28th February, 2003 in Gulbarga and Bidar districts. The Tur was procured @ Rs. 1650/- for Grade-I and @ Rs. 1600/- for Grade - II per quintal Seven Procurement Centres namely Gulbarga, Afzalpur, Jewargi, Chittapur, Sedam in Gulbarga and Bidar and Bhalki in Bidar districts.

(c) The farmers were benefited by Rs. 200/- to Rs. 250/- per quintal.

(d) Yes, Sir. The farmers were paid immediately through cheques.

(e) 667.58 Quintal tur was procured during 16th January, 2003 to 28th February, 2003. The present stock held is 635.58 quintal.

Clearance for Forest Road Projects

3398. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from certain States including Kerala for getting clearance of construction of some forest roads;

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

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government for according clearance in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Kolkata-London Flight

3399. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has requested the Union Government for introducing flights from Kolkata to London and other foreign countries to cater to the need of foreign investors; and

(b) if so, by when the flights are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under India's Air Services Agreements with various countries, designated airlines of more than 35 countries are presently having rights to operate to/from Kolkata. Actual operations are, however matters of commercial judgement of the airlines concerned.

Plucking of Feathers of Birds

3400. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that shuttle cocks of Badminton are made up by using feathers of ducks/goose;

(b) if so, whether the number of feathers are plucked more than the actual requirement thereby causing unbearable pain to birds or death of birds;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb such menace; and

(d) the efforts made towards development of alternate non-animals/bird substitutes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. Shuttle cocks used for playing Badminton are made of feathers obtained from Poultry.

(b) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Shuttles made from synthetic material are also used for playing Badminton.

Building Construction in CRZ in Mumbai

3401. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are monitoring the status of building construction in Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) in Mahul-Mumbai area;

(b) if so, the details indicating present status thereof; and

(c) the further action plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) For the purpose of monitoring and enforcing the implementation of provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, (CRZ) 1991 as amended from time to time, the Government has constituted a National Coastal Zone Management Authority at the Centre and Coastal Zone Management Authorities in each of the coastal States including Maharashtra and the Union Territories.

(c) The National and the State/Union Territory level Coastal Zone Management Authorities are empowered under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to issue directions to check violations. The Government has also released Rs. 5 Lakhs to each of the State Coastal Zone Management Authorities and Rs. 3 lakhs to each of the Union Territories Coastal Zone Management Authorities to identify and initiate action in respect of the violations of the CRZ Notification, 1991.

[Translation]

Increase in Air Service

3402. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain countries have made a proposal to increase air services to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the countries from where proposals in this regard have been received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) United Kingdom, France, Egypt, South Africa, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Dubai, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Kyrgyzstan, Hong-Kong, Singapore and China are among the major countries who have requested for permission to operate more services to India as well as access to more Indian airports.

[English]

Removal of Office of DDA from Siri Fort

3403. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has ordered the Delhi Development Authority to demolish its officers club and a Banquet Hall in Siri Fort in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for ASI's intervention in this matter;

(c) when did these illegal constructions come to the notice of the ASI;

(d) whether the ASI did not act promptly on this information; and

(e) if so, the reasons for neglect of duties by ASI?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Archaeological Survey of India has issued requisite orders to demolish unauthorised structures raised by the DDA and M/s. Asiad Tower Jankhar Banquets in the prohibited/regulated area of the Siri Fort and Bulbul-ki-Mosque which are centrally protected monuments, contravening the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959.

(c) and (d) As soon as a writ petition was filed in the matter in 2002 in the High Court of Delhi, requisite action was taken by issuing notices as required under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules 1959 and amended rules 1992 and the court case was successfully contested culminating in the issuance of demolition order.

(e) Question does not arise.

Development of Runway

3404. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on increasing the length of the runway at the Hyderabad Airport to facilitate smooth take off and landing of aircraft has commenced;

(b) if so, the present position of the project; and

(c) the total funds earmarked and spent on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work is in progress and till date more than one third of the project has been completed.

(c) An amount of Rs. 69.69 crore has been earmarked for the project and Rs. 13.10 crore has already been spent till July 31, 2003.

Airports in Gujarat

3405. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of airports in the State of Gujarat;

(b) the number of airports out of these that are functioning properly;

(c) whether the Government have plans to introduce feeder air services connecting a large number of cities by air; and

(d) if so, the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Ten airports including two Civil Enclaves at Defence airports belong to Airports Authority of India (AAI) in the State of Gujarat.

(b) Nine airports out of 10 are functioning properly. One airport at Deesa (Palampur) is non-operational.

(c) and (d) Airlines plan their operation on the basis of operational and commercial viability.

Onion Intervention Scheme 2000

3406. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to

the Unstarred Question No. 4388 dated April, 22, 2002 regarding claim of the Government of Maharashtra for the Onion Intervention Scheme of 2000 and state;

(a) whether the further claim in respect of remaining amount has since been settled and amount reimbursed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The Market Intervention (MIS) for Onion in Maharashtra was sanctioned for a quantity of 65000 MTs. from 20.1.2000 to 29.2.2000. Full and final reimbursement of Government of India's share on losses for the approved quantity of 65000 MTs. Has already been released to the Government of Maharashtra. No additional quantity of Onion was sanctioned under the MIS, therefore settlement of any further claim does not arise.

(b) Question does not arise.

Scheme for Contract Labourers

3407. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to compensate the contract labourers, if retrenched from job;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a proposal to bring said labourers under the Medical Insurance Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and.

(f) the number of labourers that are likely to be benefitted therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (f) In the light of various proposals, including payment of retrenchment compensation and grant of medical insurance to contract labourers, received from social partners to bring about changes in the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, the Government has undertaken its review. The details of the amendments which may be effected in the Act have not yet been finalised. The process involves consultation with various concerned authorities. Hence, neither a definite time by which the final decision is likely to be taken nor the numbers of labourers who are likely to be benefitted can be given.

Disposal of Hazardous Waste

3408. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether a permanent solution for disposal of hazardous waste generated by the capital is under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Credit Rating Information Services of India (CRISIC) has prepared any feasibility report in this regard and submitted to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A thirty two acre site located

in Pali District, Faridabad has been notified for developing a common Treatment, Storage & Disposal Facility (TSDF) for hazardous wastes.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. M/s. CRISIL Infrastructure Advisory, Mumbai was awarded a study to assess the feasibility of setting up/operating a common TSDF at Pali, Faridabad for the States of Haryana, 5 districts of U.P. (Ghaziabad, Gautambudh Nagar, Bullandshahar, Mathura & Meerut) and National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. As per the Report submitted by them, a combined TSDF for Haryana, 5 districts of U.P. and NCT of Delhi is techno-economically and environmentally feasible. Action has been initiated to finalise the operational modalities of the Common Facility.

[Translation]

Protection of Taj

3409. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to check the damage being caused to the Taj Mahal by the sand brought by the rainwater; and

(b) the efforts made for sand conservation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The entire matter is under the consideration of the Supreme Court. Further action would be taken in accordance with the direction that the Court may issue.

[English]

Minimum Wages to Medical and Sales Representatives

3410. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minimum Wages Act is applicable for the medical and sales representatives in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is applicable to the workers engaged in the scheduled employments both in the Central and state spheres. The employment of Medical and Sales Representatives has not been added to the schedule in the Central Sphere. However, it is one of the scheduled employments in the states of Tamil Nadu (medical and sales representatives) and in Punjab (medical representatives).

Establishment of ESI Hospitals/ Dispensaries

3411. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the State Government for establishment of ESI hospitals/dispensaries in their respective areas;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the funds earmarked/released to the State Governments for the purpose during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the proposals received from the State Governments for establishment of ESI Hospitals/ Dispensaries during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-I (Hospitals) and statement-II (Dispensaries).

(c) As per funding policy of ESI Corporation for capital construction, no funds are earmarked/released to

State Government. In respect of hospitals there is no Reserve fund for capital construction from which the requirement for capital construction is met. The amount spent during the last three years on the hospitals/ dispensaries as below :

Year	Amount spent
2000-2001	771.58 lakhs
2001-2002	710.88 lakhs
2002-2003	824.01 lakhs

The expenditure on new dispensaries is first met by the State Government which is then reimbursed to them within the ceiling fixed by ESI Corporation from time to time on production of audit certificates.

The amount paid to the State Governments during the last three years for providing medical benefits is given in the statement-III.

Statement-I

1. **Andhra Pradesh (Old City of Hyderabad) :** A proposal was received from the Andhra Pradesh Govt. in January, 1999 for the establishment of a 50 bedded ESI hospital in the old City of Hyderabad. The proposal was not found feasible considering the distribution of population, availability of beds and occupancy rate of existing hospitals. Subsequently, a revised proposal was received from Director, Insurance Medical Services, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide letter dated 17.6.2000 for construction of a Diagnostic Centre and Emergency Care Centre with 20 beds instead of 50 beds hospital.

Again vide his letter dated 20.1.01, the Hon'ble Labour Minister, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh requested for establishment of a 100 bedded hospital at Bandalaguda in the Old City of

Hyderabad against which certain clarifications have been called for by the ESI Corporation.

Finally, the Regional Board of Andhra Pradesh in its 48th Meeting recommended construction of a Diagnostic Centre in the old City instead of an hospital. Director, Insurance Medical Services, A.P. has moved the State Govt. in March 2002 for sending a formal proposal to SEI Corporation in this regard. The same is awaited.

2. **Gujarat (Ankleshwar) :** 25 bedded ESI Hospital has already been set up in 8 flats of GIDC at Ankleshwar. On a proposal from the State Govt. a 100 bedded hospital was agreed to, in principle, by the ESI Corporation on 16.5.00 and the State Govt. has been asked to arrange for a suitable piece of land for construction of the same.

No proposal for land has so far been received from the State Govt.

3. **Himachal Pradesh (Baddi Barotiwala) :** Request was received for the establishment of a ESI Hospital in Baddi Barotiwala from the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh in July, 2000. On examination, it was found that the establishment of a hospital was not feasible because of under-utilization of existing hospital facilities at Parwanoo. Therefore, the construction of a Diagnostic Centre was recommended to the State Govt. which was accepted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister vide his letter dated 5.9.2000. But subsequently, vide his letter dated 6.12.00, the Hon'ble Chief Minister again requested for a hospital which was reiterated in State Govt's letter dated 22.11.01.

Finally, it has been decided to construct a dispensary-cum-diagnostic centre at this place as already informed to the Ministry of Labour on 8.2.02. Plans and estimates for the same are under examination.

Statement-II

Details of ESI Dispensaries received & sanctioned during the last three years

2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of ESI Dispensary
1	2	3
1.	Haryana	Manesar
2.	-do-	Sanpla
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Mangaliya (Indore)
4.	-do-	Maxi (Sajapur)
5.	-do-	Industrial Area, Devas
6.	-do-	Reeva
7.	-do-	Pithampur (Sector 3 & 4)
8.	Goa	Mobile Dispensary, Honda Circle, Sattari Taluka
9.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
10.	-do-	Anand Vallav Vidyanagar
11.	Tamilnadu	Chennimalai
12.	-do-	Nanguneri
13.	-do-	Vannur
14.	-do-	Sholinagar
15.	-do-	Karaikudi & Chettinad
16.	-do-	Kalugumalai
17.	-do-	Sankaraalingapuram
18.	-do-	Rasipuram

1	2	3
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19. Tamilnadu Kariapatti, Valkkanankundu

20. -do- Nallatipalayam

2001-2002

21. Tamilnadu Vallakoil Area Dist. Erode

22. Chhattisgarh Hathkhoj (Bhillai)

23. -do- Champa Centre, Raipur

2002-2003

24. Tamilnadu Paramadudi

25. -do- Panrutti

26. -do- Tindivanam

27. -do- Ramanathapuram

28. -do- Sivaganga & Kalayarkoil

29. -do- Seshanohavadi

30. -do- Vaduganthangal & Pallikonda

31. -do- Sriperambudur Area

Statement-III

Amount paid to State Governments for providing medical benefit

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount paid (in lakhs)		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2469.34	2640.15	2596.87

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Assam	181.90	180.04	161.02
3.	Bihar	543.00	404.73	168.53
4.	Chandigarh	113.88	139.27	138.69
5.	Chhattisgarh	70.60	141.45	156.06
6.	Gujarat	2817.05	2591.28	2415.29
7.	Goa	176.94	310.01	254.87
8.	Haryana	2195.19	1435.30	1520.85
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	52.78	61.97	59.00
10.	Jharkhand	130.70	174.58	73.77
11.	Karnataka	4245.40	3789.22	4290.34
12.	Kerala	1999.07	1796.87	1697.61
13.	Himachal Pradesh	154.72	104.46	159.50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1171.05	946.33	1606.82
15.	Maharashtra	7390.20	7161.16	5548.55
16.	Meghalaya	10.82	8.97	6.46
17.	Orissa	801.35	595.14	658.64
18.	Pondicherry	303.00	217.48	224.55
19.	Punjab	1456.42	1740.65	1764.78
20.	Rajasthan	1192.40	1543.79	1610.10
21.	Tamilnadu	5118.02	4597.41	6375.37
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2645.63	2264.34	1978.97
23.	Uttaranchal	26.68	48.50	78.64
24.	West Bengal	3174.08	2702.93	2683.15
Total		38440.02	35596.36	36228.43

Economic Condition of Farmers

3412. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been conducting studies of the economic condition of the farmers in phases;

(b) if so, the outcome of the first phase of the study titled "State of Indian Farmers – A Millennium Study"; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Study titled "State of the Indian Farmers—A Millennium Study" has been sponsored by the Government. During the first phase of the Study, 26 teams of authors have been engaged by three leading academic institutions to write analytical papers on various topics within the broad area of agriculture. These papers will document the policies and programmes followed during last fifty years, together with their impact on the well-being of the farmers. The Government has not yet received the final version of all these papers. As part of Phase-II of the Study, a Situation Assessment Survey on professional and economic conditions of the farmers is being carried out by National Sample Survey Organization. The field work for this all-India Survey commenced in January, 2003 and will continue till December, 2003.

(c) It is hoped that the papers written in Phase-I and the findings of the Survey will help the future planners and policymakers to draw meaningful conclusions from past experiences. There is a proposal to publish the papers and results of the Survey for widest dissemination.

Light and Sound Shows

3413. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government alongwith the Government of Karnataka propose to promote light and sound shows in the State;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of light and sound show facility in Mysore;

(c) the amount so far released by the Union Government; and

(d) by when it is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs. 40.00 lakhs for setting up light and sound show at Mysore in the state of Karnataka during the year 2001-02.

(c) An amount of Rs. 36.00 lakhs has been so far released to the State Government of Karnataka for the execution of the project.

(d) Execution and implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Government of Karnataka has been advised to complete the project by the year end.

[Translation]

Water Management

3414. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any allocation of funds for implementation of schemes in the States for effective water management during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the amount out of these allocations spent by State Governments on various schemes, separately as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Water being a State subject, all activities related with water resources development including schemes for effective water management are conceived, planned and executed by the State Governments from the respective State Plan allocations. Separate allocations are not made for specific schemes on water management. However, the activities under the Command Area Development Programme (CADP) are taken up mainly for better water management. The approved State Plan allocations for irrigation, command area development and flood control during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) The funds released to the States under the CADP as reimbursement of their expenditure on command area development during the last financial year (2002-03) are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Outlay for Irrigation, Command Area Development & Flood Control During X Plan (2002-07)

S.No.	States	Outlay in Rs. Crore				Total
		Major & Medium Irrigation	Minor Irrigation	Command Area Development	Flood Control	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9153.84	1607.19	66.22	17.73	10844.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.66	160.71	17.00	5.00	184.37
3.	Assam	273.60	305.09	47.64	19.00	645.83
4.	Bihar	3273.19	681.78	150.05	1911.85	6016.87
5.	Chhattisgarh	1721.37	776.64	6.76	1.88	2506.65
6.	Goa	175.40	27.00	12.50	8.00	222.90
7.	Gujarat	7660.91	1098.49	34.05	16.60	8810.05
8.	Haryana	1129.64	154.28	102.85	154.28	1541.05
9.	Himachal Pradesh	55.00	333.02	9.50	55.66	453.18
10.	Jharkhand	1720.86	325.84	0.00	30.00	2076.70
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	237.43	333.06	42.19	193.10	805.78
12.	Karnataka	13277.33	719.35	137.07	42.83	14176.58
13.	Kerala	600.00	205.00	75.00	50.00	930.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3819.03	1047.46	37.40	12.00	4915.89
15.	Maharashtra	12150.10	2043.16	1056.75	5.00	15255.01
16.	Manipur	221.60	101.20	21.89	23.85	368.54
17.	Meghalaya	24.75	60.00	1.65	11.00	97.40
18.	Mizoram	0.05	26.83	1.40	0.00	28.28
19.	Nagaland	0.50	35.60	3.00	2.00	41.10
20.	Orissa	2329.02	1604.43	35.75	130.00	4099.20
21.	Punjab	1592.51	275.05	150.00	593.95	2611.51
22.	Rajasthan	2269.61	285.42	193.51	19.35	2767.89
23.	Sikkim	0.00	15.00	15.00	1.00	31.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00	500.00	175.00	0.00	2375.00
25.	Tripura	44.17	219.25	0.00	96.57	359.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6424.58	535.27	400.00	247.50	7607.35
27.	Uttaranchal	103.28	59.86	0.00	15.39	178.53
28.	West Bengal	895.85	238.49	52.05	712.27	1898.66
Total—States		70855.28	13774.47	2844.23	4375.81	21849.79
Total—UTs		6.50	98.39	2.40	186.44	293.73
Total States+UTs		70861.78	13872.86	2846.63	4562.25	92143.52

Statement-II

*Statewise Central Releases under Command
Area Development Programme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Scheme	Name of States	Year 2002-03
1	2	3
Command Area Development Programme	Andhra Pradesh	0.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	125.13
	Assam	0.00
	Bihar	0.00
	Chhattisgarh	148.45
	Goa	0.00
	Gujarat	0.00
	Haryana	620.92
	Himachal Pradesh	182.22
	J & K	344.00
	Jharkhand	0.00

1	2	3
	Karnataka	2652.61
	Kerala	0.00
	M.P.	615.05
	Maharashtra	331.33
	Manipur	211.03
	Meghalaya	11.34
	Mizoram	9.14
	Nagaland	0.00
	Orissa	264.90
	Punjab	1622.00
	Rajasthan	2939.27
	Sikkim	1.25
	Tamil Nadu	2305.80
	Tripura	0.00
	Uttar Pradesh	2279.40
	Uttaranchal	75.00

1	2	3
	West Bengal	284.00
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00
	Daman & Diu	0.00
	Total	15022.84

[English]

Assistance for Setting up of Effluent Treatment Plants

3415. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Scientists of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University in Andhra Pradesh have found in a study that indiscriminate disposal of effluents from industrial complexes in Hyderabad is affecting the quality of ground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided/to be provided by the Government for setting up effluent treatment plants there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) The findings of the study carried out at Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Andhra Pradesh revealed that ground water in the area is contaminated due to discharge of effluents from the industries located in Kattedan Industrial Development Area. Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board has taken action against defaulting Industries located in this area. As a result, most of the industries have upgraded pollution control systems and adopted cleaner production technologies.

Health Hazard at Ship Breaking Yard

3416. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the health hazard being faced by the workers engaged in ship-breaking yard at Alang on the Gujarat Coast;

(b) if so, the number of workers who died and were injured at the yard due to explosions/accidents during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of workers who died and were injured at the yard due to explosions/accidents during the last three years is given below :

	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Died	16	12	23
Injured	08	18	08

(c) The State Government through Gujarat Maritime Board and the Labour the Department has taken a number of preventive and protective steps to improve health safety and reduce the accident rate. These include risk awareness campaigns among workers, imparting training to the workers and safety supervisors, safety audits of plots by experts, investigation of fatal accident cases and taking punitive action, implementation of various rules/regulations, providing health facilities and development of infrastructure etc. at the yard.

[Translation]

Land under Irrigation

3417. SHRI RAYINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed any target for irrigation of land under various schemes especially Fast Track Programme and Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme in each State;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total area of irrigated/unirrigated land in the country, State-wise as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding and implementation of irrigation schemes primarily rests with the State Governments. Accordingly, the targets furnished by the State Governments to the Planning Commission in respect of creation of irrigation potential during the Tenth Five Year Plan are given in the enclosed statement-I. No specific targets are separately fixed in respect of the Fast Track Programme and the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP).

(c) Net Sown Area, Net Irrigated Area and unirrigated area as per Land Use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1999-2000 (latest) are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of State	Target for Creation of Irrigation Potential during Tenth Plan (In 000 ha.)		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	739.88	195.40	935.28
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.00	20.00	24
3.	Assam	116.10	116.10	232.2
4.	Bihar	948.42	264.60	1213.02
5.	Chhattisgarh	305.00	55.00	360
6.	Goa	26.66	4.54	31.2
7.	Gujarat	1904.00	66.00	1970

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	119.00	42.50	161.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.00	10.00	18
10.	Jharkhand	315.00	NF	315
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.00	NF	25
12.	Karnataka	999.89	221.29	1221.18
13.	Kerala	90.00	50.00	140
14.	Madhya Pradesh	265.30	125.00	390.3
15.	Maharashtra	1276.43	158.00	1434.43
16.	Manipur	28.15	14.45	42.6
17.	Meghalaya	—	12.50	12.5
18.	Mizoram	—	1.66	1.66
19.	Nagaland	—	9.43	9.43
20.	Orissa	465.07	132.37	597.44
21.	Punjab	160.30	NF	160.3
22.	Rajasthan	413.80	50.00	463.8
23.	Sikkim	0.00	5.00	5
24.	Tamil Nadu	9.38	9.02	18.4
25.	Tripura	—	32.40	32.4
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1000.76	3616.80	4617.56
27.	Uttaranchal	6.20	11.88	18.08
28.	West Bengal	700.00	NF	700
Total of all States		9926.34	5223.94	15150.28
Total UTs		0.00	4.43	4.43
All India Grand Total		9926.34	5228.37	15154.71

NF = Not Furnished by the State.

Statement-II

State-wise details of Net Irrigated Area (NIA), Net Sown Area (NSA) and Unirrigated Area

(In thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Net Sown Area (NSA)	Net Irrigated Area (NIA)	% of NIA to NSA	Unirrigated Area
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10610.00	4384.00	41.32	6226.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	166.00	35.00	21.08	131.00
3.	Assam	2701.00	572.00	21.18	2129.00
4.	Bihar	7437.00	3625.00	48.74	3812.00
5.	Goa	142.00	22.00	15.49	120.00
6.	Gujarat	9667.00	3082.00	31.88	6585.00
7.	Haryana	3552.00	2888.00	81.31	664.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	551.00	102.00	18.51	449.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	733.00	303.00	41.34	430.00
10.	Karnataka	10259.00	2548.00	24.84	7711.00
11.	Kerala	2239.00	380.00	16.97	1859.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19898.00	6740.00	33.87	13158.00
13.	Maharashtra	17691.00	2972.00	16.80	14719.00
14.	Manipur	140.00	65.00	46.43	75.00
15.	Meghalaya	240.00	48.00	20.00	192.00
16.	Mizoram	91.00	8.00	8.79	83.00
17.	Nagaland	261.00	63.00	24.14	198.00
18.	Orissa	6075.00	2090.00	34.40	3985.00
19.	Punjab	4238.00	4004.00	94.48	234.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
20. Rajasthan		15509.00	5612.00	36.19	9897.00
21. Sikkim		95.00	16.00	16.84	79.00
22. Tamil Nadu		5464.00	2972.00	54.39	2492.00
23. Tripura		277.00	35.00	12.64	242.00
24. Uttar Pradesh		17585.00	12691.00	72.17	4894.00
25. West Bengal		5472.00	1911.00	34.92	3561.00
Total of all States		141093.00	57168.00	40.52	83925.00
Total UTs		135.00	71.00	52.59	64.00
All India Grand Total		141228.00	57239.00	40.53	83989.00

Farmers Living below Poverty Line

3418. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of farmers living below poverty line in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the welfare schemes being implemented for the farmers;
- (c) the details of funds released by the Government during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, scheme-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Committee on Discrimination at Work Places

3419. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government had set up a five-member committee to suggest remedial measures on ILO's remarks over discrimination at work places, sexual harassment especially against women;
- (b) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report;
- (c) if so, the main features thereof; and
- (d) by when the Government is likely to implement the suggestions made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up a five-member committee to examine the ILO's Global Report on "Time for Equality at Work."

- (b) No Sir. The Committee is in the process of examining the various issues relating to discrimination. All

the concerned Ministries/Departments have been addressed to give their views in the matter as the Report cuts across the subjects dealt by different Ministries/Departments.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

National Dairy Development Board

3420. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI KAMAL NATH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) propose to provide consultancy and technical knowledge to dairy cooperatives across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and benefits accrued to NDDB as a results thereof;

(c) whether the Dairy cooperative in private sector have urged NDDB to help in promoting their products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the help rendered by NDDB is going to promote the cooperatives in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) NDDB provides technical support to the dairy co-operatives in the areas of cooperative institutional building, marketing of milk & milk products, animal health and disease control, breed development, animal nutrition, clean milk production, quality improvement & plant management and information network. It also provides consultancy for creation of infrastructure facilities for dairy development. NDDB is a developmental organisation and no financial benefit accrues to NDDB because of these activities.

(c) and (d) Dairy Co-operatives working on Anand Pattern are provided financial and technical support by NDDB.

(e) With the assistance rendered by NDDB, 1.03 lakh village cooperative societies have been organised upto March, 2003 which in turn have federated to 170 district cooperative milk unions and 15 state cooperative milk federations.

Workshop on GM Foods

3421. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Interactive Workshop on GM Foods was organized at the IIT, New Delhi on May 13, 2003 by the Gene Campaign;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the salient points of discussions;

(c) whether the Government have supported the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any interactive Workshop on GM Foods organized at the IIT, New Delhi on 13th May, 2003 by the Gene Campaign.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Tourism Projects

3422. SHRI V. VETRISSELVAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Tourism projects which were sanctioned in Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan are still lying incomplete;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith number of projects sanctioned during the said Plan periods; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for their completion during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Out of 2871 projects sanctioned in various States/UTs during the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan for development and promotion of tourism, some projects have not been completed primarily due to the following reasons:

- Delay in allotment and transfer of land by the Revenue Departments to the Tourism Departments of State Governments.
- Delay in release of funds by the State Governments to the implementing agencies.
- Delay in clearance of projects located in forest areas by the Department of Forest.
- Litigation relating to land selected for the projects.
- Cost escalation due to late commencement of work.

(c) State Governments have been advised to complete these projects expeditiously. Progress of the projects are being monitored regularly. Review meetings are also held with Senior officers of the State Governments/ UT Administrations to expedite implementation of these projects.

[Translation]

Boeing Aircraft with Government Airlines

3423. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Boeing passenger aircraft and other small passenger aircraft available with the Government Airlines;

(b) whether the out-dated and aged aircraft are still being used;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to purchase new Boeing Aircraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Air India has 13 Boeing passenger aircraft, including one leased aircraft (B-747-400) and one aircraft (B-747-200) which has been phased-out from scheduled operations and is awaiting disposal. Alliance Air (a subsidiary of Indian Airlines) has a fleet of 11 Boeing 737. In addition to this, Indian Airlines has 2 Dornier DO-228 and 4 ATR-42 small passenger aircraft.

(b) No life span is specified for aircraft. The operation of an aircraft may continue subject to its airworthiness being certified by DGCA.

(c) and (d) The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its 61st meeting held on 27th March, 2002 approved the proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft comprising A-319, A-320 and A-321 from Airbus Industries during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08 at a net cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. The Project Report has been submitted by Indian Airlines to the Government. Pre-PIB meetings were held on 25th April and 12th June, 2003 on the subject, wherein it was recommended that the proposal may be referred to PIB for consideration. No firm target date for completion of the acquisition process can be indicated at this stage, since the extant procedures for consideration of public investment proposals will have to be followed.

Air India also has plans to acquire new aircraft in order to phase out the older aircrafts, rationalize its fleet and expand capacity. No final proposal has been received from Air India for Government approval.

[English]

Task Force on Krishi Vigyan Kendras

3424. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formed a task force on restructuring of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) spread all over the country;

- (b) if so, the objectives thereof;
- (c) the details of the members and time given to this task force to give its report;
- (d) whether the Government propose to make Krishi Vigyan Kendras more effective; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A 10 Member Task Force was constituted consisting of Special Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), as Chairperson; three officials from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, two from DAC, one each from State Agricultural University, State Agricultural Department and Non-Government Organization as members; and Additional Commissioner, DAC as Member-Secretary. The terms of reference of the Task Force include strengthening of the linkages of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). The Task Force was to give its report within one month of its notification (3.5.2002) and submitted its report on (31.5.2002).

(d) and (e) In order to make the KVKs more effective a proposal has been prepared to establish electronic linkages with the KVKs and technology generating institutions for availability of technology information at the level of the KVKs.

Report on Environmental Pollution and Health Care System

3425. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the Government sometime back to report on alarming picture of environmental pollution in India and health care system has submitted its report to the Government;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have kept the report

in cold storage and are not taking any steps to implement it;

- (d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) The Committee on Environment and Health constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests submitted its report covering various aspects of environmental pollution and related health issues.

(c) to (e) As a follow-up of the recommendations, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) constituted an Environment and Human Health Cell (EHHC) to act as a nodal point for addressing relevant issues pertaining to environmental health. Besides, a number of environmental health studies were commissioned and training workshops organized on environmental health. A Vision Statement on Environment and Human Health has also been brought out recently which emphasizes the need for protection of human health against air pollution, water pollution, radiation, noise pollution, climate change, indoor air pollution, hazardous and bio-medical wastes. The Vision Statement has also outlined the need for institutional strengthening, public partnership, implementation and coordination mechanism for various programmes and activities. An Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Environment and Human Health and a Task Force on Environment and Human Health have been constituted by the MoEF to monitor and oversee implementation of various programmes and activities.

[Translation]

Minimum Support Price for Paddy and Kharif Crops

3426. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to stabilize the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy for the first time;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken the State Governments into confidence;

(c) if so, the benefits to be accrued to the State Governments and farmers as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to stabilize MSP of Kharif crops in the future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (e) No, Sir. The Government have recently announced the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Crops including paddy for 2003-04 season (October-September) on the basis of the recommendations made by the CACP, views of the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which, in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of support prices. As compared to last year (2002-03) the MSP of paddy common and paddy grade 'A' fixed at Rs. 550 per quintal and Rs. 580 per quintal respectively for 2003-04 represents an increase of Rs. 20 per quintal each.

[English]

Conservation of Flood Water

3427. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any short or long term measures have been taken by the Government to conserve flood water, for use in drought affected States; and

(b) if so, how far these have proved affected to control miseries and devastation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Water being a State subject, all water

resources projects including those for conservation of flood water are planned, implemented and maintained by the concerned State Governments. A number of projects have been implemented in the country with the objective of conserving river flow during the monsoon and its use during non-monsoon period for various purposes. Multipurpose projects have also been planned and implemented with the objectives of flood management as well as other uses. Schemes for watershed development also help to some extent in reducing intensity of flood and conservation of water. As a long term measure, the Government of India has formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers which will inter-alia mitigate floods and combat droughts.

(b) The multipurpose projects with flood control as one of its objectives have been found to be very effective in controlling miseries and devastation.

Migrated Labourers

3428. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the recent cloud burst in Himachal Pradesh, the Government have made any guidelines/procedure to be followed regarding registration of migrant labourers, insurance etc. so that their family may get compensation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, under Section 4 of the Inter State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 every principal employer of an establishment wherever this Act applies has to be got registered with the registering officer of the appropriate Government. Wages, welfare and other conditions of service etc. of the Migrant labour are governed by the provisions as laid down under the Inter State Migrant Workmen (RECS) Act, 1979.

Compensatory Afforestation Scheme

3429. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has taken up with the Ministry of Environment and Forests seeking exemption for compensatory afforestation scheme for giving land to landless tribals in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in giving the permission; and

(c) by when permission is to be given by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The State Government had, however, submitted a proposal to the Central Government for diversion of 12,196 hectares of vested forest land for distribution among the tribals in the State in January 2002. The Central inspection team visited the proposed areas in June 2003 and reported that the proposal sent by the State Government did not take into consideration the present ground realities. The State Government has sent the revised proposal only in the last week of July, 2003. As such, there has not been any delay in taking a final decision regarding according/rejecting permission to the proposal.

Science City in Gujarat

3430. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Science City in Gujarat;

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed; and

(c) the funds released so far and spent on the project?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Master Plan for the Phase I on a total area of around 30 Hectares has been finalized.

The IMAX Theater has been opened for the public since 23rd October 2002 and to date more than 10,000 students from 50 schools and 81,000 visitors have enjoyed the edutainment experience of IMAX Theater. Also a 30-seater Simulator Ride has been opened for the public since 15th June 2003. The work on installation of Dinosaurs and exhibits in Energy Park, Space and Communication Pavilion, Life Science Park, Musical Fountain plus the infrastructure and utilities is in full swing.

(b) The target to complete the First Phase of the Project is March, 2004.

(c) The Government of India, Department of Culture sanctioned Rs. 9.00 crores and has released Rs. 1.00 crore so far, for the Science City in Gujarat.

[Translation]

Kelon Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh

3431. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kelon Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh is lying pending with the Union Government for the last many years; and

(b) if so, by when the project is likely to be accorded approval and the time by which the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Probably, the Hon'ble member is referring to Halon Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh costing Rs. 193.017 crore received in Central Water Commission in January, 2000 for techno-economic appraisal. The project proposal was examined by Central Water Commission and comments were sent to the State Government on financial, hydrological, inter-State, irrigation planning, environment and forest aspects. The clearance of project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arranges to provide compliance to the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

**Artificial Insemination Centres
in Bihar**

3432. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 6079 dated May 5, 2003 and state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted a revised project proposal as per guidelines of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir. The Government of Bihar has been reminded to incorporate all the required information and revise the project proposal accordingly and also constitute a State Implementing Agency with by-laws and mandate to implement the National project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

(b) and (c) The question do not arise.

[English]

Salem Steel Plant

3433. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) had formed a board level sub-committee to examine the disinvestment procedures to ensure transparency regarding the sale of Salem Steel Plant (SSP);

(b) if so, whether SAIL is yet to open the bids submitted by Jindal Steels for the 74 per cent stake in SSP;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether reserve price for the sale of SSP had already been worked out; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has formed a Committee comprising of members of the Board of Directors to facilitate the process of divestment of Salem Steel Plant (SSP).

(b) and (c) The financial bid for SSP has been received and would be opened at the appropriate stage in the process of disinvestment of the plant.

(d) and (e) SAIL has not calculated the reserve price for the sale, though such price has been worked out by the Merchant Bankers who are advisors to the process and kept in a sealed envelope.

Cattle Insurance Scheme

3434. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there had been an offer to the farmers for a scheme namely 'Health Linked Cattle Insurance Scheme' under the Kamadhenu Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the insurance company subsequently back tracked from the offer;

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

(d) whether the Government have any plan to implement its decision dated July 30, 2002 in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps being initiated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture Government of India has not made any such offer. However, the Government of Kerala has made such an offer to the farmers of the State.

(b) and (c) Government of Kerala has informed that the insurance company subsequently backtracked from the offer on the grounds that the new scheme would not be economically viable for the company.

Also the insurance company has stated that any change in the existing Kamdhenu scheme has to be cleared by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) with actuarial and legal support for which steps have been initiated.

(d) and (e) Discussions between the Government of Kerala and the insurance company are going on to revoke the new scheme.

[Translation]

Development of Fisheries

3435. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop fisheries in collaboration with the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh is also one of the State where this industry is likely to be developed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (d) Government implements various schemes through the State Governments for development of inland and marine fisheries and welfare of fishermen. These schemes include Motorization of Traditional Crafts, Development of Freshwater and Brackish water Aquaculture, Establishment of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres, Welfare Programme for Fishermen, Fisheries Training and Extension including human resource development and strengthening of database and information networking for fishery sector. Central assistance under these schemes is extended on receipt of viable proposals

from the State Governments including Uttar Pradesh. During the IX Plan and 2002-03, Central assistance of Rs. 1858.57 lakh and Rs. 134.26 lakh has been released to Government of UP under various schemes for the development of fishery sector and welfare of fishermen.

[English]

Production in Steel Plants

3436. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of production recorded in Durgapur, Rourkela and Bhilai Steel Plants during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) whether the present productivity ratio has indicated a significant increase in the performance of these three steel plants;

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering to invest more to expand the said plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Saleable steel production at Durgapur, Rourkela and Bhilai Steel Plants during last three years and current year (upto July, 2003) are as under :

Plant	Saleable Steel Production '000 Tonnes			
	2000- 01	2001- 02	2002- 03	2003-04 Upto July' 03
1	2	3	4	5
Durgapur Steel Plant	1496	1527	1585	494
Rourkela Steel Plant	1294	1354	1527	532

1	2	3	4	5
Bhilai Steel Plant	3307	3383	3616	1325

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government is not considering any investment in SAIL for expansion. SAIL, however, has made plans for upgradation of existing facilities as well as installation of new facilities like long rail facilities at Bokaro Steel Plant, Bloom Caster at Durgapur Steel Plant and upgradation of Pipe Plant at Rourkela Steel Plant.

[Translation]

**Funds for Horticultural and
Agricultural Projects**

3437. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the detail of Central funds allocated, released and utilized for the development of horticultural and agricultural projects in Maharashtra and Gujarat during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the funds for these projects to these States during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) The Government of India are implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of States efforts through Work Plan" including Gujarat and Maharashtra for the development of Horticulture and Agriculture. The scheme provides flexibility to the States to prioritize the intervention as per the need of the States. The details of funds released and utilized for development of horticultural and agricultural projects in Maharashtra and Gujarat under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Funds are provided as per the needs and programmes of the States projected in the work plan.

Statement

Maharashtra

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Year	Release	Utilisation
1.	2000-01	10633.31	8352.73
2.	2001-02	10598.78	10884.66
3.	2002-03	8812.44	11253.46*

Gujarat

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Year	Release	Utilisation
1.	2000-01	4713.47	3692.61
2.	2001-02	3108.33	1079.16
3.	2002-03	2544.74	1750.51

*The utilization for Maharashtra during 2002-03 is more on account of unspent balance as on 1.4.2002.

[English]

**Migration of Persons in Search
of Employment**

3438. SHRI SHIBU SOREN :
SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of people/rural labourers are migrating to other States in search of employment in the country particularly from Jharkhand and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the persons who have migrated during the last three years and current year, till-date, State-wise;

(c) the adverse effect of migration on agriculture in rural areas;

(d) whether the Government have any policy or programme to stop such large scale migration;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Accelerated movement of people mainly from the rural areas in search of better employment opportunities has been one of the most important features of the labour market of different states including the State of Bihar and Jharkhand. Since migration is a continuous process in the country data regarding number of persons migrating from one State to another, is not maintained at the Central level.

(c) No adverse effect of migration on agriculture in rural areas has been noticed.

(d) to (f) In order to reduce the incidence of migration and generate employment opportunities, the Government has launched a number of schemes under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Pradhanmantri Rozgar Yojana etc. especially in rural areas.

Survey of Cultivable Lands

3439. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the quantum of cultivable lands lying waste for various reasons in the country;

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

(c) the reasons for farmers choosing not to cultivate on such land; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to encourage cultivation on such lands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Data on the extent of culturable waste land are collected annually by the States as part of Land Use Statistics (LUS). According to the recent-most compilation of LUS, the Statewise area classified as culturable waste in the year 1999-2000 is as shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Cultivation in the culturable waste land is not undertaken because of the high cost involved in bringing it under cultivation and low productivity. Government of India are implementing programmes such as Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers; Reclamation of Alkali Soils; and Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas, for development of degraded lands.

Statement

*State-wise culturable waste land in
the year 1999-2000*

(Area in '000 hectares)

State/Union-Territory	Culturable waste land
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	781
Arunachal Pradesh	33
Assam	80
Bihar	321
Goa	55
Gujarat	1973
Haryana	23
Himachal Pradesh	119
Jammu & Kashmir	140
Karnataka	433

1	2
Kerala	58
Madhya Pradesh	1501
Maharashtra	889
Manipur	*
Meghalaya	449
Mizoram	121
Nagaland	65
Orissa	445
Punjab	37
Rajasthan	4987
Sikkim	1
Tamil Nadu	349
Tripura	1
Uttar Pradesh	896
West Bengal	42
A & N Islands	12
Chandigarh	**
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	**
Daman & Diu	2
Delhi	10
Lakshadweep	**
Pondicherry	3
All India	13828

*Classified under "Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves etc."

**Below 500 hectares.

[Translation]

Naming of Airport

3440. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to name the airports after national leaders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any specific proposal in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) It is the normal policy of the Government to retain the name of the city for airports as this is found to be convenient for identification by passengers in general and foreign tourists in particular.

(c) and (d) Proposals have been received from time to time for renaming of airports of Rajkot, Porbandar, Jabalpur, Varanasi, Nagpur, Visakhapatnam, Agartala, Madurai, Jodhpur, Dibrugarh, Lengpui and Lilabari airports.

Decision for renaming of domestic airports in exception to the normal policy are taken on the basis of sustained public demand and after consultation with the concerned State Governments and Ministry of Defence in the case of Defence airports.

[English]

Development of Patna Airport

3441. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received necessary clearance from the Forest Department and other

connected Departments to clear the approach to Patna Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are other such airports in the country where facilities for approach or take-off are not upto international safety norms; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to upgrade safety at airports to international level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Land Acquisition for Alumina Plant

3442. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started the acquisition of land for Lanjigarh Alumina Plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the compensation paid/proposed to be paid to the affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Irregularities in Promotion

3443. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain flight pursers and Air Hostesses have been promoted by the Indian Airlines to the rank of Assistant Manager ignoring the claims of the senior persons in violation of the promotional rules;

(b) if so, the number of persons who have been promoted in violation of the rules and ignoring the claims of the eligible senior employees;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government to rectify the irregularities committed in the promotions made by the Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Explosion in Bhadravathi Steel Plant

3444. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether an explosion which took place in SAIL's Bhadravathi Plant in Karnataka is reported to have claimed many lives and damaged huge properties;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether adequate safety measures were not taken in the plant;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) by when a thorough probe is likely to be conducted;

(f) the compensation proposed to be paid to the next of the kin who killed or injured in the blast; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) An eruption of slag and metal from the mouth of L.D. converter No.2 took place in Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP), Bhadravati on 31st July, 2003. This resulted in casualties/injuries to the employees present on the spot. While seven employees including one contract worker were identified as brought dead at the hospital, another nine employees who suffered injuries were admitted for treatment. Two of the injured employees succumbed to their injuries and expired on 1st and 8th August, 2003.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Adequate safety measures were in place in the plant.

(e) A Committee consisting of senior officials of SAIL was constituted to enquire into the accident which has already submitted the report.

(f) Monetary payment ranging from a minimum of Rs. 8.02 lakhs to a maximum of Rs. 25.33 lakhs will be provided to the affected employees. The compensation, if any, in respect of injured employees shall be made as per the rules of company. Further, employment to one member of each of the deceased's families has been offered.

(g) Steps taken by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)/VISP to check such incidents are :

- Structured safety training programme is being imparted.
- Safety talks are being given to the concerned employees by Shift In-charge at the beginning of each shift in all departments of VISP.
- Safety personnel are being associated during prolonged breakdown maintenance jobs on critical equipments.
- Boards indicating Do's and Don'ts have been prepared for display at steel melting shop.

Migration of Agriculture Workers

3445. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale migration of agriculture workers from villages to cities in various States;

(b) if so, the reasons for their migration; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure their employment and to stop any further migration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The main reasons for migration of agriculture workers from villages to cities in various States are non availability of avenues of employment, expectation to have higher income and better quality of living.

(c) The Government is implementing various schemes in different sectors including agriculture, agro based industries, small and village industries, sericulture, apiculture etc. alongwith other infrastructure and social development sectors which are aimed at generating income and employment in rural areas so as to accelerate the pace of developmental activities in agriculture in rural areas and discourage to a greater extent the migration from villages to cities in various States. Very recently the first ever National Agriculture Policy announced in July, 2000 aims to attain a sustainable and demand driven growth, with equity, in excess of 4% per annum. It seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of agriculture sector, enhance sustainable of agriculture, ensure household food and nutritional security, strengthen basic rural infrastructure, promote value addition, create employment opportunities in rural areas, secure fair standard of living for the farmers and agriculture workers and their families and also discourage migration of agriculture labour to urban areas.

Per Hectare Production in Karnataka

3446. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of rice, oilseeds, cotton, bajra and pulses per hectare in Karnataka as on date;

(b) whether improved seeds have been developed in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The figures of per hectare production in respect of various crops in Karnataka for 2002-03 are given below. As the figures for 2002-03 reflect the impact of severe drought that affected several parts of the country including Karnataka during 2002, normal production figures in respect of Karnataka (average for the 3 years 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02) are also given below :

Yield (in Kg/hectare)		
Crop	2002-03*	Normal
Rice	2034	2467
Total Oilseeds	439	674
Cotton	194	223
Bajra	475	638
Total Pulses	300	437

*Fourth Advance estimates released on 1st July 2003.

(b) and (c) The list of improved seeds (varieties/ hybrids) developed for Karnataka State from 2002 to 2003 is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

*List of improved seeds developed for Karnataka
State from 2002 to 2003*

Paddy (Rice)

1. Karnataka Hill Paddy-5 (KHP-5)
2. Hemavati (DWR-4107)
3. Mugad Sugonadha-1

4. 6201 (PA-1003) Hybrid

5. Hybrid-6444 (HRI-120)

6. RH-204 (EXPH-204)

Oilseeds

1. Sesame

1. Pragati (MT-75)

2. JTS-8

2. Castor

1. Deepak (DCH-177) Hybrid

3. Niger

1. JNC-6

4. Safflower

1. NARI-6 (Non-Spiny)

2. NARI-NH-1 (Non Spiny)

5. Sunflower

1. MLSFH-47 (AH-11-34) Hybrid

2. KBSH-44

6. Soybean

1. Pratikar (MAUS-61)

Cotton

1. Sahana (JK-276-8-2)

2. RAMPBS-155

3. Sumangala (CWROK-165)

4. Pratima (CNH-120 MB)

5. NCS-145-Bunny (NCHH-145)

6. NCS-207-Mallika (NCHH-207)

Bajra

1. Proagro-9443 (MH-846)
2. Nandi-34 (MH-889)
3. GHB-558 (MH-946)
4. GHB-526 (MSH-105)

Pulses**1. Bengal Gram**

1. Vihar PhuJe (G-95311)

2. Cow Pea

1. KBC-2

3. Horse Gram

1. PHG-9

4. Red Gram

1. TS-3
2. Selection-31

5. Rice Bean

1. RBL .6

World Bank Aided Project In Karnataka

3447. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any World Bank Aided Project has been envisaged in Karnataka to replenish the ground water level in 52 taluks in the State; and

(b) if so, by when the work on the project is likely to commence alongwith the target set for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The scheme for replenishment of groundwa-

ter in 52 taluks in the State of Karnataka is envisaged as a component of "Karnataka Water Resources Consolidation Project" which is in the formulation stage with the State Government. Ministry of Water Resources has so far not received the proposal from the State Government for posing the same to the World Bank.

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction of Fare

3448. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many foreign Airlines have reduced their fares recently;

(b) if so, whether it has adversely affected IA and AI;

(c) if so, whether the Air India and Indian Airlines are contemplating to reduce the air fare from Gulf countries to Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Airlines keep on adjusting their fares based on seasonality, demand and availability of seats. Air India and Indian Airlines also respond to these changes in a competitive manner.

(c) and (d) Indian Airlines has reduced fares on certain sectors between Kerala and Gulf by 5% to 29% in July 2003. Now there is peak demand on Indian-Gulf sectors as the vacations are coming to an end. Therefore Air India has no plans for any reduction in fares in near future.

**Clean Development Mechanism
under Kyoto Protocol**

3449. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Environment Ministry has mooted a proposal to set up a National Authority to formulate policy and implement the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under Kyoto proposal;

(b) if so, the reasons for setting up such panel; and

(c) by when the above panel to regulate carbon trading is likely to be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) The Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has mooted a proposal to set up a National Authority for implementing Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the Kyoto Protocol.

(b) All countries wishing to participate in the CDM process have to designate a National Authority for the CDM.

(c) On approval of the competent authority, the National CDM Authority will be set up.

Sanjay Gandhi Rashtriya Udyan

3450. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal of Sanjay Gandhi Rashtriya Udyan, Mumbai for upgradation, afforestation and such other plantation drive;

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

(c) the allocation of funds for the said Udyan during the last three years indicating the funds utilized and remaining unutilized out of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal relates to construction of wall on the periphery of Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

(c) The details of the funds released, utilized and unutilized are as given below :-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount Released	Amount Utilized	Balance
2000-01	70.00	70.00	-
2001-02	94.90	83.12	-
2002-03	130.77	121.50	-
Total	295.67	274.60	21.05

Perishable Cargo Facility at Airports

3451. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of agreements have been signed by Airports Authority of India with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for construction and operationalization of State of art centre for perishable cargo facility at different airports;

(b) if so, the number of projects which have been completed or are under implementation; and

(c) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Four projects have been completed and one project is under implementation.

(c) The project is likely to be completed by 2006.

Poshir Dam Project of Maharashtra

3452. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the environmental clearance has been given to the proposed Poshir Dam Project in Maharashtra as all the requisite points and clarifications have been submitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The project authorities have not submitted the revised Environmental Impact Assessment report.

(d) A final decision regarding grant of environmental clearance would be communicated within 120 days of receipt of complete information.

Smuggling of Tiger Spiders

3453. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether a number of poisonous hairy tiger spiders are being smuggled to the west;

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

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) Information regarding clandestine trade of tiger spiders have come to the notice of the Government. It is learnt that the tiger spiders are used as pets in many countries abroad. There was a recent newspaper report of these animals being smuggled from South India. The State Wildlife officials have been advised to keep a strict vigil on the movement of tourists and other persons visiting forest areas, national parks and sanctuaries. The Regional Deputy Directors of Wildlife Preservation have been asked to remain watchful at the international transit points.

Development of Horticulture in Tribal Areas

3454. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Sector Schemes on Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal Areas is not implemented in the tribal areas of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated under special component plan for Scheduled Castes and tribal sub-plan for tribes in Karnataka during the last three years and the current year so far;

(d) the details of Central Sector Schemes implemented in the State to increase the production and productivity of agricultural crops; and

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The Central Sector Scheme on Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly areas is being implemented in selected Districts in different States. The scheme was launched during 9th Plan on pilot basis in six Districts, which has been extended for implementation in 10th Plan in twenty Districts of the country.

(b) The scheme is being implemented in "Scheduled Areas" which are not present in Karnataka.

(c) As reported by the State Government of Karnataka the funds allocated under special component plan for Scheduled Castes and tribal sub-plan for tribes are as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	SCP Component	TSP Component
1	2	3
2000-01	151.43	77.56

1	2	3
2001-02	166.84	46.42
2002-03	133.186	58.81
2003-04	121.25	32.03

(d) The Central schemes being implemented in Karnataka for increasing production and productivity of agriculture crops are given below :-

- Macro Management of Agriculture (Work Plan)
- Human Resource Development in Horticulture

- Programmes for Coconut Development
- Accelerated Maize Development Project
- National Pulses Development Project
- Oilseeds Production Program
- Cotton Mini Mission-II
- National Programme for Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers.

(e) A statement indicating allocation of funds to the State of Karnataka during 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed.

Statement

A Statement indicating allocation of funds to the State of Karnataka under different schemes during last three years and the current year

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme	Years			
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1.	Macro Management of Agriculture (Work Plan)	6500.00	6500.00	5800.00	5500.00
2.	Human Resource Development in Horticulture	Nil	14.00	18.00	Nil
3.	Programmes for Coconut Development	95.05	205.50	144.00	211.18
4.	Accelerated Maize Development Project	69.51	51.60	58.42	30.8
5.	National Pulses Development Project	149.30	116.00	241.30	357.3
6.	Oilseeds Production Program	713.30	713.30	773.46	1486.76
7.	Cotton Mini Mission-II	290.12	210.00	150.30	360.2
8.	National Programme for Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers	37.50	27.85	7.00	34.85

Drawal of Water by Private Companies

3455. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Coca Cola is drawing ground water at random in Palchimda of Palghat district in Kerala Punam Beverages from Bhabani River in Tamil Nadu and Khammani district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government against this company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) As per the information received from the respective State Governments, the Coca Cola Company is drawing water from 6 bore wells and 2 open wells in Plachimada in Palghat District of Kerala. In Tamilnadu neither the Coca Cola Company is permitted to draw water from Bhavani River nor the Company applied to accord permission to draw water from Bhavani River. In Khammam District of Andhra Pradesh Kinley Mineral Water (a product of the Coca Cola Company) is drawing ground water at the rate of 1,25,000 litres per day during summer and 70,000 to 80,000 litres per day in other seasons.

(b) The Government of Kerala has informed that it proposes to regulate the pumping of water during periods of general shortage. Besides rainwater harvesting and recharge of existing sources through rainwater harvesting is recommended. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that during the normal rainfall years, the wells of the Coca Cola Plant may not have adverse effects.

[Translation]

Sale of Scraps by BSP

3456. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of scraps sold out at Bokaro Steel Plant (BSP) during the last three years and as on June 30, 2003;

(b) the types of scraps sold out during the said period;

(c) whether the categories of scraps are determined before they are stored at BSP;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the high rate scraps are being sold at lower prices in connivance with the officials; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) sells iron and steel scrap. Total scrap sold during the last three years and upto 30th June, 2003 is as under :

Financial Year	Quantity (MT)	
	Steel Scrap	Iron Scrap
2000-2001	250192.33	34282
2001-2002	149207.07	18228
2002-2003	217509.225	14271
2003-2004 (upto June, 2003)	23397.61	1954

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The scraps at BSL are broadly categorized as under :

(i) **Iron Category**

Sub Category

- Blast Furnace Arisings
- Foundry Arisings
- Rejected Ingot Mould and Bottom Plate.

(ii) **Steel Category**

(In lakh MTs)

Sub Category

- Rejected Ingot, Butts and Shorts
- Steel Skull and Spillage
- Mill Rejection
- Crop Ends
- Maintenance scrap

Year	Consumption
2000-2001	167.02
2001-2002	173.60
2002-2003 (Estimated)	166.66

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(c) The availability of NPK fertilisers in the country is sufficient to meet the demand.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Delay of Delhi-Hyderabad Flight

3458. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines evening flights between Hyderabad-Delhi are delayed on a regular basis;

(b) if so, whether Indian Airlines have monitored the delays on this particular sector since April 1, 2003 upto June 30, 2003;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) During the period April, 2003 to June, 2003 out of 91 flights of IC-840 operating on the sector Hyderabad-Delhi, 21 flights were late by over 30 minutes. Of these, only one flight was delayed due to reasons within the purview of Indian Airlines.

(d) All delays are investigated to pinpoint the cause and remedial action is taken. At the Regional level a meeting between the representatives of the operating Departments is held every day to review the operations

Consumption of NPK Fertilizers

3457. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the consumption of NPK fertilizers has been increasing steadily over the year;

(b) if so, the details of the consumption of NPK during the last three years;

(c) whether availability of NPK in the country is not sufficient to meet the growing demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the demand of NPK?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) During 8th and 9th Plan the average percentage annual growth in fertiliser consumption was 2.47% and 4.17% respectively.

(b) All India consumption of total NPK nutrients from 2000-2001 to 2002-2003 is as under :

of the previous 24 hours, with a view to minimise delays. Further, w.e.f. 14.7.2003 the routing of the aircraft operating Hyderabad-Delhi (evening service) has been changed to ensure better on-time performance.

Lufthansa Flights from Bangalore

3459. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently the Government have received representation and suggestions from prominent citizens and entrepreneurs of Bangalore to grant permission for landing of more Lufthansa flights at Bangalore Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri N.R. Narayan Murthy, Chairman and Chief Mentor, Infosys Technologies Limited, has requested the Government to permit Lufthansa to operate six flights a week to/from Bangalore. As per the existing agreement Lufthansa can operate 3 flights a week to/from Bangalore. Under limited open sky policy during peak winter tourist period, Lufthansa operated additional flights. However, operation of additional flights on a regular basis are considered and negotiated during the regular bilateral air service negotiations between two countries.

Use of Bio-Diesel as an Alternative Fuel

3460. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have come out with an action plan to launch pilot projects in different States to promote bio-diesel as an alternative fuel;

(b) if so, whether the Government are exploring the contract farming avenues to promote oil palm cultivation;

(c) if so, whether the Government have decided to consult experts who would work out various details including the technical and commercial linkages, cost of production of bio-diesel;

(d) if so, whether a meeting of the concerned Central and State Departments have been convened to discuss the pilot project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) The Government is contemplating an action plan to launch pilot project in different states to promote bio-diesel as an alternative fuel.

(b) The concept of the contract farming for promoting the cultivation of oil palm is at initial stages.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Decline in Price of Coconut

3461. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there has been an unprecedented fall in price of coconut in recent past due to the duty cuts and other concessions allowed to edible oils especially palm oil groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to raise the import duty and tariff value of edible oils to reasonable level under WTO bound rates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The month end wholesale prices of

Milling Copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) in Kerala have been ruling well above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs. 3320 per quintal fixed for 2003 season. Further the Wholesale Price Index of Copra has shown an upward trend and in July, 2003 was 11.7 per cent higher than that in the corresponding month of the previous year.

(c) and (d) The current applied rate of tariff on coconut oil (crude) is 75 per cent while the same for refined coconut oil is 92.4% (inclusive of 4 per cent Special Additional Duty). The WTO bound rate of tariff is 300 per cent for both crude and refined coconut oil. There is, thus considerable flexibility with Government for imposing appropriate tariff on edible oils within the bound level to protect the interest of farmers.

[Translation]

Tourism Development in Delhi

3462. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for development of tourism in Delhi during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount allocated/released of the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Centres, Development of Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Assistance for large Revenue Generating Projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country including the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) The Ministry of Tourism and Culture has taken up extensive works at Red Fort, Humayun's Tomb, Salimgarh, Quila Rai Pithora, Qutab Minar and Nizamuddin.

[English]

Production of Potato

3463. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the production of potato during the last three years;

(b) if so, the States where the production of potato has increased during the said period;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to increase potato cultivation in Orissa during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) The production of potato in the country during 1999-2000, 2000-01, and 2001-02 is 247.13, 224.88 and 240.82 lakh tonnes respectively. A statement indicating state-wise production is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-supplementation/complementation of States' efforts through Work Plans. Under the scheme the State has flexibility to cover more area under potato cultivation if the State desires so. During 2003-04 the Government of Orissa is taking up cultivation of potato under this scheme.

Statement

State-wise production of Potato during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02

State	Production (Thousand Tonnes)		
	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	11.3	14.0	14.7

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	32.4	36.7	32.6
Assam	699.7	664.5	620.6
Bihar	1717.9	1400.4	1432.3
Chhattisgarh		66.0	71.3
Gujarat	688.7	716.1	802.0
Haryana	260.0	257.5	305.0
Himachal Pradesh	140.9	191.6	145.3
Jammu and Kashmir	25.7	17.2	20.1
Karnataka	460.0	452.5	489.4
Madhya Pradesh	870.0	429.7	471.9
Maharashtra	71.4	72.9	77.1
Manipur	12.9	13.6	15.9
Meghalaya	143.2	144.3	144.0
Mizoram	4.0	3.4	4.5
Nagaland	46.8	47.9	57.4
Orissa	84.8	85.9	78.4
Punjab	1563.4	1187.2	1413.9
Rajasthan	47.2	28.1	27.8
Sikkim	16.6	16.5	25.8
Tamil Nadu	72.2	103.3	89.2
Tripura	100.0	105.9	106.3
Uttar Pradesh	10109.1	8398.2	9570.0
Uttanchal		361.9	243.7
West Bengal	7482.3	7673.1	7822.3
Delhi	52.7	0.0	0.5
All India	24713.2	22488.4	24082.0

Ranki Vav as Heritage Site

3464. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ranki Vav near Patan and Sun Temple near Modhera in North Gujarat are not included in the list of protected monuments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when it is likely to be included in this list;

(d) whether the Government are aware about the damage being caused to these monuments by rain and wind; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to conserve these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Rani-ki-Vav near Patan and Sun Temple at Modhera in north Gujarat are protected monuments of national importance.

(d) and (e) To protect the monuments from the vagaries of nature exterior surface of stone is preserved by way of chemical treatment and requisite structural repairs of special nature are taken up as per archaeological principles.

Operation Flood

3465. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Operation flood is being launched in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a vast scope to create employment through dairy development;

(d) if so, the achievement made under the programme in the country particularly in Maharashtra; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the promotion and expansion of dairy development programmes in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Operation Flood Programme commenced in July, 1970 and ended in April, 1996.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As on March 2003, 1.03 lakh village co-operative societies were organised covering 114.44 lakh farmer members. In Maharashtra, as on March, 2003 17,534 village level dairy co-operatives societies were organised covering 16.06 lakh farmer members.

(e) During 10th Five Year Plan, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in Government of India is implementing the following schemes for expansion of dairy development in the country :

1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding
2. Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development
3. Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases
4. National Project on Rinderpest Eradication
5. Assistance to Co-operatives
6. Integrated Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)
7. Strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production.

Meals in Short Duration Flights

3466. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether meals are served by the Indian Airlines

in its short duration domestic flights such as Delhi-Lucknow.

(b) if so, whether similar practice is being followed by Airlines in foreign countries particularly USA;

(c) if not, the reason for incurring such wasteful expenditure;

(d) if so, whether the Government would consider serving light refreshments by IA in its short duration flights to avoid wasteful expenditure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Indian Airlines serves meals on short sectors like Delhi-Lucknow for the following reasons : (i) due to the distance and traffic involved in most of the places the passengers take a very long time to reach the airports. Added to this is the time involved in completing the check-in and security formalities. As a result, after the passengers board the aircraft they prefer to be provided with meals (ii) Indian Airlines has to match the facilities offered by its competitors in the domestic market.

Additional Facilities at Fishing Harbours in Kerala

3467. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to sanction 100 percent assistance under Centrally sponsored schemes for providing additional facilities to the existing Fishing Harbours in the State so that they could also be used as minor ports without affecting the fishing activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Discharge of Mercury Waste by
Hindustan Lever**

3468. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the disposal/discharge of mercury waste in Kodalkanal is approximately 75 kg. a year by Hindustan Lever;

(b) if so, whether the Pollution Control Board has been measuring the level of pollution periodically and taking corrective steps at the appropriate time; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) A mercury thermometer manufacturing factory of M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited (HLL), was in operation in Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu during 1983 to March 2001. During the period of its operation, the unit had generated about 290 tons of mercury contaminated wastes. Subsequent to the issue of closure orders by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), the factory was closed down in March 2001.

(b) and (c) When the unit was in operation, the performance of its Effluent Treatment Plant was monitored regularly by the TNPCB by way of periodic collection and analysis of samples. Based on the recommendations of a Working Committee set up by the TNPCB to investigate the issue, the mercury contaminated waste generated by HLL during 1983-2001, has been exported to the United States of America (USA) in May, 2003 for recovery of mercury and final disposal of the residual waste, with the

permission of the Government of India and the Govt. of USA. The TNPCB is closely monitoring the situation including remediation of contaminated sites.

Multi-Modal Hub at Nagpur

3469. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal regarding Multi-Modal hub airport at Nagour submitted by the Government of Maharashtra has since been examined; and

- (b) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Maharashtra has carried out preliminary study through Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC). Certain options for development of the facilities of non-metro airports, including Nagpur, to International standards are being explored which envisage commercial development of city side facilities at airports in joint venture with private sector participation.

Air India Flights to China

3470. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India is planning to introduce two flights between India and China;

(b) if so, whether any meeting in this regard was held for finalizing the modalities; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c)

Air India has plans to operate twice weekly services to China effective December, 2003. Action is in hand to workout the modalities in this regard.

**Expansion of Ship Breaking
Industry**

3471. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's ship breaking industry has potential for expansion;

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

(c) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years;

(d) the performance of Alang and other ship breaking yards in physical and financial terms during each of the last three years;

(e) whether passenger luxury cruise liner is also being brought to Alang; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no plan to develop further plots at Alang/Sosiya Shipbreaking yard. Further, the Shipbreaking industry at present is not operating at its full capacity.

(c) Nil.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Details of passenger ships beached at Alang during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Ship Type	Beaching Date	LDT in MT
1.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	31st July, 2000	5693
2.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	29th July, 2000	3060
3.	Passenger	27th December, 2000	3781
4.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	11th April, 2001	5021
5.	Passenger	4th June, 2001	14694
6.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	2nd June, 2001	9649
7.	Passenger/Car Boat	25th June, 2001	3282
8.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	7th July, 2001	12580
9.	Car/Passenger Ferry	23rd Nov., 2001	3813
10.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	3rd January, 2002	2703
11.	Passenger Ferry Boat	6th March, 2002	18509
12.	Passenger Ferry Boat	28th March, 2002	4581
13.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	24th Dec., 2002	3763
14.	Passenger/Ro-Ro/Ferry	12th April, 2003	9835

**Godavari Lift Irrigation Project of
Andhra Pradesh**

3472. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Godavari Lift Irrigation Project of Andhra Pradesh is lying pending with Central Water Commission for clearance; and

(b) if so, by when the project is likely to be given approval and the steps taken by the State Government for its implementations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) envisaging lifting of 50 Thousand Million Cubic feet (TMC) of water from the Godavari at a site near village Devadula of Warangal district for which the Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted in May, 2001, a Pre-feasibility Report with the request for an in-principle clearance of the scheme, envisaged providing irrigation to five lakh acres spread over Karim Nagar, Warangal, Nalgonda and Medak districts of Andhra Pradesh by lifting 50 TMC of water from Godavari. Prima-facie, there was no objection to the proposal provided the water availability was established as per the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal award. Being a major project on an inter-State river, it requires investment clearance from the Planning Commission for which Detailed Project Report (DPR) is required to be submitted to Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic examination.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted in September, 2002 the preliminary report on Godavari LIS envisaging irrigation to 2 lakh hectares in Telengana region by lifting 50 TMC of water directly from the Godavari river from one of the intakes at (i) Devadula village, (ii) Gangaram village, and (iii) Lankala village. After examination of the preliminary report, CWC intimated the comments on the report to the State Government during December, 2002 and March, 2003. The project authorities submitted certain clarifications to the comments of CWC in February and April, 2003 wherein some modifications were also incorporated to the earlier proposal. The proposal now submitted envisages lifting of 38.2 TMC water directly from Godavari River from a place near Gangaram village to provide irrigation to an area of about 2.61 lakh hectares falling under Medak, Karin Nagar, Warangal and Nalgonda districts of Andhra Pradesh. After examination of this preliminary report, CWC has provided in-principle consent for preparation of DPR for the above project during May, 2003 subject to incorporation in the DPR of certain important observations which include

hydrology, inter-State matters, basic planning and environmental aspects. The State Government has been requested to provide a copy of the DPR to each of the co-basin States for their information and views.

[Translation]

Incidents of Technical Snags

3473. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircraft of Indian Airlines which had a narrow escape after developing technical snags during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) whether the Indian Airlines flight No. IC-809 had a narrow escape after the aircraft developed technical snags recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the effective steps being taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No aircraft of Indian Airlines had narrow escape after developing technical snag during last three years.

(b) to (d) Indian Airlines flight IC 809 of 12.07.2003 operating with A-320 aircraft VT-EPJ on sector Ranchi-Patna had a bird hit on Nose landing gear while landing at Patna. The aircraft made a safe landing and there was no injury to the passengers or crew on board.

(e) Steps are taken on continuous basis by DGCA to ensure safe operation of aircraft by operators. The aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines are maintained as per the procedure prescribed by the manufacturers and approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation. Only such aircraft as are certified airworthy by the Director General of Civil Aviation are put into operation.

[English]

Task Force on Agricultural Marketing

3474. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-Ministerial Task Force set up by the Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen and develop agricultural marketing has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Task Force; and

(c) by when these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The inter-Ministerial Task Force on Agricultural Marketing Reforms presented its Report to the Government on 28.6.2002. Major recommendations of the Task Force are as follows :-

- (i) Promotion of competitive agricultural markets in private and cooperative sectors, direct marketing and contract farming programmes by amending the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Acts and to provide central assistance for the development of marketing infrastructure subject to such deregulation and reforms;
- (ii) Progressive dismantling of controls and regulations under the Essential Commodities Act to remove all restrictions on production, supply, storage and movement of, and trade and commerce in respect of all agricultural commodities;
- (iii) Substantial step up flow of institutional credit to farmers for marketing of crops (pledge financing) to enhance their holding capacity to obtain remunerative price for their produce;
- (iv) Expand availability of warehousing services in rural areas by introducing negotiable ware-

housing receipt system for agricultural commodities;

- (v) Allow futures trading in all agricultural commodities to improve price risk management and facilitate price discovery by amending the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952;
- (vi) To promote use of information technology in agricultural marketing to provide market led extension services to farmers and other market functionaries and to create facility of electronic trading to enable producers to directly transact business with distant buyers; and
- (vii) To re-orient training and extension systems to assist farming community to respond to emerging challenges in agricultural marketing and to create an ambience of good marketing practices in the country.

(c) Recommendations of the inter-Ministerial Task Force on Agricultural Marketing Reforms were discussed with the Ministers dealing with the subject of Agricultural Marketing of all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations and the representative of the concerned Departments/Agencies of the Central Government at a National Conference held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 27.9.2002. There was a consensus among all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on the need to introduce reforms in the Agricultural Marketing Sector. Since the subject of the Agricultural marketing fell within the purview of State Governments, they were advised to go ahead with the implementations of the reforms measures as suited to them.

Organic Farms

8475. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started a scheme whereby farms will be given certification as "Organic Farms" on fulfilling certain criterion;

(b) if so, the details of the criteria set by the Government;

(c) the likely advantages of such a certification;

(d) the organization responsible for the said certification;

(e) whether the Government have held discussions with FAO to finalise the said criteria and if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any financial assistance will be given for organic farming; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) for implementation during Xth Plan which envisages formulation of national standards, creation of accreditation and certification system for certification of organic farms and promoting organic farming in the country.

The Government have also developed a National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) laying the standards for export purposes, which is monitored through Steering committee constituted under the Ministry of Commerce. It has notified 7 Certification agencies, whose main function is to certify organic farms based on the National Standards.

(c) and (d) The Certification ensures that the product has been grown organically and get higher price in the market. Presently there are following 7 inspection-cum-certification agencies accredited by NPOP, Ministry of Commerce :-

- (i) Institute of Marketology, Bangalore
- (ii) SKAL International, Bangalore
- (iii) ECOCERT International, Aurangabad
- (iv) LACONGM BH, Germany

(v) SGS India Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon

(vi) Association for Promotion of Organic Farming, Bangalore

(vii) Indian organic certification agency, (INDOCERT), Cochin.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) The Scheme of NPOF envisages to provide financial support for setting up of production units of biofertilizers, hatcheries for vermicompost and fruits and vegetable compost, besides training.

International Flight to and from Bangalore

3476. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of international flights of Air India being operated to and from Bangalore;

(b) whether there is a demand for increasing Air India flights to and from Bangalore;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the criteria regarding minimum number of passengers required for Air India to operate flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Air India operates tri-weekly flights between Bangalore and Dubai and four hub and spoke flights which give convenient connections over Mumbai to Gulf and Europe regions. In addition, Air India also operates Bi-weekly codeshare flights between Bangalore and Kuala Lumpur (with Malaysian Airlines).

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is demand for increasing Air India services from many places including Bangalore to various destination in Gulf, Europe and USA. However, flight on a particular route is started based on a comparative study of competing routes after evaluation of various parameters like expected traffic, yield, availability

of suitable aircraft in the fleet and other resources. Effective December 2003, Air India proposes to increase the capacity to Chicago via Frankfurt by introducing 3 frequencies Mumbai/Frankfurt/Chicago and vice versa. Two of the Chicago flights are proposed to be extended to Bangalore making it a direct USA/Bangalore flight.

Infrastructural Facilities for Krishi Vigyan Kendras

3477. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether out of 585 districts in the country 238 districts are yet to be converted with the Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras where infrastructural facilities like office building, hostel, staff quarter etc. are yet to be developed; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to provide infrastructural facilities for KVKs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) At present there are 578 rural districts in the country. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) in 341 districts. This includes 53 Zonal Agricultural Research Stations that have been strengthened to work as KVKs. A proposal for establishment of KVKs in the remaining 237 districts has also been prepared for Xth Plan.

(c) Complete infrastructure has not been completed in 43 KVKs.

(d) Provision of necessary funds have been proposed under the Xth Plan.

Assistance to State Govts. for Irrigation Facilities

3478. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have released any funds to State Governments for projects to improve irrigation facilities; and

(b) if so, the total amount released to the State Governments during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of funds released by the Central Government during the last three years as Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) Programme to the State Governments to improve irrigation facilities are as under.

Rs. in crore

Sl. No.	Year	CLA Under AIBP	Financial Assistance under CAD programme
1.	2000-2001	1856.200	144.9525
2.	2001-2002	2601.981	148.1258
3.	2002-2003	3061.7026	152.1488
Total		7519.8836	445.2271

[Translation]

Setting up of Dairy in Uttar Pradesh

3479. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any dairy in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when it is likely to be set up; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that it has no plan to set up any dairy in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Monuments in KBK Districts

3480. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the Centrally protected monuments in the KBK districts in Orissa; and

(b) the amount spent on the maintenance of those monuments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Asurgarh fort at Asurgarh in Kalahandi district and Chaushat Yogini Temple at Ranipur Jhariyal in Bolangir district of Orissa are centrally protected.

(b) During the last 3 years, an expenditure of Rs. 19,048/- has been incurred for day-to-day maintenance on these monuments.

Meeting with Union Leaders

3481. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had called a meeting of trade union leaders, to discuss the issues related to workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent the Government have been able to convince the union leaders that the new labour laws would be beneficial for the workers;

(d) whether the union leaders have agreed to the Government's proposal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The Government is having continuous interaction with all the stake holders including trade union leaders to discuss all facets of labour related issues. At present, the Government is in the process of tripartite consultations to bring about a workable consensus for implementation of the recommendations of second National Commission on Labour (NCL), which covered various facets of labour viz. review of laws, social security, women and child labour, skill development, wages, labour administration, unorganised sector, etc. The Report of the Commission was discussed in the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29 September, 2002 in a two day national seminar on unorganised sector workers held on 7-8 November, 2002 and also in a tripartite committee meeting held on 18-19 February, 2003, where all social partners including major central trade union leaders participated. It has also been decided to further discuss the recommendations of NCL including rationalization of labour laws in the ensuing 39th Session of Indian Labour Conference. Such initiatives are necessary for evolving a consensus on important matters relating to labour and to crystallize the views of the Government for implementation of recommendations of the Commission. Given the procedure involved, it is, however, difficult to specify any time limit.

Lifting of Ban on Shahtoosh Trading

3482. SHRI V. VETRISSELVAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have put a ban on trading of shahtoosh;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that shahtoosh ban has freezed the livelihood of more than 30,000 workers in the valley and worsened their economic condition;

(c) if so, whether there is a demand to lift the said ban or make some relaxations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Tibetan antelope, commonly known as Chiru, is listed in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 as well as the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act 1978 and hence the trade in Shahtoosh, which is a wildlife product made from wool obtained from Chiru, is banned. Further, regarding the loss of livelihood to the Shahtoosh workers the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has reported that a comprehensive programme has been initiated to rehabilitate Kashmiri Shahtoosh artisans to wean them away from Shahtoosh based trade.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Exports Target of SAIL

3483. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has set any target for exports during 2003-2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether low-value products are the only exports of SAIL;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to export high-value steel products in the future;

(e) whether there is any proposal to make Bhilai an exclusive export oriented steel plant; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. SAIL's target for export during 2003-2004 is four hundred fifty thousand (450,000) tonnes of iron and steel material.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. SAIL has exported a wide variety of products such as GP Coils, CR Coils/Sheets, HR Coils/Sheets, CRNO, Structurals, WR Coils, TMT bars, Slabs, Billets etc.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

World Bank aided National Agricultural Technology Project

3484. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank aided National Agricultural Technology Project is likely to terminate in December, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether remarkable achievements have been made under this programme in the agro sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether keeping in view its success the Government have taken up the matter with the World Bank to extend the project for a further one or two years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken or being taken by the government to support such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir, as at present.

(b) The project is scheduled for completion on 31st December 2003, according to its original plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per statement enclosed.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The proposal for extension of the NATP project for one year w.e.f. 1.1.2004 to 31.12.2004 has already been sent to the World Bank through Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Statement

SALIENT ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER NATP

A number of adoptable technologies with emphasis on themes like Biotechnology, Natural Resources Management, Post Harvest Technology and IPM have been developed under the four modes of Research i.e. Production System research, Mission Mode Research, Team of Excellence & Competitive Grant programme. On farm trials & innovative approaches to transfer of technology also received a high degree of emphasis. The following are some salient achievements:-

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

- Reduced and Zero tillage improved yield and input use efficiency in the rice-wheat system. Zero till-cum fertilizer drill allows farmers to establish a wheat crop almost immediately after rice harvest. About 0.3 million ha area of wheat has been sowed with Zero till drill during this year that has saved Rs. 75 crore to the farmers.
- Adoption of improved *Biasi* system resulted in a higher yields (4.1 t/ha), net returns (Rs. 12097) and BC ratio (2.6) as compared to farmers practice (3.2 t/ha: Rs. 5,787 & 1.6).
- A project on Rain-Water Management through on-farm reservoirs in Chhattisgarh, M.P., Orissa and Jharkhand demonstrated that 40-60% of the surplus run-off could be recycled for rice crop during drought period or for the subsequent rabi crop. In spite of long dry spell experienced during Kharif 2002, on an average more than 1000 m³ of water was

harvested per hectare in the refuges of medium and low lands. It resulted in an increase of 100-176 per cent cropping intensity in such areas.

- A Slit type Furrow Opener has been developed to plant sugarcane immediately after harvesting wheat crop in dry and untilled field followed with irrigation. A Seeder Cutter Planter has also been developed to plant sugarcane simultaneously with wheat sowing.
- Under the Jai Vigyan National Science and Technology Mission on Household Food and Nutritional Security, Over 6000 farm families at 47 locations in 15 states in tribal, backward and hilly areas have been brought under this mission mode project to improve their economic condition by supplying quality seed of improved varieties of life support crops and planting material of fruits and vegetable crops, improved breeds of poultry (fertile eggs), piggery (piglets), sheep and fisheries. This is resulting into increase in income (15-50%), living standards of people and also the employment opportunities. Impact of these activities is becoming a source of inspiration for other farmers to get involved in the various programmes.
- A scientific and economically viable shrimp health management package has been developed.
- A commercial level hatchery production technology for marine ornamental fishes, the clownfish *Amphiprion sebae* and damselfish *Neopomacentrus cyanomos*, *N. nemurus*, *Pomacentrus caeruleus*, *P. pavo* and *Chrysiptera unimaculata* and was developed and is being patented, which can pave the way for the development of hatchery produced marine ornamental fish trade in India which has a high export potential.

AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

- Biodegradable Poly-lactide-co-glycolide capsules for incorporating the the vaccine against the dreaded Ranikhet disease virus (RDF) have been developed for easy and low cost immunization in poultry.
- Transgenic plants of Tobacco, Muskmelon and groundnut capable of producing anti-rabies edible vaccines have been developed. These vaccines can be administered easily, with very low cost and can be stored at room temperature.
- Diagnostic kits for the PPR (Pestae des Petit Ruminants) virus disease of of small-ruminants including diagnostic kits for viral diseases of potato and banana have been developed. Linkages are being developed for commercializing the technology.

POST HARVEST TECHNOLOGY AND VALUE ADDITION

- Processing method has been developed for preservation of coconut inflorescence sap as CIS granules and toffee. This can increase the farmers income to about Rs. 6,00,000/ha/ annum and generate additional employment opportunity in farming sector to the tune of 3000 mandays/ha/annum.
- Rice bran is now a well-known source of oil. Now a technology of protein extraction from rice bran meal by microwave treatment followed by homogenization have been developed for utilisation of rice bran and rice bran meal in food products. This will further increase the value of rice-bran as a source of protein.
- Pigments from mulberry (*Morus alba*), melastoma (*Melastoma malabathricum*), banana male bud, jamun (*Sizygium cuminii*),

roselle (*Hibiscus sabdarifa*), *Basella rubra* and annatto (*Bixa orellana*) have been isolated to be used as technologically viable and healthy plant sources of food colorants.

- A Mobile Starch Extractor Unit was modified. Recovery of starch was 95, 75 and 40% for Cassava, Sweet Potato and Amorphophallus tubers respectively.
- Referral Laboratories for Meat & Meat Products, and Fish and fish Product. Quality standard Technology have been established which will allow monitoring of quality of animal and fish products to ensure quality food for domestic use and establish high degree of reputation for, export of those commodities and, development of trained human resources.
- The pilot studies revealed that fuel grade alcohol can be produced from the stalks and grains of sweet sorghum. A contract farming model has been worked out on 1000 ha in Belgam district of Karnataka where the farmers will grow the sweet sorghum crop and M/s. Renuka Sugars, Belgaum will buy the crop for extraction of alcohol.
- A technology for packing ready-to-eat fish preparations in retortable pouches has been developed. The packing technology can be very useful for popularizing fish products, and for the use of the personnel working in difficult terrains.

INTEGRATED PESTS MANAGEMENT

- Organic formulation of the bio-agent *Verticillium chlamydosporium* BIOVERT was developed, for the management of root-knot nematodes on brinjal, tuberose and acid lime under field conditions. This will boost the adoption of biocontrol methods for nematode management.

- Integration of botanical herbicide *Coleus amboinicus/aromaticus* with the insect bio-control agent *Neochetina eichhorniae/bruchi* was found to be successful in controlling the weed water hyacinth efficiently in an eco-friendly manner.
- Phytoplasma-free budwood banks of peaches in Himachal Pradesh have been developed in the University campuses in Solan and Hamirpur. This will make establishment of phytoplan tree orchards possible.
- The *desi* cotton especially *Abroreums* are relatively resistant to insect pests and offer scope for shift from tetraploid *hirsutums*. The *Abroreum* variety (MD-12463) produced 20 q/ha yield along with 27 mm staple length and 36-38% GOT.
- IPM modules for different crops (Cotton, Pigeonpea, Chickpea, Groundnut, Cabbage, Tomato Apple and Mango) in an area of 690 hectares involving 464 farm facilities have been validated. Production of a few crops (Cabbage, Tomato and Chickpea) without pesticidal sprays are success stories. The pesticide load in IPM plots of cotton is reduced as compared to non-IMP plots.
- Two new antimicrobials viz. n-butanol extracts of *Myristica fregroas* and *Withania somnifera* have been identified, to be effectively used as the alternatives for antibiotics against *Vibrio* infections in the culture of the fish grouper *Epinephelus tauvina*.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- A number of training programmes were conducted in frontier areas of biotechnology, post harvest managements, integrated pest management, water management agricultural biodiversity and social sciences.

- Training programmes were organized benefiting about 10,00,000 farmers and farm women.

TECHNOLOGY DISSEMINATION

- Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) in 28 districts across the seven States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Punjab and Orissa have been established. State Agriculture Management Extension and Training Institutes (SAMETI) at State level have been fully operationalised in seven States.
- The integrated technology transfer system has succeeded in catering to the farmers' needs related to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and other enterprises in a holistic way through ATMAs. The public extension system is being transformed into bottom-up mode of planning moving towards becoming demand driven and farmer responsive. The research-extension linkages have been strengthened to a great deal following the new institutional arrangements and the Strategic Research & Extension Plans (SREPs). The new arrangements have been found to be successful in meeting need of farmers at AES (Agro Eco System) level to the farmers, with respect to diversification and intensification.
- Decentralization of planning process down to the district level is working successfully. The institution of Farm Information and Advisory Centres (FIACs) via Farmers Advisory Committees (FACs) has started working as a feedback mechanism. Farmer Organizations have begun to get involved in collective marketing and technology dissemination. A substantive social capital is being developing through them. In some of the ATMA districts an effective partnership between private sector, public

organizations and the farmer groups has started taking shape.

- The Agriculture Technology Information Centres (ATIC) are a novel concept of single window information and service centres for the farmers. During the year, 1.53 lakh farmers visited the 44 ATICs. Besides, providing diagnostic services, 1026 tonnes of improved seeds, 7.03 lakh planting material, 1.29 lakh packets of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides were made available to the farmers.

ON FARM DEMONSTRATION TRIALS

- A large number of on-farm trials were organized for testing location specific IPM modules on Pigeonpea, Chickpea, Groundnut, Sunflower and Safflower. The use of IPM resulted in saving of 25-30% of the input cost.
- Overall, about 10,000 on farm trials/demonstration have been carried out under NATP.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

- Women in tribal, backward and hilly areas have been empowered with implements to reduce drudgeries in farm operations. Women have been also empowered with technologies related to post-harvest agro-processing and value addition.
- To reduce the drudgery of women in agricultural operations commonly performed by the female workers of Kerala, a model anthropometer has been developed for quick and reliable recording of the physical parameters. Extension training programmes on the operation and maintenance of agricultural machinery like tractors, power tillers, harvesters and threshers were conducted to introduce improved implements and machinery among the female workers of the region.

AGROBIODIVERSITY

- Under Jai Vigyan National Science and Technology mission on conservation of Agrobiodiversity besides 62,263 collections, 1,16,568 characterization, 59,611 conservation and 4,50,000 documentation of huge germplasm, a few trait specific germplasms like: scented types in rice, salinity tolerant type in wheat, high sweet type in matira, powdery mildew tolerant in ber a bael, a pickling type mango with specific aroma etc. were collected, which after characterization will facilitate the improvement in productivity (quantity and quality) of farming systems in the country.
- Hybrids: 24 Hybrids of different crops (Rice-8, Maize-4, Sunflower-4, Pearl millet-3, Castor-1, Cotton-4, Sorghum-2) with improved quality, high yield, (15-20%) and disease resistance have been developed and released. A few hybrids in vegetable crops (tomato, brinjal, chilli and onion) have been developed having multiple disease resistance, yield increase (15-20%) and quality.

National Culture Policy

3485. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government have formulated a National Policy on Culture;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the policy;
- (c) whether specific provisions are proposed to be incorporated for bringing legislation to protect cultural heritage sites and properties; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) No formal policy document has

been formulated. However, the 'Mission' of the Government includes protection and preservation of all protected monuments and all forms of cultural assets and heritage, both tangible and intangible. For the protection of cultural heritage sites and properties, necessary legislation already exists. The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 were enacted for the above purpose. A number of institutions such as the Archaeological Survey of India, National Archives of India, Anthropological Survey of India, Institutes of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, National Museums, Libraries, Akademies—Sangeet Natak, Lalit Kala, and Sahitya—and National School of Drama have been constituted for this purpose. In addition, the Government is providing grants under various schemes to individuals and institutions including registered societies, trusts and Non-Governmental organisations for achieving the above policy objectives.

Research on Ground Water

3486. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided any funds/assistance to universities/institutions for conducting research on ground water;

(b) if so, the names of such universities/institutions and the financial assistance provided to them during each of the last three years; and

(c) the extent to which the country is likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Water Resources under its Research & Development (R&D) programme provides grants to various Universities/Institutions etc. to undertake research work in the field of water resources which includes ground water also.

(b) Names of Universities/Institutions to whom financial assistance has been provided for research in ground water during each of the last three years are enclosed as statement.

(c) The Universities/Institutions have taken up schemes for applied research in ground water on specific topics. The country gets benefitted by way of better understanding of the problems and in arriving at most appropriate solutions of such problems.

Statement

Fund Released to various Universities/Institutions for Research Schemes on ground water during the last three years i.e., 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03

Sl. No.	Universities/Institutions	Name of Scheme	Release (Rs. in lakhs)		
			2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Osmania University, Hyderabad	Impact of urban, industrial & agricultural pollution in surface and ground water in and around Hyderabad and Secunderabad	1.456		1.366

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Osmania University, Hyderabad	Hydrofluorosis in Halia river, Environs; Nalgonda Distt. AP-A case study of intensity & Source	1.416		1.416
3.	Shri Venkateswara University, Tirupati	Study of trace metal in surface and subsurface water in and around Tirupati	1.640		
4.	University of Rajasthan, Jaipur	Impact of urbanisation on ground water—A study from Jaipur city and hinterland	1.820		
5.	State Water Investigation Directorate, Government of West Bengal	Cause effect & remedial measure of arsenic contamination in ground water aquifers in parts of West Bengal	11.000		
6.	Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam	The effect of water logging and intensive agriculture on ground water regime in deltaic region	1.274		0.956
7.	Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam	Ground water management studies in the upper Gondawanas of West Godavari Distt. AP	1.360		
8.	Water Technology Centre, Tamilandu Agriculture University, Coimbatore	Hydro-economic interaction between tank & well water and possibilities for conversion of tank into percolation tank	1.870		
9.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad	Environmental studies of surface and ground water down stream of Pennar river	2.950		1.925
10.	Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad	Ground water studies using statelite data, helium and geophysical technique—A pilot study project		6.030	
Total			24.786	6.030	5.663

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, any another question listed for today is also any important. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It will be taken in the next session as it is not possible to take it in this session.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will there be next session? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to enter into the point of order.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not on a point of order. I would like to say that today and tomorrow there will be a debate on "No-Confidence Motion." Day after tomorrow is a holiday. On 22nd Private Member's Bills and Resolutions are to be taken up. Only 21st is left. We want to hold a discussion on atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but the date for discussion on this issue is being postponed further and further. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Discussion can be held on this issue. We will take a decision on it in the BAC.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It has nothing to do with 'No-Confidence Motion'. It is a matter related to different State Governments also. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please meet me in my chamber to talk about it.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was to be discussed today because it is an important issue. Please take it on 21st. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not possible for me to allow every member to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : I will permit you after the Papers are laid on the Table of the House. Now, please sit down.

11.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 489(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 2003 containing order regarding reconstitution of the Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority consisting of the members as mentioned in the Notification, for a period of two years issued under sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7950/2003]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Sir, on behalf of Sh. Rajnath Singh, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- (2) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7951/2003]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Aircraft (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 246 in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 2003 under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7952/2003]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 43 of the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994 :—

- (i) The Airports Authority of India (Conditions of Service of the Chairman and Other Members) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 718 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2003 together with an explanatory note.
- (ii) The Airports Authority of India (Annual Report and Annual Statement of Accounts) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 657 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2003 together with an explanatory note.
- (iii) The Airports Authority of India (Management of Airports) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. AAI/PERS/EDPA/Reg./2002 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (iv) The Airports Authority of India (Contract) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. F. No. AAI/PERS/EDPA/Reg./2003 in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (v) The Airports Authority of India (Storage and Processing of Cargo, Courier and Express Goods and Postal Mail) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. Cargo/1351/9 in Gazette of India dated the 13th July, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (vi) The Airports Authority of India Employees (Conduct, Discipline and Appeal) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 521 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th May, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (vii) The Airports Authority of India (Employees Medical Attendance and Treatment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. F.No. AAI/PERS/EDPA/Reg./2002 in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (viii) The Airports Authority of India (Leave) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. F.No. AAI/PERS/EDPA/Reg./2002 in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

- (ix) The Airports Authority of India (General Conditions of Service and Remuneration of Employees) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. F.No. AAI/PERS/EDPA/Reg./2002 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2003 together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7953/2003]

- (3) Nine statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7954/2003]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Airline Allied Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Airline Allied Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (5) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7955/2003]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Instructional Media Institute, Chennai, for the year 2001-2002.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7956/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the National Dairy Development Board (Administration of Fund, Accounts and Budget) (Amendment) Regulations, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. DEL:NDDDB in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 2003 under section 50 of the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7957/2003]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 1999-2000; alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7958/2003]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1999-2000.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 2000-2001.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 2001-2002.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7959/2003]

- (10) A copy of the National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.F. 251 in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the National Co-operative Development Corporation Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7960/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2001-2002.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7961/2003]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 2001-2002 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 2001-2002.

[Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai Chikhalia]

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7962/2003]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 2001-2002.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7963/2003]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2000-2001 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7964/2003]

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 2001-2002 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 2001-2002.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7965/2003]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Asiatic Society, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Asiatic Society, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7966/2003]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Dilip Singh Judev, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 520 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2003 under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 396 (E) Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of

India dated the 4th April, 2003 containing order making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 93 (E) dated the 29th January 1998 issued under sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7966/2003]

11.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Reports of Committee on Empowerment of Women

[Translation]

DR. (SMT.) ANITA ARYA : To present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of Committee on Empowerment of Women (2003-2004) :-

- (1) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Sixth Report on 'Education Programmes for Women'.
- (2) Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Seventh Report on 'Training Programmes for Women'.

11.05 hrs.

RE: TWENTIETH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : As regards this item, hon. Members, I have received a request from the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Defence that he may be permitted to present the Twentieth Report of the Standing Committee on Defence, listed in today's List of Business

at serial No. 10, on 19th August, 2003. I have accepted his request.

11.05½ hrs.

MOTION RE: FIFTY FOURTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th August, 2003."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th August, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Before I go to the Legislative Business at serial No. 13, I would like to hear the point of order.

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, what is your point of order?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : When there is a Motion of No-Confidence pending before the House, as per rules, no other matter can be taken up; and it takes precedence. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not admitted as yet.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It is, *prima facie* admitted. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a hypothetical situation. The Motion of No-Confidence is not before the House. So, there is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : When the Motion of No-Confidence is pending before the House, this cannot be taken up. No other business can be taken up, except that Motion. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Business can be suspended only after the Motion is moved and Motion has not been moved so far. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not even received the notice for that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Now, let us proceed with the legislative Business – Bills to be introduced. Item No. 13, Shri L.K. Advani.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Please give a ruling on my point of order. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have ruled out your point of order. Please sit down. We will go to item no. 13.

11.07 hrs.

(i) CONSTITUTION (ONE HUNDREDTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003*

(Amendment of Eighth Schedule)

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 18.8.2003.

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I introduce the Bill.

11.08 hrs.

(ii) CONSTITUTION (ONE HUNDREDTH AND FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003*

(Amendment of Ninth Schedule)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I introduce the Bill.

11.09 hrs.

(iii) STATE OF DELHI BILL, 2003*

[English]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 18.8.2003.

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the State of Delhi and for matters connected therewith.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the State of Delhi and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I introduce** the Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to congratulate Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Union Government and specially Shri L.K. Advani on behalf of the people of Delhi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : However, you are not going to become the Chief Minister of Delhi.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Delhi is the first such capital in the world which is being given the Status of full statehood. The people had been demanding it for the last 50 years. I would like to congratulate them for this.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Khuranaji, through you have congratulated the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister, but you are not going to become Chief Minister. . . .

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : The Bill, as introduced, is a deviation from the recommendation of the Sarkaria Commission's Report. . . .*(Interruptions)*

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

11.10 hrs.

(iv) CONSTITUTION (ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003*

(Amendment of article 54, omission of articles 239AA and 239AB and Insertion of new article 371J)

[English]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I introduce the Bill.

11.10½ hrs.

(v) SECURITIES LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996."

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 18.8.2003.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I introduce** the Bill.

11.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377 be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to expedite construction of approach road to over-bridge at Shindhiya railway crossing near Motihari on National Highway No. 28-A in Bihar**

[Translation]

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Bettiah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on over-bridge was constructed 20 years back at Shindhiya railway crossing near Motihari on National Highway No. 28-A in the northern region of Bihar but no approach road was constructed to this over-bridge by the officials of National Highways. Last year work on approach road was started expeditiously but for some unknown reason work was left unfinished and the said work has not yet started. So the people are facing lot of inconvenience in travelling.

I request to the hon. Minister of road transport and Highways through this House, to take personal interest in this matter and issue directive to the concerned authorities to start the aforesaid work immediately.

- (ii) **Need to provide more facilities at Chaibasa, Nawamundi and Badajamda railway stations falling between Howrah and Badbil**

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA (Singbhum) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Jan Shatabdi Rail Service is running between Howrah and Badbil. Only one side shed has been provided at the Chaibasa, Nawamundi and Badajamda railway stations on this route. So people have to cross railway line to board the trains because passengers keep on sitting under the shed before arrival of the trains. After arrival of the train

they rush to the other side of the platform. This may cause more possibility of accidents on both the railway stations. Sufficient number of passengers board the trains and alight from them. Overbridge should also be constructed at these two stations.

So, I request the Central Government to construct shed on both sides of railway lines at these two stations and an overbridge should also be constructed immediately.

- (iii) **Need to include Bhuyiyan, Ghatwal and Ghatwar castes in Jharkhand in the list of Scheduled Tribes**

SHRI PRADEEP YADAV (Godda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of two crore and sixty nine lakh population of the State of Jharkhand twenty lakh population comprises of Bhuyiyan, Ghatwal and Bhatwar (Bhumij) castes which are economically, socially and educationally most backward. Earlier these castes were categorised as scheduled tribes which are not included any list today as a result of which they are deprived of reservation and other facilities.

So, I therefor, demand from the Government of India that Bhuyiyan, Ghatwal and Ghatwar (Bhumij) castes may be included in the list of scheduled tribes so that they can develop economically, socially and educationally.

- (iv) **Need to construct a new Head Post Office building at Wanaparthi in Mahabubnagar district, Andhra Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : Wanaparthi is a divisional Headquarter having a population of more than 50,000. There is no Head Post Office building in this town. The then Minister for Defence had laid foundation stone for the said building in 1992. Earlier an amount of Rs. 32.00 lakhs were allocated and sanctioned for construction of Head Post Office building, but the funds were diverted to some other town.

I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Communications to look into the matter and see that a new Post Office building is constructed at Wanaparthi at the earliest to cater to the needs of the local people.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

*Treated as laid on the Table.

- (v) **Need to send a Central team to study the reasons for the outbreak of Anthrax in the Koraput district of Orissa and take remedial measures to check the spread of the disease**

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI (Nowrangpura) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the occurrence of Anthrax in the undivided Koraput District in Orissa which has so far claimed twenty-three lives since June this year. Besides, several other people affected by the disease have been admitted to the local public health centre under Semiliguda block. Unless immediate steps are taken to find out the reasons for the outbreak of the disease and to provide adequate treatment to the people affected by the disease, the death toll may increase.

I request the Government that a Central team should pay a visit to that Southern Orissa tribal district and necessary health care should be provided to the affected people without any further delay.

- (vi) **Need to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (Meerut) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a long pending demand from the general public of Western Uttar Pradesh for establishing a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut, but the Government has paid no attention to this matter so far. The people of whole Western Uttar Pradesh have to travel a distance of approximately 400 kms to reach Allahabad in connection with the cases pending in the High Court. Keeping in view the distance to Allahabad, poor people are compelled to get their cases settled at district court level itself, as a result of which they do not get due justice. Moreover, for presenting in the court at Allahabad on the date of hearing again and again, the poor people are compelled to sell their land, property, live-stock and even their houses. I demand from the Union Government that this pending demand to the people of Western Uttar Pradesh be fulfilled immediately and sanction to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut be accorded to without any delay.

- (vii) **Need to provide better telecom facilities in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan**

[English]

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : The population of Barmer Parliamentary Constituency is about 30 lakhs with 3,000 villages and more than 600 Gram Panchayats. However, more than 65 per cent villages and non-third Gram Panchayats have not yet been provided telephones facility. This is a great disparity districts of Rajasthan and other districts in the country. This is because the company which has been assigned the contract has failed to fulfil its obligation for VPT assigned to it.

In order to bring Jaisalmer and Barmer districts at par with other districts of Rajasthan and with the country as a whole, I request the Government to take following measures :-

- (a) The company which has been assigned the contract be penalized for its failure to fulfil its obligations assigned to it and the left over VPT be got executed by Ministry of Communication at the company's costs.
- (b) In wide spread far flung isolated areas of Thar desert, WLL system is most useful. As such additional WLL systems shall be provided to cover Dhorimana, Shiv, Chohtan, Siwana and Sindhari.
- (c) If there is paucity of funds, Ministry of Finance be requested to provide funds for these most backward, desert districts.
- (d) The Prime Minister should intervene to provide adequate resources for WLL systems.
- (viii) **Need to allocate adequate funds for construction of high bank canal for Irrigation in Sabarkantha and Banaskantha districts of Gujarat**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : The Sabarkantha District, northern and north-eastern parts of Banaskantha district in Gujarat are always under the

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

drought situation. The agriculture is rain-fed and the irrigation facilities are scanty. There are number of dams built in this region; however, the catchment areas of these dams bordering Rajasthan remain unirrigated. This region also does not fall in the command area of the Narmada canal.

In view of this the high-bank canal along the border of Gujarat-Rajasthan in Sabarkantha district should be constructed to assure crops to farmers and to alleviate poverty in this region. The Ministry of Water Resources should initiate the step in this direction with the Government of Gujarat and allocate appropriate amount of money for construction of this high-bank canal in Sabarkantha district and for the parts of Banaskantha districts.

(ix) Need to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Bhagalpur Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY (Bhagalpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to lack of Navodaya Vidyalaya in Bhagalpur Parliamentary Constituency, the brilliant children of the poor do not get good opportunity to make progress in the field of education. As a result of that the desire of brilliant and talented students of these under-privileged and low income group people remains unfulfilled.

It is, therefore, requested to the Union Government that a Navodaya Vidyalaya be opened in Bhagalpur Parliamentary Constituency to motivate the poor students in the field of education and in the broader interest of spreading of education.

(x) Need to clear the proposal of Andhra Pradesh Government for inter-connecting of tourist centres in the State by trains covering Secundrabad-Puttaparthi-Tirupathi-Guntur-Rajahmundry-Visakapatnam

[English]

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Slowly but increasingly tourism is getting notice in the corridors

of the Government policy markers Hyderabad, as you are aware it has rich history of over four hundred glorious years. It has gone through dynasties and seen royalty in all its glory. The monuments of Hyderabad are the standing that bears its testimony to a splendid and brilliant past. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been persistently working to beautify the city and to make it a place in the list of heritage cities of world. The State Government has recently approved a master plan to develop ten major temples in the State as spiritual, tourist and cultural centres. Facilities like hotels, recreation land entertainment etc. are being built by the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation. To project this historic city to the world, the link of air and tourist-cum-pilgrim trains covering Secundrabad-Puttaparthi-Tirupathi-Guntur-Rajahmundry-Visakhapatnam on the lines of Palace on Wheels is the need of the hour. The proposal for running this train as a Joint Venture with the Railways was sent by the South Central Railways to the Railways Board in September, 2001. On 15.01.2002, the Government of Andhra Pradesh reiterated its request the introduction of the train. The status of the projects is yet to be conveyed by the Union Government to the Andhra Pradesh Government.

Since the matter is pending for a long time, I request the Union Minister for Railways to clear the proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(xi) Need to take necessary steps to check soil erosion caused by river Ganga in Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are some villages like Leelapurkala, Dubaval, Kakara, Uparhar, Lalpur, Malkhanpur, Dhokari, Buzurg Lalapur in my Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency which come under Kaurihar, Handiya, Gaidabad, Bahariya and Bahadurpur Blocks. Due to soil erosion caused by the flow of river Ganga, the agricultural and residential land is continuously getting submerged in Ganga, resulting in poor economic condition of farmers.

I, therefore, through you demand from the Union Government that some measures may be taken soon by

conducting a survey to save the lands of these villages situated along the bank of the Ganga in Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency so that the agricultural as well as residential land of the farmers can be saved.

(xii) Need to allocate adequate funds for development of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, U.P.) : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the development of hilly and undeveloped areas all over the country, the Centre provides additional funds for the Hilly area development programme, Western Ghats development programme, Border area development programme, National equi-development scheme under the "Special Area Programme" so that these areas may be developed as per the development target fixed for the country. Similarly, Bundelkhand is the most backward region in the very big Uttar Pradesh state, where the pace of progress in many of its districts is very slow. The reasons being that it is a hilly region and secondly, it is also agriculturally backward due to lack of irrigation resources. There is no big industry so as to develop this region economically. While the economic growth rate of the country is 5 to 6 percent, the growth rate in Bundelkhand region is 2 to 3 percent.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I request the hon'ble Prime Minister that under "Special Area Programme" the backward Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh should be attached to the very backward district Hamirpur, Mahoba for its proper development and a Most Backward Bundelkhand Regional Council should be constituted so that all the district of this region may be developed with the help of additional funds made available by the Union Government.

(xiii) Need to release adequate funds for proper maintenance of National Highway No. 101 between Chappra and Mohammadpur in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the road between Chappra and Mohammadpur

in Chappra Division of Bihar State has been declared a National Highway. This road, which is known as National Highway No. 101 is in a very bad condition. The construction work of the road is hampered due to lack of funds.

Through you, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government that they should urgently allocate the funds for the construction of the National Highway No. 101 (Chappra to Mohammadpur road) so that the work may be completed immediately.

(xiv) Need to debate obligations of World Trade Organisation

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : The expanding scope and deeper national commitment on trade at the multinational, regional and bilateral levels make it essential that we have a full debate on the advantage and disadvantages of the obligations of the W.T.O. At the multilateral level the WTO agreement, which was signed in 1995 covers trade in goods including Agriculture, Textile, apparel services, intellectual property rights, environment, health and anti-dumping. The most favoured countries in principle requires equal treatment to be given to all the trading partners and without any discrimination. There should be a full debate on the WTO in Parliament. It is the need of the Hour.

I request the Government through this House that a full debate on the subject may be held in the present monsoon session itself to discuss the WTO issue and to arrive at a national consensus on the issue.

(xv) Need to include Boro and Boro-Kachari people living in the Autonomous Districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills in the list of the Scheduled Tribes

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar) : I bring to the notice of the House a most peculiar situation being faced by the indigenous Bodo-Tribal people living in the two autonomous Hills Districts

[Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary]

of Assam viz: Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. The Bodo people living in the plains areas of Assam are enlisted as the Scheduled Tribes as per the list of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 in relation to Assam, whereas the Bodo people living in the aforementioned two Hills Districts have not been granted as yet the status of the Scheduled Tribes (Hills) although they have been living in these two Hills Districts since the time immemorial. On the 23rd October, 1991 the Karbi Anglong Autonomous District Council and on the 9th January, 1998, the State Government of Assam recommended this long-pending issue to the Government of India. This matter has already been cleared by both the National Commission for STs and SCs and the Registrar-General of India. The Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare also has recommended this long-pending matter through its 27th Report presented to the Lok Sabha on 12th December, 2002. It is also a worth mentioning fact that the Government of India has already included one Tribal community named, "Lalung" of Karbi Anglong Autonomous District in the list of the Scheduled Tribes (Hills) at the time of revising the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002". Further it is also a noteworthy fact that the Bodos living in Meghalaya, a Hill State in North-Eastern Region, also have

already been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes (Hills) with effect from 1980.

I urge upon the Government of India to take appropriate steps to include the Boro, Boro-Kachari living in the Autonomous Districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills, in the list of the Scheduled Tribes (Hills) at the earliest possible.

11.12 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 2003-2004

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof – Demand Nos. 1, 7, 8, 12 to 14, 17, 29, 31, 33, 35, 42 to 44, 49, 54, 62, 64, 77, 80 to 82, 88 to 90, 98, 99 and 103."

Demands for Supplementary Grants First Batch (General) for 2003-2004 to be submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

No. and Title of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grant to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
Ministry of Agriculture		
1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	1,00,000	—
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers		
7. Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	—	1,96,45,00,000
8. Department of Fertilisers	1,00,000	84,97,00,000

1	2	3
Ministry of Commerce and Industry		
12. Department of Commerce	2,00,01,00,000	2,80,00,00,000
13. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	1,00,000	20,00,00,000
Ministry of Communications and Information Technology		
14. Department of Posts	1,00,000	1,00,000
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution		
17. Department of Consumer Affairs	—	3,00,00,000
Ministry of Environment and Forests		
29. Ministry of Environment and Forests	2,00,000	—
Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs		
31. Department of Economic Affairs	1,00,000	—
33. Payments of Financial Institutions	15,73,00,00,000	5,55,36,00,000
35. Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	3,65,00,00,000	—
42. Direct Taxes	—	1,00,000
43. Indirect Taxes	—	2,00,000
44. Department of Company Affairs	18,00,00,000	1,00,000
Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises		
49. Department of Heavy Industry	1,95,78,00,000	1,50,34,00,000
Ministry of Home Affairs		
54. Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	20,00,00,000	—
Ministry of Law and Justice		
62. Law and Justice	1,00,000	—
Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources		
64. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	1,00,000	—
Ministry of Rural Development		
77. Department of Rural Development	36,50,25,00,000	—
Ministry of Science and Technology		
80. Department of Science and Technology	1,00,000	—

1	2	3
81. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	1,00,000	—
82. Department of Bio-technology	1,00,000	—
Ministry of Steel		
88. Ministry of Steel	35,56,00,000	7,00,00,000
Ministry of Textiles		
89. Ministry of Textiles	2,00,000	—
Ministry of Tourism and Culture		
90. Department of Culture	2,00,000	—
Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation		
98. Department of Urban Development	—	5,00,01,00,000
99. Public Works	1,00,000	1,00,000
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports		
103. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	55,00,00,000	—
Grand Total	61,12,77,00,000	17,97,19,00,000

MR. SPEAKER : As agreed to in the meeting of BAC, I shall now put the Demands for Supplementary Grants (General) for 2003-2004 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof – Demand Nos. 1, 7, 8, 12 to 14, 17, 29, 31, 33, 35, 42 to 44, 49, 54, 62, 64, 77, 80 to 82, 88 to 90, 98, 99 and 103."

The motion was adopted.

11.13 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (GENERAL) NO. 4 BILL, 2003*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004."

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 18.8.2003.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I introduce** the Bill.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me speak on demands these are being passed without any discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I will allow you to speak.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how this can be possible in a parliamentary system that Demands for Supplementary Grants be passed without discussion. . . .(Interruptions) These are being passed without discussion, how this can be possible? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now you can speak. I allow you to speak.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : How can you do it like this? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let me make it clear that whatever is being done in the House, is being done in consultation with the Business Advisory Committee. Whatever has been agreed to in the BAC, is being done in the House. Still, if any Member wants to speak for a minute or two, he can be permitted to speak but he should ask for permission. If nobody asks for permission, I will proceed with the voting.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our parliamentary system it has been specifically laid down that supplementary demands presented by the Government in the House should be discussed first and passed later on. The budget presented here reflects failure of the government. The budget is anti-poor and anti-farmers and only after its failure the supplementary demands have been presented by the Government in this House. . . .(Interruptions) Income Tax worth Rs. 62 thousand crores is outstanding against the people. This Government is running with the support of capitalists. Had the Government presented the supplementary demands in the House for removing shortcomings in the budget, then we would have certainly supported it. But this Government has failed on all fronts throughout the country. People are unhappy with it. The labourers as well as farmers are dying. The youth are feeling dejected because of unemployment as they are wandering from here to there in search of employment. The industrious labourers are on the path of agitation. Now Supreme Court has given a verdict by virtue of which they have been deprived of their fundamental rights. There are 37 crore people in unorganised sector comprising mostly of agricultural labourers and scattered workers who are the worst sufferer because they are not getting any job. Government had promised to provide employment to 1 crore people annually but today situation is that jobs are being curtailed instead of increasing the same due to which unemployment is on the rise. The Government has not fulfilled its promise of providing employment. No provision has been made to provide employment to unemployed people in the supplementary Budget. So I hold this government guilty of breach of promise. . . .(Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji is a Member of Business Advisory Committee and it was decided in the Business Advisory Committee that Budget would be passed without any discussion, they why is the hon. Member delivering speech? . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, flood in creating havoc in the country. The States of northern region such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal and Assam are facing devastating floods, famine, waterlogging and soil erosion. But no provision has been made in the supplementary demands for grants for that. No agreement is being signed with Nepal whose rivers cause havoc in India. . . .(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, crores of people in the country are being affected by the floods. Their all means of transportation are closed. But this Government is doing nothing for them. This Government is bent upon selling the country by privatising HPCL and BPCI. So, the whole opposition has united to defeat this Government. This Government want to get the supplementary demands passed at one go, but we will now allow this to happen. Demands will not be passed without discussion.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government does not want to solve the problems of the people of this country. The poor people, the farmers, the labourers and the youth all are suffering a lot. So we are against these supplementary demands for grants. The expectations of the people are not getting fulfilled by these supplementary demands for grants. This Governments wants to pull on by hook or crook. So the supplementary demands for grants must be rejected. This Government should be exposed. This Government is protecting black marketers, multinationals and capitalists. This Government is not in favour of solving the problems of poors, farmers, agricultural labourers and unemployed youths. It does not want to do anything for them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when there was division of Bihar, it was promised in this very House that Bihar would be given special economic package and its deficit would be

compensated but that package has not been given till date. This Government is guilty of breach of promises. After the creation of Jharkhand, 75% sources of income of Bihar have gone to Jharkhand whereas Bihar has to bear 75% burden of the total expenditure. Due to this Bihar is passing through an economic crisis. There is no provision of economic package in the supplementary demands for grants. No Budget provision has been made. They must clarify this first otherwise we are against this Budget.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, let me speak a few words. Please give me two minutes.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : In the Business Advisory Committee it was decided that it would be passed without discussion. They should read the Report to know what has been decided.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. It has already been decided in the Business Advisory Committee that all the business before use today would be disposed of within this one hour and that is why the Question Hour has been suspended. This was agreed to by all the Leaders present in the meeting. I hope that as per the practice whatever has been agreed to in the Business Advisory Committee is binding on all the Members present in the House. Therefore, I would request hon. Members not to insist upon speaking on this because we have to go to another important business afterwards. Now Shri Jaswant Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me say one or two things. Hon'ble Mr. Raghuvansh Singh has said so many things in his natural and exuberant expression. Everybody is well versed with this nature? There is saying of Kabirdasji –

"Awat gali ek bar, paltat hoi anek,
Kah Kabir na paltaeye, bariya ek ki ek."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, not responding to all what he has said, I would request you to please get the Bill passed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

11.13 hrs.

DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 2003-2004

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I now go to item No. 22 on today's List of Business.

Motion Moved :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during

the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, before the Demands are put to the vote of the House, though we would not enter into a debate from our Party, I only want to submit to the hon. Railway Minister through you that he must take the House into confidence about the State of affairs going on in the Railways pertaining to the railway safety and security to prevent future accidents. I hope the entire House will join me.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demand for Supplementary Grant (Railway) for 2003-2004 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16."

The motion was adopted.

11.24 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 4 BILL, 2003*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004 for the purposes of Railways.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 18.8.2003.

[Shri Nitish Kumar]

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I introduce** the Bill.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister of Railways has brought a supplementary Budget but the House is aware. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : What are you doing?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Then you keep on standing.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I have allowed you, you please speak.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have permitted me to ask some questions and the House is aware of it. Vaishali is the first Republic. It is birth

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

place of Lord Mahavira and 'Karambhum' of Lord Buddha. The people of this area have been demanding to connect Vaishali through rail since 1904 and I too have dwelt on this issue in each session under the discussion be it on Railway Budget or on supplementary budget. The foundation stone for its survey was laid by the then Minister of Railways Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on 17 February, 1997 on the death anniversary of Late Shri Karpuri Thakur. I want to know the status of Hazipur-Vaishali-Sugauli New Railway line in this supplementary Budget. I have heard that the Cabinet has given its approval but I would like to know how much amount has been allotted for it in the supplementary budget, whether its foundation stone will be laid or not, whether this Government would survive or not? I want to know when the foundation stone will be laid? How much amount has been allocated for Hazipur-Vaishali-Sugauli New Railway line, which is the demand of crores of people. How much amount is allocated in the supplementary Budget and when it will be inaugurated? I also would like to know when the Prime Minister will inaugurate it?

MR. SPEAKER : I just wanted to know what he wanted to speak.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : That provision must be made in Supplementary Budget. This is our demand. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will follow the decision taken by the Business Advisory Committee.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow discussion on this subject. Please sit down. The House transacts its business according to the decisions taken by the Business Advisory Committee and do not try to go against the decision. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : This government have neglected the tribal areas. Our leader late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had sanctioned the railway line for

one area but this Government kept it in abeyance Tribal areas are being neglected. I request the Government to connect the tribal areas with rail network. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you have any question please ask otherwise the Minister will give reply. Please ask your question?

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : A survey was conducted for Katihar Jogbani broad-gauge railway line and foundation stone was also laid but the work on this line has not been completed, whereas it should have been done speedily. Purnia Junction to Saharasa via Madhepura is merely 100 km and broad-gauge line has been provided on both the sides is there no provision for providing broad-gauge line on this small stretch of 100 km long narrow-gauge line. Do you feel that Purnia to Saharasa. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yadavji please sit down. I will tell you something.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Let him give reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER : I will tell you once again that I have to finish the Business of the House. Party leaders have agreed that no other business will be taken up today, except the decided agenda. You may speak after consulting you party leaders in this regard. Hon'ble Minister, please reply.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had given permission to Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh. He has discussed a railway project, Hajipur-Sugoli via Vaishali. I would like to draw his attention towards supplementary demand for grants. If he looks at page number three then our proposal for supplementary grants. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You did not listen to me when I permitted you. The House will not function in such a way. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : That includes proposal for so many works. . . .(Interruptions) there is a proposal for construction of 148.3 Kilometer long new broad-gauge railway line between Hajipur-Sugoli via Vaishali. It will cost

Rs. 324 crore 66 lac. I have made a proposal in supplementary demand for grants. It will create a Buddhist circuit and connect Vaishali by rail. This provision has been made in it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : My question is that sections running through Samdari-Jalore-Bhildi and Palanpur have been kept pending for ten years. I would like to know when the hon. Minister is going to start the work on this. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Minister may move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

11.32 hrs.

**NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2003**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981, be taken into consideration."

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet) : I had written a letter to you about this NABARD Bill. The Committee on Finance studied the credit flow for the farmers. Now, the hon. Minister has brought a Bill avoiding one step. Now, he wants to take it to district co-operatives. We are of the view that why not you take it directly through the RRBs to the primary co-operatives so that we may reduce further so that loans may be given at 4 per cent or 5 per cent interest to the farmers.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : The rights of the Primary co-operative societies will definitely be curtailed if the Central Government imposes anything.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has agreed. . . .(Interruptions) The Minister has conceded that that can be discussed. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has brought a very important amendment on NABARD Bill. NABARD gives loans for the development of rural infrastructure in the States. But the existing provisions in NABARD are much complicated. It is criticised by the state governments. The plan proposals

of the States remain lying pending for many years in the NABARD headquarters. I urge upon the government that regional officers of NABARD should be permitted to sanction the plans of at least 50 crore rupees so that the projects received from the states could be disposed of there and an intimation in this regard could be given to the NABARD headquarters. In present circumstances the plans of state governments for construction of bridges, roads and development of other backward areas lie pending in NABARD Headquarter. Recently a scheme has been sent. So regional offices of the NABARD should be given powers to sanction the plans of atleast upto Rs. 50 crores. They sanction the project and see that how much share a particular State should get and what are the related problems. Financial condition of some states are very miserable. You have brought the Bill regarding NABARD to solve the problems being faced by the people of the states. . . .(Interruptions) this way NABARD can come up to the expection of the people. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister please give reply.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow any member to speak now. This is the decision of the Business Advisory Committee. Please conclude now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Therefore, there should be a specific plan on it. . . .(Interruptions) when a plan for construction of a bridge was sent to them, they replied that first you make a project and send it to us. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only the speech of the Minister will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing any Member to speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : We can not go directly to the primary agency because of functional nature of NABARD assistance thought refinancing. I will have to explain to you subsequently.

[Translation]

Raghuvansh Babu has appreciated my work. There must be a smooth running. Besides he has complained that Bihar is not getting justice and requested for justice with the people of Bihar. I assure you that I will do justice with the people of Bihar.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

11.39 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003 – *contd.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we can go to Item No. 26. Further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri P.C. Thomas on the 6th August, 2003, namely :—

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad was on his legs.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this item should not be taken up now. I would ask for division. I would request not to take up this item now. I cannot help it. We are strongly opposed to this in principle. We shall ask for division certainly. Kindly excuse use.

Sir, Kindly to not take it up today. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the most appropriate legislation being enacted to check Mafia. Therefore, it should be taken up today itself. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I would request you not to ask for a division because that would take a long time.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh is already on his legs. He has not finished his speech yet. I am allowing him to conclude. Raghuvanshji, you please conclude in a minute or two.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said that there is a practice that for the election of Rajya Sabha. MLAs cast their votes but in the Bill, which they have brought here, they have written 'India' in place of State and Union Territories. But in the Constitution there is a provision that Rajya Sabha will consist of the representatives of Union Territories and States. But in the Constitution, there is no change in the provision. In this Bill, it has been stated that for State and Union Territories 'India' has been written. My point is that it is unconstitutional. This Bill is not as per the provisions of the Constitution. The provision is there in the Constitution and it has been changed in this Bill which is not justified. Therefore, it is unconstitutional.

Secondly, it has been stated in the Bill that there will be free and open voting system, whereas there is provision of secret ballot so far. Now, sometime the Government make provision for open ballot and sometime for proxy voting. At present there is a provision for open ballot voting in the Bill. They claim that if there is open ballot voting, there will be no horse-trading. But we are of the opinion that there will be bargaining at large scale and not on an individual scale. This Government is discontinuing all the practices. It has been said that there will be a secret voting. Everyone will cast vote freely. A husband and a wife also have a secret relationship between them. Whether Government would like to make this relationship open. . . .(Interruptions) Similarly, there is provision of secret ballot system. Then why this Government is going to change this secret system into open system? Therefore, I strongly object to it and we do not agree that this Bill be passed.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Hon. Member Shri Somnath Chatterjee made a very good speech on this piece of legislation and he is very keen that this matter

should be very carefully looked into. The House has co-operated with the Government to pass some items which are very important and have to be completed within the time available. So, may I request you, Sir and the ruling parties also, that this Bill may not be put to the vote? It is because Shri Somnath Chatterjee has very clearly said that he would press for division in the House. So, it can be taken up on 21st if it is necessary.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. This is a very important Bill. Please get it passed today itself. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Sushma Swaraj will speak now.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever business is listed there in the list of business of today, is the business on which Business Advisory Committee had reached to a consensus and it was just not a general consensus but there was unanimity. Each and everything was made clear. Afterwards the things were decided and the things on which consensus was not reached. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I contradict this thing. First of all, what has happened in the Business Advisory Committee. Should not be discussed here. I have to contradict it. I am making a submission, Sir, that this business can be taken up on 21st.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the witness. You were presiding over the meeting. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are serious about the no confidence motion and this House is not serious about the motion. Hence, all these discussions should be finished today. No confidence motion should be discussed at some other time. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE (Hingoli) : What is this?. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Why? Will you impose it upon us? Why not acceptable?. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I do not want to be seen to be obstructing is deliberately. It is a question of principle. We shall not participate in it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Patilji, you please let me conclude. You have made your submission. At least, let me submit on behalf of the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were presiding over the Business Advisory Committee. At that time, it was demanded that there should be discussion on these two Bills. viz IDBI Act and Indian Telegraph Act. That is why these two Bills have not been included in this list. The Government has brought only those Bills on which there was unanimity that these would be got passed without any discussion. But here, there is no unity in the opposition and it seems to be divided. Since it has been raised by Somnathji and Shivrāj Patilji feels that there is apprehension of getting divide the House. These may not the reasons on which this Bill cannot be got passed. Therefore, I would like to say that it was decided to bring the IDBI Act and the Indian Telegraph Amendment Act on 21st, but they have not included in the list. If they want to go on Division, the Government is ready for that. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Hon. Minister, Division is not only in the Opposition, but even in the NDA there is a Division on this Bill. Of course, there is. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : We want Division. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : There are only two ways to get the Bills passed – voice vote or Division. If these people want Division, the Government is ready for that.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, they spoke against this Bill. The BJD spoke against this Bill. What are you talking? Do not try to be too clever. Sir, I want to put it on record that the hon. Minister is not right in having a dig at the Opposition. On the floor of the House, BJD oppose this Bill, and AIADMK also opposed this Bill. You have forgotten all these things. You have got a very short memory. Why are you having a dig at the Opposition? The Opposition can look after itself. We do not want advice on this. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You are talking about BAC, you were also in that. . . . (Interruptions) He spoke on behalf of the leader of opposition. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were presiding over that meeting. You please tell, where the Government has retracted. We have brought the same things which were decided there.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : The opposition had agreed, everybody had agreed.

[English]

Everybody agreed on it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am requesting you to go ahead. We shall decide on it. You kindly go ahead. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : If he asks for division then let it be. . . . (Interruptions) Whenever such a matter is raised, Raghuvansh Babu gets up starts speaking. Somnathji says that they will not let it be passed. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please, I will have to go ahead.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Whatever has been said here is devoid of facts.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : No, it is not.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We believe that there was no consensus on this Bill. There will be no discussion on it.

MR. SPEAKER : There will be no discussion.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : He is not aware of the whole matter. We are cooperating but they are not even appreciating us for this. No Discussion took place in connection with the Bill. If you would like to discuss then you can do so.

[English]

Sir, this point may kindly be checked. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Shri Shivrajji, do not you know what items will be taken by the House. I had told about every single item. Why is this thing brought up everytime?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Let it be taken like this. I do not mind.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : This Bill was not discussed.

[English]

Sir, you were sitting there. I am not putting you in a difficult position to say whether this Bill was to be discussed in the House or not.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You go through the BAC report. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were the Chairperson. I had said that this is a Rajya Sabha Bill.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We can be tactful and clever with you also. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Shivrajji himself was present there. Even after discussion this is happening.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It was not discussed in the Business Advisory Committee. We were not told about this. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Discussion took place in the House, and the Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha. The Congress Party is retracting now. . . .(Interruptions) These people always retract. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You please tell whether you were present there at that moment or not. Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunshiji should rise and tell whether this was agreed to. Everything is in writing. People say something else inside but they retract outside. If they say something else in the House then what will happen. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, they are backtracking now.

[Translation]

They agreed there but want to retract here.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Anyway, the proceedings of the Business Advisory Committee cannot be discussed here.

The matter is before the House. Therefore, the House has to decide. I can go ahead because the Bill is already listed; the people can go ahead with the voting. If they agree, the Bill will be passed, and if they do not agree, the Bill will not be passed.

So, I would ask Shri Thomas to give his reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS) : Sir, the Bill was discussed and two issues had been taken up. One is regarding the domicile.

MR. SPEAKER : You have very little time to reply. You can give your reply in brief.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The other was regarding the open vote. So, I would request that the Bill be passed without further discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I do not want to obstruct the proceedings of the House, but our objection to the Bill is on principle, and we have said that.

Then, there are other hon. Members who have not been able to speak. So, it is not correct that only the Opposition has opposed it. There have been important hon. Members of the ruling NDA combination who have opposed this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, please give me half a minute to complete it. This is a matter of record. . . .*(Interruptions)* It may be that they are bound by the so-called whip. I am not bound by their whip. Therefore, please

allow us not to participate in this debate. We would walk out in protest.

11.51 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and same other hon. Members left the House.)

MR. SPEAKER : The House will not take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, are you moving your amendment?

Clause-2 Insertion of new Section 33A

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : The point that I am submitting is that in the case of elections to Lok Sabha from the State of Sikkim, the provision is that the candidate must be an elector from constituency in Sikkim. . . .*(Interruptions)* The point that I am submitting is that my amendment is to the effect that even in the case of elections of the Lok Sabha from the State of Sikkim, the requirement is that the candidate must be an elector from a parliamentary constituency in Sikkim. So, a similar provision should exist even in the case of elections to the Rajya Sabha. We have agreed to the provision. I had expected that the Government would come out with this amendment because if it is not so the position, the situation would be contradictory. In the case of Lok Sabha, the restriction would be that the candidate can be only from Sikkim whereas in the case of Rajya Sabha – where we are introducing a new provision – the position would be different. So, I leave it to the Government. I thought it was my duty to bring this to the notice of this House.

I beg to move :

Page 1, Line 1,–

for lines 4 to 6, *substitute–*

"2. In the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for section 3, the following section shall be substituted,–

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

11.53 hrs.

3. A persons shall not be qualified to be chosen as a representative of any State or Urban Territory in the Council of States unless he is an elector for a Parliamentary Constituency in India.

Provided that in the case of the seat allotted to the State of Sikkim, the person shall be an elector for the Parliamentary Constituency for Sikkim." (1)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : In view of the (Amendment) Bill which has been introduced, I would submit that this amendment may be withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bansal, are you withdrawing the amendment?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I have moved my amendment.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall not put the amendment number I moved by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negated.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 to 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION BILL, 2002

Amendments made by Rajya Sabha

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Item No. 27, the Central Vigilance Commission Bill. It is about consideration of the Rajya Sabha amendments.

Shri Harin Pathak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I move for leave for consideration of two official amendments in clause 26 of the Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 2003, as passed by the Rajya Sabha on 7th August, 2003.

The Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 2003 was passed by this august House on 26th of February, 2003.
... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can just move the amendments.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I beg to move :

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Central Vigilance Commission to inquire or cause inquiries to be conducted into offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 by certain categories of public servants of the Central Government, corporations established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies and local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration :—

Clause-26 – Amendment of Act 25 of 1946**Interpretation section**

1. That at page 9, for lines 15–17, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(d) Secretary (Coordination and Public Grievances) in the Cabinet Secretariat". – Member.

2. That at page 9, line 32, for the words "Joint Director" the words "Superintendent of Police" be substituted."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Central Vigilance Commission to inquire or cause inquiries to be conducted into offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 by certain categories of public servants of the Central Government, corporations established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies and local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration :—

Clause-26 – Amendment of Act 25 of 1946**Interpretation section**

1. That at page 9, for lines 15–17, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(d) Secretary (Coordination and Public Grievances) in the Cabinet Secretariat". – Member.

2. That at page 9, line 32, for the words "Joint Director" the words "Superintendent of Police" be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Clause-26 – Amendment of Act 25 of 1946**Interpretation section**

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

- "1. That at page 9, for lines 15-17, the following be substituted, namely :—

"(d) Secretary (Coordination and Public Grievances) in the Cabinet Secretariat". – Member.

2. That at page 9, line 32, for the words "Joint Director" the words "Superintendent of Police" be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I beg to move :

"That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

The motion was adopted.

11.55 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES)
ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : Sir, I move –

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam, be taken into consideration."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make some submission with regard to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order Amendment) Bill, 2003. My submissions are very important and genuine. When the Bodo Accord was signed on the 10th February, 2003 between the Government of India, the Government of Assam and the Bodo Liberation Tigers, under Clause 8 of that Agreement, Bodo Borokachari tribes living in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar districts, was promised that they would be granted the Scheduled Tribes status, but unfortunately the Government of India has not done anything in this regard so far. So, I would like to move my amendment that the Bodo people living in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hill districts should be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes (Hills).

I would like to move my other amendment also. Through that I demand that here should be an exclusive list for the Scheduled Tribes in the Bodoland Autonomous Territory in which Boro, Borokachari, Mech and Rabha Tribes only should be included as Scheduled Tribes because as of today, there are fourteen number of Scheduled Tribes in the plain districts of Assam. But only these three tribes are having population in the Bodoland Autonomous Territory and the rest of the Scheduled Tribes are not having population within the Bodoland Autonomous Territory at all. So, I demand that there should be an exclusive list of Scheduled Tribes for the Bodoland Autonomous Territory by including Boro, Borokachari, Mech and Rabha tribes as suggested in my amendment.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now. I am calling the next speaker. Dr. Jayant Rongpi.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : Sir, I request the Government of India that my amendments should be accepted.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI (Autonomous District Assam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill is meant to protect the indigenous hill tribes living in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar districts of Assam and so I welcome this Bill. There is a two-tier reservation for the hill tribes in Assam. One is for hill tribes and the other is for tribes living in the plain districts of Assam. By this legislation the exclusive rights of the tribes living in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar district are protected.

Sir, the Government, while trying to solve one problem, should not complicate the matter in other places. This is a good legislation, but at the same time, I would like to state that the Karbis who are the original inhabitants of Assam are not recognised in the plain districts of Assam. According to anthropologists, Karbis are the Columbus of Assam and they are the first inhabitants of Assam, but unfortunately they are not recognised as tribes in many districts of Assam. So, I would like to move my amendment demanding that the Karbis should be included in Item No. 2 of the Scheduled Tribes Order of 1950.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : Sir, the question raised by the hon'ble member can not be considered as it is not related to the Bill. I would also say that the views presented by the hon'ble member. Shri Rongpi are related to other subject. Therefore, I would urge that the Bill be passed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Assam, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

**Clause 2—Amendment of the Constitution
(Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary, are you moving your amendments?

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY :
Sir, I beg to move :

Page 1,—

for line 10 to 14

substitute '(ii) for the sub-part heading "II. In the State of Assam excluding the autonomous District," the following shall be substituted, namely :—

"II. In the State of Assam including the autonomous Districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills."
(1)

Page 1,—

after line 14 insert—

"(iii) after the sub-part heading II, insert a new sub-part heading III, namely :—

III. In the Autonomous Territory of Bodoland the following Scheduled Tribes shall form the list of the bonafide Scheduled Tribes exclusively,—

1. Boro, Boro Kachari.
2. Mech.
3. Rabha.

Explanation : In the Autonomous Territory of Bodoland, only the aforementioned three Scheduled Tribes are having population, but the rest of the Scheduled Tribes enumerated in sub-part II are not having any population in the Bodoland Autonomous Territory at all." (2)

Page 1,—

after line 9, insert—

"(ii) in sub-part heading I, after entry 15, insert,—

16. Boro, Borokachari" (5)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Jayant Rongpi, are you moving your amendment?

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 1,—

after line 14 insert—

"(iii) in sub-part heading II, after entry 14, insert,—

15. Karbi." (4)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment nos. 1, 2 and 5 moved by Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment no. 4 moved by Dr. Jayant Rongpi to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

Amendment made :

Page 1, lines 12 and 13,—

for "the Bodoland Territorial Council Area District",

substitute "the Bodoland Territorial Areas District". (3)

(Shri Chinmayanand Swami)

12.00 hrs.

(At the stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary left the House).

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

12.01 hrs.

MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have no inform the House that I have received a notice of Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers under Rule 198 from Shrimati Sonia Gandhi.

The Motion read as follows :

"That this House expresses its want to confidence in the Council of Ministers."

Shrimati Sonia Gandhi may please seek the leave of the House.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek leave of the House to move the following motion :

"That this House expresses its want to confidence in the Council of Ministers."

MR. SPEAKER : May I request those Members who are in favour of leave being granted to this Motion is rise in their places.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose.

MR. SPEAKER : As not less than 50 Members have risen in support of the Motion, leave of the House is granted. If the House agrees, the discussion may be taken up immediately.

The House has now granted leave to move the Motion expressing want of Confidence in the Council of Ministers.

Before the discussion commences, I would like to make a few observations.

If the House agrees, the Motion of No-Confidence may be discussed today and tomorrow. Voting may take place at 6.00 p.m. tomorrow. If the House agrees, Lunch Hour may be dispensed with on both the days. The approximate time thus available for discussion is 12 hours. The party-wise time allocation for discussion is as follows :

BJP and other parties represented in the Government-5 hours 26 minutes; INC-2 hours 25 minutes; CPI(M)-45 minutes; TDP-38 minutes; Samajwadi Party-36 minutes; BSP-18 minutes; AIADMK-15 minutes; AITC-11 minutes; NCP-11 minutes; INLD-7 minutes; Jammu and Kashmir NC-7 minutes; Small Groups having strength of two to four Members combinedly-40 minutes; Independent and single-Member party-21 minutes.

Chief Whips and Whips of parties should keep the constraint of time in mind while suggesting names of speakers from their parties.

Hon. Members, you may be aware that the proceedings are being telecast and broadcast live by Doordarshan and All India Radio. Members are requested to conduct themselves in an orderly manner and maintain discipline and decorum in the House.

I may inform the hon. Members that during the live telecast, as per the laid down guidelines, camera will not be focussed on any Member speaking without my permission or creating disorder in the House.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : Sir, how are BSP and AIADMK given separate time when they are supporting the Government? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is to initiate the debate.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House expresses its want of confidence in the Council of Ministers." . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE (Sarangarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of Opposition cannot read out her written speech. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, I rise to propose this No-Confidence Motion. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there should not be a written speech. . . .(Interruptions) The people of the country do not understand English. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara) : Sir, what is this? This cannot cannot tolerated. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, you should control them. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Unless you have a point of order, nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we go to debate now. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shrimati Sonia Gandhi only and nobody else.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to propose this No-Confidence Motion against the BJP-led

NDA Government. I do not do so for partisan reasons because parties are not important nor are the numbers of any consequence.

Sir, this Motion is borne out of the deep sense of responsibility towards the people of India. It is borne out of a real concern for the direction that our country is taking. It is borne out of the genuine disquiet over the capricious way in which this Government is conducting the business of governance. There is an inherent danger in this kind of arrogant governance. Sir, it is a danger to the basic tenets of our Constitution, a danger of freedom. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a Point of Order.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Show me the rule!

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking under the rule 352(xi). . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted him to speak on a Point of Order. If she asks me, he will also quote the rules.

[English]

I have permitted him. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking under the rule 352(xi). . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not yielding. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is on a Point of Order.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, there cannot be a point of order during the initiation of the speech. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I must know what he wants to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please tell me the rule.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, I am on point of order under rule 352(xi). . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, by referring to that rule, I want to say that the Leader of the Opposition, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi. Whatever she is speaking. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, the Leader of the Opposition should sit down when he is raising his point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been clearly specified in the rule 352(xi) that no honourable Member can read a written speech. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That rule does not apply here. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mrs. Sonia Gandhi is reading her speech.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, the rule quoted by you is not that rule which can be applied here. I have gone through that rule. I have permitted Mrs. Sonia Gandhi to refer the paper. That is what she is doing. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : May I request the Members not to raise the points of order which are not pertinent and not

exactly according to the rules. I will request the Members that let there be a very decent debate in this House. Whenever something is there which is exactly against the rules, you can raise the point of order. Otherwise, it would be difficult for me to entertain the points of order.

The Leader of the Opposition is making her observations. Let her make them. The Leader of the House is also present here. He would also be speaking. Let there be a decent debate. Please do not disturb the Members unnecessarily.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, it should be treated as 'have been read' if she desires to deliver her speech by reading from the paper. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, there is an inherent danger in this kind of arrogance. There is an inherent danger in this kind of arrogance and it is a danger to the basic tenets of our Constitution; a danger to freedom, a danger to justice, a danger to the ideals of our founding fathers.

Sir, I base this No-confidence Motion on nine specific failures of this Government. The evidence is clear and compelling.

First, I charge this Government with jeopardising the country's defences. Second, I charge this Government with weakening national security. I charge this Government with wilfully wrecking social harmony. I charge this Government with subverting the secular character of our educational system. I charge this Government with destroying probity in administration and in public life. I charge this Government with increasing unemployment and with dismantling the public sector. I charge this Government with causing untold suffering to our *kisans* and to our *khet mazdoors*. I charge this Government with denigrating key institutions of parliamentary democracy. Finally, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I charge this Government with blatantly undermining the independence of our foreign policy.

Out indictment is comprehensive, just as their failures are complete. Let me now deal, Mr. Speaker, Sir, with each and every single failure one by one.

I come to defence. These are very challenging days for our Armed Forces. Defence must remain at all times our top priority. Yet here is a Government that refuses to spend the allocated money desperately required for the modernisation of our Armed Forces.

A study of the Budget document reveals that almost Rs. 24,000 crore, to be more precise, Rs. 23,197 crore allocated for defence modernisation remains today unspent. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Let us hear the speech in a decent manner. It is the prestige of the House. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : This inexcusable lapse constitutes 30 per cent of the budgeted amount.

Here, Mr. Speaker, Sir, is a Government so lethargic that it is willing to risk the lives of our brave *jawans*, and a Government so irresponsible that it bargains with the martyrdom of our Kargil heroes.

Then, let us examine how the Government has spent Rs. 4,253 crore it raised last year from the Kargil tax. I hold here in my hand the report of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee on Defence has pointed out that not one single rupee of this amount was spent for defence as it was intended. The taxpayer, Mr. Speaker, Sir, is always too willing to help, to contribute to the nation when it comes to our country's security. Therefore, is this not a betrayal of their trust? Is this not a betrayal of our countrymen's trust and patriotism?

The CAG Report for 2003 is also devastating . Perhaps, it is this that led the Prime Minister himself to comment on the functioning of the CAG at the Conference which took place on the 28th of July, where he said and I quote :

"You should also consider the overall circumstances in which the Executive took a particular decision. . .

An atmosphere in which the auditor is on the offensive and the executive is on the defensive is detrimental to good performance."

But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, what are we to make of this comment? A CAG Report is a CAG Report. It cannot be wished away. It cannot be washed away. It has identified a very large number of irregularities in defence purchases, even in the purchase of such basic items like bullet-proof jackets, multipurpose boots, hand-held thermal imagers, high-powered rifles and ammunition. It has also raised serious doubts about the Government's so-called fast track procurement machinery in relation to Operation Vijay. It has also detailed other scandals, for example, substantial losses on defence land in the Capital and elsewhere in the country.

Sir, by the Government's very own admission, major fires in Ordnance Depots have already destroyed ammunition and defence equipment worth roundabout Rs. 800 crore. As late as 1st June, there was yet another such fire accident in Jaisalmer. And what to say of the continuing tragic crashes of MiG aircraft?

After giving only some of the details which are available with us, it seems to me that there is something very very wrong in the Ministry of Defence.

Now, when we come to national security, I would like to remind my friends here, especially the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that no very long ago ISI was believed to be behind very single incident of terrorism in our country. It was because of this reasons, four years ago, that we wanted to know those details and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs promised a White Paper on ISI activities. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that four years down the line we have not seen that 'White Paper'. We would like to know where is such a White Paper if at all it exists.

The country will never forget the most shameful spectacle in the last few years of the then hon. Minister of External Affairs Shri Jaswant Singh personally escorting three hardcore terrorists to Kandahar in a special plane. Now, these terrorists were not in Sri Lanka or somewhere abroad. These terrorists were in India. They were in our

[Shrimati Sonia Gandhi]

jails. They were taken out of jails and they were escorted in a special aircraft to Kandahar. And, what did they do from there? From there, they went to Pakistan; from Pakistan, they come into India and they kill and maim our brothers, our sisters, our children and our soldiers and their families.

As far as Kargil is concerned, I can do not better than to refer to the Subrahmanyam Committee Report. . . .
(Interruptions) This is a quote from the Subrahmanyam Committee Report and it says :

"The Review Committee and before it overwhelming evidence that the Pakistani' armed intrusion in the Kargil sector came as a complete and total surprise to the Indian Government, to the Army and to the intelligence as well and to the Jammu and Kashmir State Government and its agencies."

All of you will remember perhaps that there were repeated demands for a discussion on such a Report because we believed that this Report is of such great importance. But unfortunately, I have to say that our demands and our requests simply fell on deaf ears and the discussion has been prevented. I believe that the prevention of this discussion will not result in detriment to our national security.

Now, that the lessons of Kargil have not been learnt is quite visible and evident from the outrage which took place sometime ago at Hill Kaka i the forests of Surankot near Jammu; not only this, you all know that several terrorists had a clear run over a large area of our own territory for an astonishing length of time. I can only say that

[Translation]

Firstly you let the 'snake' enter and then you thought to kill it.

[English]

Sir, Operation Parakram lasted nearly nine months in 2002. It involved nothing less than five lakh troops.

It entailed an expenditure of around Rs. 8,000 crore. Now, what is the issue here? The expenditure is not the issue – the entire nation will bear willingly any burden to ensure national security. What is at issue here is the outcome of this operation. What did that operation achieve? It think, the hon. Prime Minister should, at least, give an explanation to us and to the country.

Now, I come to another very sensitive area and that is the North-East where I can say with confidence that the NDA is playing with fire in one of the most sensitive areas of our country. Elections in Nagaland were held under threats to the people. The NDA was fully aware of these threats and did nothing. Why? It is because it was a party to them. All of us, of course, want the Naga underground organisations to join the political process with honour and dignity, but not at the cost of the territorial integrity of other States in the region.

Now, in April this year, on behalf of some of the Congress Chief Ministers of the North-East, I had written to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister suggesting a plan of action for peace and development in that region. The hon. Deputy Prime Minister replied and assured me of his full support. Now, it is August. Yet, requests made by our Chief Ministers for additional forces are still pending.

Now, efforts to topple democratically elected Governments are being made in a systematic manner. Arunachal Pradesh I would say is the case in point. I bring to your notice a paper – an internal BJP paper – which was circulated by Captain Hekiya Sema of Nagaland, who is a member of the BJP. A portion of this paper actually appeared in the *Hindustan Times* of August 6. I quote from that paper. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PARBHUNATH SINGH : The speech is not impressive at all. It would have been worthwhile, if she had levelled any allegation against the Government. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Prabhunath Singhji, the word 'Prabhu' should be deleted from your name.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : I quote from that paper which was not for circulation to the media :

"The recent changes in Arunachal politics have been mainly possible because of hectic backdoor support of the BJP leaders."

Need I say anything more? It is here in black and white.

Sir, I give you another example of the cavalier manner in which this Government treats matters which affects our national security. Here, I am referring to the Naxalite violence, the spread of which is quite frightening. It goes to Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. There are international ramifications to this problem as well. I hope the Government is seized of this matter and I hope that it will not remain a mute spectator to this most urgent matter.

On social harmony, the hon. Prime Minister has so often said something and then clarified what he has said that it has become very difficult for us to know what precisely he believes – whether it is Ayodhya or whether it is Gujarat. In fact, the only thing that emerges from his pronouncements, with all due respects, is that he is a master of verbalising. It is not at all clear whether what he says is a true reflection of his views or a calculated ruse to camouflage the destructive agenda of his brotherhood.

The Godhra accused should be shown on mercy. But, is the Best Bakery case in Gujarat not a prime example of how even the canons of law are being twisted to promote communal politics? . . . *(Interruptions)* Is it not the responsibility of the hon. Prime Minister, of the Government to ensure the basic rights to freedom and justice to every citizen? Who is responsible for allowing the Best Bakery case to be turned into the tragic farce that it has become, before the National Human Rights Commission and the Supreme Court intervened? . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the necessity of speaking about Godhra incident in this House? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Why do you connect both these things? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The speeches delivered by your side will give answer to these queries. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Why shall not I speak? I must speak. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb her. Please sit down.

[Translation]

This is not proper.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Let me listen to her.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, through you I want to ask : are they not human beings, are they not the sons and daughters of India? They carry with dignity the burden of their violated lives. Their right to live freely in their nation has been snatched from them. Justice has been stifled and the voice of hate is getting louder and louder. It is a great shame, I believe, that things should have come to this pass.

Sir, I spoke earlier about national security. We all know, we are all one in saying that there can be no let up in our battle against cross-border terrorism. The entire nation is united in this. The BJP and its affiliates have cynically used cross-border terrorism and our confrontation with Pakistan to polarise our society for blatant electoral gains. What is the results? As a result of this, it is the country that suffers; it is the sons and daughters of India that suffer.

[Shrimati Sonia Gandhi]

Social justice is another side of social harmony. But this insensitive Government is closing slowly but surely all employment avenues for the weaker sections of the society. Sir, this is leading to a great sense of unrest and aggrivement among the *Dalits* and the Tribals. I demand and I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister, through you, as to why his Government has not brought forward a comprehensive legislation to ensure that all job quotas for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are fulfilled.

I would like to say that this was actually a recommendation made two years ago in the 16th report of the Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But this report has not been discussed in the House. . . .(Interruptions) Can it also be denied that atrocities on Dalits have continued to mount, and the Central Government has remained a passive bystander as in the case of Haryana?. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE (Hingoli) : What is happening in Bihar. Why are the Dalits being killed there? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a proper way to ask a question.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Now, we come to the Women's Reservation Bill. As far as Women's Reservation Bill is concerned, it is now more than clear, more than ever before – it is before us – that the Government has no intention whatsoever in getting the Women's Reservation Bill passed. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mulayam Singhji, please express your views about it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : If it had been the intention of the Government, as the Prime Minister had promised us again and again, he could have done so with the help of the Congress Party and of the Left. We would have passed the Bill. This Government has wilfully destroyed national consensus in every other area; but suddenly discovers the virtues of consensus on the Women's Reservation Bill. Now, this is simply a pretext for inaction. All of us, women are aware of this. All of us know this. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, do you not agree?. (Interruptions) You must agree.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : No, I do not agree because Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Laloo Yadav are on your side. Those who are not getting this Bill passed, they are on your side. Ask Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Laloo Yadav to support this Bill. We are with you. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Sushmaji, you should answer afterwards.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : The Samajwadi Party opposes the Women's Reservation Bill which intends to benefit the women from elite section of society. . . .(Interruptions) If your conscience is clear, you should provide reservation for the backward, the Dalit and the minorities in the Women's Reservation Bill; and then Samajwadi Party will support that Bill. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Akhileshji, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : This is the demonstration of unity of the Opposition on Women's Reservation Bill!. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : The future of our country lies in the hearts and minds of the younger generation. They are, after all our future. Are efforts to re-write our school curricula, to change our text-books not a defilement of that very essence of our nationhood? Are the BJP's peculiar and perverted interpretation of our past not an insult to our composite heritage? Obscurantism is being thrust upon us. Heroes of our Freedom Movement are being denigrated and excluded from the text-books. In their place, those with dubious credentials or those who had nothing whatsoever to do with the Freedom Movement are being elevated and celebrated and put in those books. What is more, standards of intellectual achievement in various institutions of great national importance have been lowered. There has been a determined drive to pack such institutions with people owing allegiance to the divisive ideology of the BJP, of the RSS and of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad. .

The Central Advisory Board of Education that has played such an important role in building a national consensus on Education Policy has been completely and deliberately bypassed. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not believe that this is the correct way to build the India of the 21st Century.

I now come to corruption. Some months back, . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Some months ago, when I had said that the 'BJP led NDA Government is monumentally corrupt', I did not realise that my words would be taken so literally and we would be faced with the Taj Corridor scandal.

Everybody knew what was going on. There were verily a conspiracy of silence till the expose took place.

I have already spoken about scandals in Defence, the most dramatic and visible evidence of which was provided in the *tehelka* videotapes. We all saw it, the whole country saw it, and they are in black and white. Systematic attempts are being made to derail the enquiry by the Phukan

Commission that is now investigating 14 defence deals. By now, the country knows, thanks to the CAG, about how this Government permitted corruption even in the purchase of coffins meant for our Kargil martyrs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, just before the Taj scandal, we had the explosive DDA affair. It revealed the sheer audacity with which deals are fixed and even judicial orders manipulated. The officials apprehended were fully hand-in-glove with their political patrons. Sometime back, we had very senior officials of the Finance Ministry being hauled up on grave charges of corruption.

Do I need to remind this House of the ruinous stock market and UTI scams that literally wrecked the lives of millions of small investors, senior citizens, pensioners, women and widows? I would like to know this from the Prime Minister and from the Government: Has a single person been held accountable? Have those responsible not got away scot-free? Has this not happened simply because they enjoy access to those in power?

The handling of the petrol pump allotment scam was, perhaps, the most farcical. In an attempt to save face, the Government issued an Ordinance terminating all dealerships. Of course, when the Ordinance came, all the dealerships were cancelled resulting in untold misery for numerous allottees, many of them belonging to the disadvantaged sections. In August, 2002 I wrote to the Prime Minister demanding an impartial high-level enquiry. This letter, for some reason, was ignored; though, very often, the Prime Minister is kind enough to answer my letters, but he has not answered this one. In December, 2002 the Supreme Court vindicated our stand and made the Ordinance infructuous.

Do I need to remind the House of the huge land scam involving the Urban Development Ministry which gave away prime plots in the nation's capital to the RSS, the VHP and its affiliates, all at an average price of less than one-tenth of the market rate? In this case, I wonder whether this was the Prime Minister's attempt at building bridges with those who were sniping at him from within, at that time!

[Shrimati Sonia Gandhi]

During the previous Congress Government's rule, I am talking now about our economy, the economic growth averaged 6.7 per cent per year. Is it that true? Last year, it came crashing down to just 4.3 per cent or thereabouts. Yet, the Government merrily announced an eight per cent growth target for the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

If they think that there are going to be takers for this version of *Mungerilal ke sunehre sapne*, they are certainly mistaken. Nobody is going to buy this.

We come now to unemployment. Nobody can deny that the employment scenario is absolutely dismal, it is frightening. I will not get into the issue of the promise of the Prime Minister of one crore jobs a year because. I know he gets very irritated; I do not want to spoil his mood today. Up to the 1990s, the growth rate of employment generation was 2.7 per cent per year. During this Government's tenure, it has dropped to just one per cent per year. These are not figures which are manufactured or invented by me: these are actually the statistics contained in the Government's very own Annual Economic Survey.

The Planning Commission itself estimates that at current trends unemployment will double in the next five years. At a time when our youth needs voluntary employment schemes, all that the Government offers is voluntary retirement schemes. Actually, we do not really need figures and statistics from Government booklets or reports to know how serious the problem of unemployment is today. We just have to move out of Delhi, or even in Delhi, and travel around the country. The one and only request of most of the young people that we meet, whether men or women, is – *naukri dedo*. So, I look forward to the Government bringing out a specific policy on this. . . . (Interruptions)

Now, the public sector. The public sector is being systematically dismantled. This is after all the very sector that has developed backward regions, that has provided employment in backward areas to *dalits and adivasis*; and that has made India strong and self-reliant. What is happening in this sector? Land and other assets of these

companies are being deliberately under-valued. Thus, companies are being sold off for paltry amounts. The public exchequer is losing: private pockets and private accounts are bulging. This is not just a case of family silver being sold, this is more a case of family silver being practically gifted away at a throw away price. And, to whom? To a handful to favoured individuals. A book entitled 'Disinvestment Policy and Procedures' published by the Government actually lists some of the. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : What is happening in Punjab?. . . . (Interruptions) Congress Government is pursuing disinvestment vigorously there (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kirit Somaiya, this is not good. You have a right to participate in the debate. You cannot speak now. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : If it continues like this, the Prime Minister should also remember. . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : What the Prime Minister should remember?. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a Government publication. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : What did they do in the last 45 years?. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please keep silence in the House. This a very serious debate.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, this is a Government publication. It lists out some primary objectives of

disinvestment. . . (Interruptions). . . I read out from this document, which says :

"The Primary objective of disinvestment are as follows :

- to release public resources for redeployment in basic health, family welfare, primary education and social infrastructure;
- to reduce public debt; and
- to release manpower for redeployment in high priority social sectors."

This was brought out by the Government. Now, can it be doubted – and here, the Government can give an answer whenever opportune to them – that none of these three objectives have been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : It is doubted.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : It is doubted!

Now, Sir, the Railways are the lifeline of our nation. The manner in which the safety standards have been allowed to deteriorate is quite shocking. There have been an unprecedented number of railway accidents in the past three years including 2003. Why do I say 'including 2003' is because, ironically 2003 was designated as the Railway Safety Year. Now, what is obvious is that perhaps the State level politics has taken precedence over the safety and welfare of millions of passengers.

When we come to rural development programmes, Sir, I have to say that even these programmes have been politicised and fragmented as never before. Even the CAG Report has dubbed the *Swaranajayanti Swarozgar Grameen Yojana* to be a failure. In fact, the record of this Government in the creation of employment opportunities in the rural areas, where two out of three Indians still live and work, is abysmal.

This Government announced a National Agriculture Policy in 2000. But to this day, this policy has not ever been

discussed in this House. This policy lays down a time span of 20 years to achieve its objectives. It is rather a long time. I want to know, Sir, when crores of *kisans* are already suffering under the burden of debt, are they expected to wait for 20 long years? How insensitive this Government can get? It is known to all of us that this Government does not care much. And, why did it take the Prime Minister five long years to announce a National Commission on *Kisan* just three days ago or four days ago on the 15th August from the Red Fort? Why did it take five years? Why did he not announce it then? . . . (Interruptions) But I have something else to say. I have something else to point out. Incidentally, by chance, a similar announcement was made from the same place on the same day five years ago. Now, give me an answer to this.

The agriculture growth fell sharply to just over two per cent per year under the BJP-led NDA Government as against almost 4.7 per cent per year during the previous Congress Government regime. Shri Ajit Singh has already quit. We look forward to someone else doing so because. I hear that Shri Nitish Kumar is very worried. . . . (Interruptions)

He is very worried about liberal imports, more liberalisation of imports. I do not know if I am correct, but imports have already been freed with disastrous consequences. Liberal imports of edible oil, for example, have totally destroyed the livelihood to lakhs of oilseed farmers in State like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and in many other States too. Sugarcane, potato, cotton, coconut, coffee and tea farmers are all facing extreme distress.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may be able to enlighten me what is the use, why do we announce scheme after scheme when their actual impact, we all know, is nil. One example of this is the agricultural insurance scheme the impact of which, I am told, is totally nil. Now, the prices of urea and potash have gone up, and so have the prices of tractors and diesel. . . . (Interruptions) In fact, during this Government's tenure, farmers are paying much more and earning much less. Through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, can all of them tell me that in such circumstances how can our farmers survive? There is a total confusion on food security and the PDS. Since 1999-2000, the Government's own

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figures reveal a sharp fall in the offtake of rice and wheat from the PDS. Now, why is this happening? According to the studies and according to the NGOs who work in this area, doubling of food prices even for the poorest of the poor – for the BPL families – and substantial increase of food prices for other consumers of the PDS have caused offtake to decline significantly. When people do not buy and consume, stocks are naturally going to mount. That we have a huge stock of grain in the midst of deprivation and malnutrition is, at best, a dubious distinction. I would like to remind this House that the Government godowns had actually in store 62 million tonnes of foodgrains, and a lot of it was rotting. I believe, this has come down now to 32.8 million tonnes. It is not so much because some of this has been distributed but more because a great deal has actually been exported, when our people go hungry.

Sir, the PDS has not reached vulnerable groups like single-women headed families, the disabled and the aged. Yet, the Government's response has been insensitive and inadequate. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the speech is so monotonous that I am leaving the House.

12.57 hrs.

[SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH then left the House]

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Now, we have all been lucky this year because the rain God has been kind of us. It has rained in many places including Rajasthan where there had been a drought situation for five years. I have travelled extensively in those areas affected by drought and I say this from my heart, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that it is a national shame to see that while we exported millions of tonnes of foodgrains, crores of our own people were suffering from food shortages. Had the Prime Minister chanced upon some of these people, had he heard their pleas, and witnessed their plight first-hand, had he seen

those undernourished children, old people, and the aged then perhaps he would have been more generous . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, she has not spoken anything which will harm you. Please sit down.

13.00 hrs.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : He would have been a little more generous. He has helped; I am not telling that; but much more help was needed. . . .(Interruptions)

The manner in which this Government has sought to undermine the functioning of some of the key institutions of parliamentary democracy – sometimes subtly and sometimes openly—bodes ill for the future of our country. Let me take just four glaring examples.

The Public Accounts Committee is the arbiter of transparency in Government dealings. It is the most important Committee of Parliament. I believe that the Prime Minister is well aware of its working as he himself served as its Chairman in the past. It is the responsibility of the Government to facilitate the functioning of the PAC. I ask the Prime Minister, through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, why is his Government impeding the functioning of the PAC? What is the reason for its stubborn refusal to give PAC the access to the CVC report that has examined some transactions relating to Operation Vijay?. . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, you gave a ruling that there is no CVC report. She is talking about that; thus, challenging your ruling. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, I bring before you the blatant politicisation of the CBI on the Ayodhya issue and the Babri Masjid demolition case. Is it not a matter of shame that the conspiracy charges against the prime accused which include two senior Ministers of this Government were dropped? I ask, through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister of India who is the Head of the Government, what signal he is sending to the people of the country? Are those in High Office above the law? Are they? It seems they are.

The Election Commission has done Indian democracy proud. Despite this, it has been subjected to ridicule and abuse by sections of the ruling establishment. Similarly the National Human Rights Commission has come under assault. Why was it done? It is for acting fairly in the public interest and for taking up the cause of families brutalised by the communal carnage in Gujarat last year.

A nation's foreign policy is a reflection of its national character. India was freed by the determination of her people to follow up path of truth and non-violence. It was this single quality that distinguished its national character from the rest of the world. It was this quality that gave India her moral stature. Sadly, this Government has strayed from this path.

The national consensus that has underpinned India's foreign policy for almost five decades has been wilfully eroded in the past five years. India's foreign policy is no longer independent. No longer are we willing to stake out a moral position in keeping with our history and in keeping with our destiny. No longer are we willing to stand up for principles, for values. Of course, the world changes and India's foreign policy – like any other policy – cannot remain frozen in time. But the changes we make must be in the national interest. Had the Opposition and particularly the Congress not raised at voice forcefully and mobilised public opinion, this Government would have dispatched troops to Iraq without an explicit UN mandate. You can take it from me.

The Prime Minister went to Lahore. His hosts were preparing for Kargil while he was there. The Prime Minister went to Beijing. While he was there, there was an intrusion of Chinese troops into Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh. We have extended broad support to the Government on its policy in regard to both China and Pakistan. But, Sir, I must say – I am forced, compelled to say – that this Government's policy has lacked clarity and continuity. The stance of the Government has swung from one extreme to another. It has claimed credit for non-existent achievements. It has belittled what has been achieved by the previous governments. It had all but forgotten the Simla Agreement of 1972 and had to be

reminded about it by whom! By the Leader of the Opposition of Pakistan.

May I proudly remind this august House, that Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi made a truly historic visit to China in December, 1988, all references to which are being carefully, very carefully avoided. Now, do we need to remind today, through you, our Prime Minister, of how he used to confront his predecessors, particularly in fifties and sixties, on good relations with China? In fact, let me refresh his memory. The very *Panchsheel*, his Government is now preparing to celebrate with the Chinese, was often ridiculed by the Prime Minister in the past and his interventions in Parliament are in black and white.

This Government has completely ignored our immediate region, both politically and economically. Never before has SAARC been devalued as it has been in the last past five years. This Government has claimed that there has been a paradigm shift in our bilateral ties with the USA. If indeed there has been such a shift, then no benefits seem to have accrued to us, at least we are not aware of those benefits. This is a very important issue. For the first time NATO forces are in our region in Afghanistan and there has not been a word from this Government. This, I believe, is of profound significance. I would like to know from the Prime Minister what the response of his Government is to this unprecedented development.

Finally, I stand before you today to protect the Constitutional prerogative of the Opposition. Even if the Government does not feel itself answerable to the nation, we do not abdicate our responsibilities. We will speak our minds. We will make sure that our voices are heard loud and clear. This is not only our legitimate right but it is also our duty towards the people we represent. We have had to contend with a most belligerent Government at times, a Government that insists on having its way without giving us an opportunity to have our say, a Government that refuses to allow a discussion on vital issues that it finds uncomfortable. We are confronting a Government whose sole objective is to steamroll its way through the House in a most brazen manner.

We have, I can say with confidence, been at all times conscious of our duty throughout these years in the Opposition. We have been acutely aware of our responsibility. I might add that in comparison with the BJP, when it occupied our benches – when it was sitting here – we have exercised great restraint, if I may say so, sometimes I am criticised for it. The Congress Party's support to the Government on the passing of legislation has been unprecedented. This can be checked by yourself. Our record, and I am proud of it, has been that of a constructive Opposition.

Sir, the BJP-led Government has shown itself to be incompetent, insensitive, irresponsible, and brazenly corrupt. It is a Government that has betrayed the mandate of the people. It is a Government that has forfeited the trust of the people. It is a Government that does not work for the good of all the people. It is a Government whose days are numbered.

Sir, eventually, I commend this No-Confidence Motion to this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That this House expresses its want of confidence in the Council of Ministers".

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN-CHARGE OF MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, when the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs informed me that the leader of Opposition has given notice for no-confidence motion, I was surprised because we have been in opposition for years and we know that No-confidence Motion is a very important device which is used by the opposition after a serious thought. The way this session was going on in all these days since its commencement, no one even imagined that the opposition would think of bringing such motion in the last week of the session. . . . *(Interruptions)* Generally, whenever a discussion is held in the House, it is confined to a specific subject, a bill, an incident. Therefore, the scope of discussion is limited. The scope

of discussion is comprehensive only when the President's Address or the budget is taken up in the House for discussion. If the numerical strength of the treasury benches is not upto the majority mark, the no-confidence Motion becomes a great challenge. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : That is not the correct position.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I know it. We once go to defeated by one vote. . . . *(Interruptions)* when the no-confidence motion was moved before this. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : You have put on the spectacle of R.S.S.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : If the numbers are shaky, the No-Confidence Motion becomes a challenge.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Shri Advani is disowning all the No-Confidence Motions moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri George Fernandes, and all the other leaders in the past.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am fully aware of it. Maybe, I would have also moved a motion. I have no objection to that. But in this case, I welcome this Motion because this gives the Government a unique opportunity to present to the Parliament and to the people what the Government has really done in the last five years.

[Translation]

I would like to admit that I cannot emulate the style of expression of Smt. Sonia Gandhiji, the Leader of the Opposition and that is why, I told my colleagues that it would not be proper for me to initiate the discussion, as pungent language and acerbic style is not my inherent nature. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please keep silence. Listen to Advaniji. Please keep silence.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : As Sonia Gandhiji began her speech, she used such words in the first two three sentences which I would have generally termed as unrestrained. It was such a language in which the words like arrogance and capricious etc. were used. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to the Deputy Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Is the word 'arrogance' unparliamentary?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : When did I say that it was unparliamentary?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : But I did expect that as the hon. Speaker said in the beginning the language of today's debate should be based on facts.

Sir, recently my colleague, Shri Arun Shourie has been written three articles in the Indian Express. After reading them, as part of Government, as a Minister. I was pleased, felt pride that the prestige and achievements of India have gone very high. . . .(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Advaniji should also mention whatever Shri Arun Shourie has written about Baba Saheb Ambedkarji. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how will the business be conducted if there is running commentary like this after every sentence. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Once again, I request everyone that there should be a very good debate in the House. You, please keep silence. It is not good. Mr. Ramdas, I told you in the beginning and I would like to say once again that you start speaking in the middle of the speech, its not good. A leader like Advaniji is speaking. Why are you disturbing him, please sit down.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Advani should also acquaint the House with the views of Shri Arun Shourie about Baba Saheb Ambedkar. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Advaniji, You can go ahead.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Sir, if any one asks me, as to what has been our biggest achievement during the last five years. I would like to say that now each and every Indian feels that his stature has increased to some extent. . . .
(Interruptions) If you go anywhere in the world you will find that India's image has improved, its respect has got increased. That is why, I was surprised to hear when mentioning about the foreign policy Soniaji was stating that damage was done in this field or that field. I visited, my colleagues other countries have also been abroad and even some members of opposition have also just returned from Pakistan, they also say that India's reputation has improved everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not claim that all credit goes to this Government only. I would say nothing about Arun Shouriji's article, perhaps he himself would speak. Yesterday, I was going through an article written by the person who does not have sympathy with us, but is an eminent personality. I got a bit surprised to read that. . . .
(Interruptions) Shri Amitabh Bachchan wrote an article yesterday, and

[English]

I quote the opening paragraph of his article titled 'Great Awakening'.

"I look at the future of India optimistically. I foresee a great future which is indicated by the awakening that I have been observing the world over about the potential of India. Be it technology, science, arts, culture, entertainment. IT, literature, fashion or sports, it is India that is being underlined as the potential leader. No matter which country I have visited after the

[Shri L.K. Advani]

down of the millennium (mind you he speaks about 'after the talk of millennium'.

[Translation]

I am talking about last five years).

[English]

No matter which country I have visited 'after the dawn of millennium', I have proudly noticed the respect and the acknowledgment that comes from achievement. I am not referring to entertainment alone. I had come across professionals from other fields who are all praise for their counterparts in India. We are not being derided anymore.

[Translation]

(Before that period, we were looked down upon, now no one looks down upon us).

[English]

Not anyone we have to beg, being looked down upon as one from the underprivileged society". . .
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you interrupting?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You why don't understand. Advaniji is on his legs, please listen to him.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am just mentioning about it and I am not claiming that we have done it, but if one listens to Soniaji's speech what impression he will get about Indians that all are corrupt, here everything is in the wrong. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : She said that the Government is wrong. She did not say that India is wrong. . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : I have not criticised India.

. . . (Interruptions) My criticism is of the Government. . . .

(Interruptions) All these achievements that you have listed out or that you have read out are actually thanks to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. . . .

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : She has mentioned about three names only i.e. Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi and Indira Gandhi and hasn't heard fourth name after that. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The quotation I just mentioned, I have underlined in that. . . .

[English]

"after the dawn of the millennium".

[Translation]

And on one under-estimates Nehruji, today, the progress we have made is all due to the endeavours, sacrifice made by our leaders of yesteryears. But if our country has not made progress according to the potential we have, it is only because of Congress Party. . . . (Interruptions) Today, when our reputation has improved all over the world, is all because of a turning point and that was Pokharan, and when Pokharan test was conducted, your contribution was also there. . . (Interruptions) Though, we had not just completed the preparations in one and a half months time, but no one took the decision to get the test conducted. It was Shri Atal Biharji Vajpayee only who took the decision. Whereas so many Prime Ministers had already enjoyed the office. I can never forget the debate held here on this issue and at the time when the decision was taken. . . (Interruptions) During the debate. Natwar Singhji, Congress Party had objected to the Pokharan test and today. . . (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that Pokharan was a turning point. Whatever was the position of India on world map, and at that time you people also said that sanctions would apply, and no doubt, sanctions were applied, but we faced them,

all of us faced them collectively. I assert that do not underestimate the changes brought about during the last five years, and these changes are not taking place because of Government only. But both, the Government and the people, including you, are bringing about these changes.

But I remember it very well that when we formed Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand, I said that we could not have done this without your cooperation. But this decision was taken at that time only, today also you. . . . (Interruptions) I do not want to discuss Vidarbha. I am not raising the question of Vidarbha at this point of time. I know that today, India is facing problems that are so serious and so big that until we do not cooperate with each-other, they cannot be solved. Therefore, do not make a fun of consensus. If you are in a convenient position and you want to blame the Government for women Bill, go ahead. But everyone knows that the three different provisions, on the part of the Government that we could have made use of in increasing women representation in Parliament, we are ready for that. But this is a constitutional amendment; and it can't be made till all the people together bring it at least in a position to vote. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, you are raising a very important point. But may I bring to the notice of the Government that two-thirds majority which is required for this Constitution Amendment can be available on the floor of the House. You should come before this House for that. We will provide you with that kind of support. We will co-operate with you to get that kind of majority.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shivraji, you are aware that there have been times when physically it has been impossible. A Constitution (Amendment) Bill cannot be passed in an atmosphere of that kind. That is all. So far as the Government is concerned, Government has been willing for all the three alternatives – whether the proposals is made by the Election Commission or whether it is on the basis of two-member Constituency or whether it is the original one. But it was the Leftists and, perhaps, the Congress also said that only the original form has to be

accepted and, therefore, the others were not ready even to permit it physically, Mr. Speaker, Sir, personally you have made attempts. The Government is willing for any alternative. Therefore, let the Speaker, decide. We are willing for any alternative. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

I believe, Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji had mentioned about nine issues, most of which were targeted at our friend Shri George Sahib. He will definitely speak and express his views. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : We have absolutely no malice towards any individual.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I can say that most of the allegations levelled were completely false. Even. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, false is an unparliamentary word. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please expunge this word from the proceedings. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has levelled allegation on the leader of opposition.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The words 'false allegations' are not unparliamentary.

[Translation]

I have not said that a lie has been told. I have said that allegations are false. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : If allegations are false then

[English]

90 per cent of the standing committee Report is false.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am aware at what is unparliamentary word and what is not unparliamentary. I am not alleging anybody for speaking a lie. I am only saying that allegations were false. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

The former speaker also endorses it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You know that he has mentioned about allegations.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have seen every election since 1992 till date. Since 1992 whenever elections were held, there was always one or another political issue on the basis of which public used to give their decision and electorates used to cast their votes. We tried sincerely during past years that let development be the main national agenda for discussion.

We have succeeded to some extent in that. People of entire Hindustan are watching now a days that how roads and highways are being constructed. . . .
(Interruptions)

During last few days some Chief Ministers of Congress ruled states met me, they highly praised Mr. Khanduri and acknowledged that he is doing very fine job. . . .
(Interruptions) Mr. Suresh Prabhu has been assigned a task, Prime Minister has assigned him the job of interlinking of rivers. Last year country witnessed a severe drought. The drought reminded Prime Minister that once Mr. K.L. Rao, a minister in the cabinet of Pandit Nehru, had suggested that if we are able to connect the river Ganga to Kaveri, then so many problems can be solved. Keeping that in mind the Prime Minister directed the officials of Ministry of Water Resources to take out all the papers of that time. All those papers were taken out. Those papers were studied and a task force was constituted. It was told to them to examine the case of interlinking of rivers and see how far it is possible and how far it is not possible.

... (Interruptions) Today people are engaged in these types of work.

The entire world is a witness to the fact that whatever progress has been made in the field of information technology in the last two decades of twentieth century, India is far ahead in the area of software. . . .(Interruptions)

I remember myself that when I read the autobiography of Mr. Bill Gates then I developed an inherent desire to see how this microsoft is being developed. I went to Seattle. I saw microsoft there and I was impressed. But I was more impressed to observe that there were approximately 30% people of Indian origin working in the microsoft in 1990. From that point of time it was clear that this is the area where India can lead the world. I am very happy that very first thing Shri Vajpayeeji did after becoming Prime Minister was to set up a task force regarding Information Technology.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the pioneer of Information Technology in India. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, discussion cannot be held like this. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have repeatedly told in the House that it is not proper to interrupt in between. You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't try to interrupt any one. This will be unfair to ruling as well as opposition party.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I hope that our friends from Congress will go through the three articles of Mr. Shourie especially. If they don't read even then I just want to quote one paragraph which I liked very much through it has no relevance to the facts. I quote :

[English]

"We have become negaholics, addicted to the negative as an alcoholic is addicted to drink. We look for, we latch on to the negatives. Even if some achievement breaks on to our mental screen, it does not percolate into our awareness. We do not see that it is a part of a pattern, that it is not an isolated fluke. Indeed, our instinct is not to believe evidence of that accomplishment."

[Translation]

I feel sorry that the main speech delivered by the opposition.

[English]

It is nothing but negaholics.

[Translation]

There is nothing positive in that. They see corruption and security failure. The way security forces are working today, if you say there is failure. . . .*(Interruptions)* When we come to power, proxy war had not started in our time. Though after 1971, proxy war was won in Punjab but it was going on at its full pace, in Jammu and Kashmir and in remaining parts of India. When Mr. Vajpayee took over the charge of the Government and the way it has been controlled during past five years, the way it has been won over. . . .*(Interruptions)* Before Vajpayeeji became Prime Minister, no one in this House ever pointed out about ISI and not only questions are being asked about ISI and if Soniaji had a complaint that why we did not publish white paper then I would like to tell that our parliamentarians are in the consultative committee and when first time issue of white paper was mentioned later on also it was discussed, I made it clear that those who are destroying the hide outs of ISI, and are taking action against them, have urged that they will face some problem in confronting them if full facts are revealed so. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Why did you say?
 . . .*(Interruptions)* Then, you justify that you are not a

competent Home Minister. . . .*(Interruptions)* Why did you say so in the public? . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : We have destroyed the 187 hideouts of ISI, captured them and arrested them. Not only this I would like to ask Soniaji that when Parliament has passed 'POTA' and those who are discussing security, is it proper for them to ask their states not to implement 'POTA'. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : First of all, express your views regarding Shri Vaiko. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am not yielding to you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda) : Sir, the Home Minister of India has made an irresponsible statement*(Interruptions)* The Congress Party has not asked any Chief Minister not to implement POTA, as has been placed in the Statute Book. . . .*(Interruptions)* Such an instruction cannot be given by any party. We are aware of that. . . .*(Interruptions)* I want the Home Minister to know this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Minister is speaking, you please sit down.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I feel that our friends of CPI(M) are also concerned about the security of the country. Though their party is not in favour of NSA (National Security Act), yet one of their Minister met me and told me that the problem is that our party do not agree to it. I told him to talk to party and use it in some limited cases.

They have done it and even if a party may be against POTA in principle but we should not forget that except POTA, there is no other law in the country which can check terrorist funding; and in the past terrorist funding. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir,
 . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Ramdasji, please sit down.

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : The people of Maharashtra will tell your party as to where it stands now. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not talk while you are sitting.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Since December 2001 till date, more than four and a half crore rupees have been seized from 19 different modules on a continuous basis. That money was being sent for terrorist funding. Now that money could be seized only because of POTA was used effectively. If we do not use POTA, we will not be able to deal with terrorist funding, because otherwise funding would not be treated as a crime. So, I would request the leader of Congress Party not to direct the States governed by her party for not implementing it. . . .*(Interruptions)* They should use POTA wherever its use is necessary. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Why are they disturbing him while he is giving the reply? They should be prevented from going it. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is not yielding.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, this is to place on record that such a direction was never issued by the Congress Party. I would request the hon. Home Minister to note this and acknowledge this. In fact, such a direction cannot be given by any Party when POTA, rightly or wrongly, is part of the Statute Book. Nobody can be directed not to implement it. It is not correct. Let the hon. Home Minister stand correct. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He has not yielded.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have just referred to Pokhran, I if any solitary event which has contributed a lot in raising the prestige of the Indians living in various parts of the world, it is the newly acquired nuclear power status of

India. In the same way, I believe that a decisive turning point, emerged in solving the problem of Jammu and Kashmir, when the Election Commission and the then Government of Jammu and Kashmir put this combined efforts to conduct free and fair elections in that state. There were apprehensions in the minds of many people when the Prime Minister had made an announcement for conducting free and fair elections in Jammu and Kashmir from the Red Fort on the 15th of August of last year. At that time, the terrorists had threatened that the fingers of those who will cast their votes would be chopped off and the candidates who contest the elections would be killed and the persons who will do canvassing in the election would be attacked with bombs. It was for this reason that many people had some apprehensions about free and fair elections in that state. But, we not only got the elections conducted but also cleared the doubts of those people who thought that elections would be rigged. The Government of India permitted media persons from all over the world to cover the election. All the Embassies in Delhi were allowed to send their observers. The people all over the world saw it and the whole world accepted it that democracy is functioning in India in its true spirit. The party which is making an allegation that we have undermined parliamentary institutions is the party, which itself imposed emergency for 19 months in India. . . .*(Interruptions)* Now that party is saying that we have got the Government of Arunachal Pradesh toppled. It is a well known fact that the Congress Party came to power in that State not by winning the election, but by promoting defection. What can we do if defection was repeated again. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : You sent Indira Gandhi to jail. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : To level the allegation of N.S.C.M.I.M. on us; Somnathji is present here. I would not disclose here about his conversation with me about Tripura, but the way in which the Congress Party is working in various states. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : There were many Members who were lodged in jails during emergency and who had written letter to Indiraji requesting her to get them

freed from jails. . . .(Interruptions) I have got all the evidences in this regard. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Soniaji has levelled an allegation; Advaniji will give the reply, so please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have been a minister earlier. Please sit down.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : They should apologize for it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I would like to hear what hon. Chandra Shekhar ji has to say.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to comment on the types of issues which are being discussed. But, the leader of the opposition has alleged that many persons, who were lodged in jails during Emergency had requested Mrs. Indira Gandhi through letters to get themselves freed. This type of sweeping statement is very objectionable. . . . (Interruptions) I would like to say that if she has any such letter, she should produce it. But levelling these type of allegations is not proper. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : How is she in possession of Government letters?. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : We would like to know from the Leader of the Opposition, how she got all those Government documents. Sir, we would like to know how she got all those letters written to the Prime Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : How can one believe a person, who can leave the country at that time. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : All of you need not stand up at the allegation levelled by Soniaji.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : How will the discussion take place, until you sit down?

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, I want to know as how she got all those Government documents?. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Advani to speak. Nothing else will go on record unless there is a point of order. This is not the way. You cannot disturb the House like this. Please sit down.

[Translation]

Jadhavji, please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Advani, you please speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the debate go on. I am not permitting anybody else to speak.

(Interruptions)

Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Ok.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, my point of order is. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is raising his point of order. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Malhotra to raise point of order. House cannot run like this the way you want to speak.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my point of order is that emergency was imposed in 1977 and in 1975-76. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

Shrimati Sonia Gandhi was not a national of India. . . *(Interruptions)* How does she get that letter? . . . *(Interruptions)* In 1975-76, she was not a citizen of India . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

How does he has this letter. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will not admit the points of order which are only to create disorder in the House. So, I will not listen to such points of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Advani to speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told in the very beginning that I cannot emulate the style of Shrimati Soniajee, but I shall make a request she must give reply to what Mr. Chandrashekhar said on her remark because lacs of people of Hindustan have suffered the tyranny in democracy by congress party that time including Shri Chandrashekhar himself, Shri Jaiprakash Narayan, Shri Morarji Bhai, Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee and many Members of parliament of that time. . . *(Interruptions)* You can level allegation against me on the basis of justifying emergency. So whatever points have been raised here with regard to your that remark. Please clarify that and put that letter in front of the house. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHYAMA CHARAN SHUKLA (Mahasamund) : Its clarification was given by people of this country in 1980 . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Advaniji is delivering speech. Let him speak. He has to put forward his points in the House. He knows how to support. Let him support.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only the speech of Shri Advaniji will go on record. Let other hon. Members say anything that will not go on record.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the manner in which the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has been handling the foreign policy of India ever since he was the Minister of External Affairs and upheld the freedom and integrity of India. At the time of Kargil war.

14.00 hrs.

The President of USA invited our Prime Minister and the President of Pakistan to America but our PM did not accept the offer and said that he would not go there and question of his going there does not arise and asked them to talk to other party. Prime Minister told in clear terms that he would not go there to America but our PM did not accept the offer and said that he would not go there. And question of his going there does not arise and asked them to talk

to others party. Prime Minister told in clear terms that he would not go there.

Not only this the way our foreign policy has been implemented in these five years, 30 countries of the world including big countries like UK and France have expressed their views publicly that India must get seat in the Security Council. After all these achievements, if some one says that we have undermined our independent foreign policy and have done, this or that thing, so please don't undermine India by using such words. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF (Bangalore North) : Is there anything else that is to be undermined? You have undermined. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please maintain silence in the House.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Be it economic field, external affairs field or educational field, no one can claim that we have solved all problems in every field, but whatever problems are left over, they are so because we have inherited many of them from your Governments as a legacy. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Chowdharyji, Please don't do like that. This is not proper.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to Deputy Prime Minister. This is not proper.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The proxy war, which has been going on for last two decades. . . .(Interruptions) On the one hand our armed forces are fighting against terrorism on the other, we have mobilised inter-national opinion in the whole world. Today there are 15 such countries which have formed a working group with us including USA, Canada, UK, France, Russia and China. We have formed a joint working group against terrorism collectively. As our army has defeated the enemies in three earlier wars likewise our security forces and masses will defeat them in this proxy war. I would also like to say in this matter that congress party is also a part of the present government in Jammu and Kashmir. The Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir is Mr. Mufti Saheb but Congress Party is also a part of this Government. They are getting full cooperation from the Union government continuously. We will unitedly succeed in our battle. As a result of this and especially after the Prime Minister's visit to the valley during last days and after he made a public speech there the Change in atmosphere is very much visible there. As a result tourism has also got a boost there. This time also one and a half lakh pilgrims are on Amarnath Yatra. During the last five years some or the other incidents took place. But this time no such incident was occurred. Everything was completed in a peaceful manner.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to note that earlier UAE never used to co-operate but as a result of our recent efforts, it has started cooperating us. The terrorists active here used to take shelter there, and in Pakistan as well, and from there they used to go to Dubai. But now if any terrorist enters Dubai their Government cooperates and hands them over to us. As a result of this, many people have been arrested.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will conclude my speech after saying one more thing. I have repeated this thing in America on many occasions. Sometimes they will say that

[Shri L.K. Advani]

[English]

"You are exaggerating our clout with Pakistan."

[Translation]

I told them that I do not exaggerate and I think that if on a mere indication they can hand-over 501 Al-Qaida culprits, to you why can't they hand-over 20 terrorists to us if you tell them? That is why, I don't agree with you. However, I would like to tell you that except Indonesia, India is the only country in the world where there is largest Muslim community. Is it not a significant thing that among 500 Al-Qaida men there is not a single Indian citizen. If anyone asks me its reasons, I would say that in India Democracy is a

[English]

vibrant and vigorous institution.

[Translation]

There is Democracy in India, as a result of which our country has such fundamentalism constraint that there is less scope for it. It is not so, that it does not exist, it exists. That is why, Parliamentary institutions are abolishing, democracy is diminishing. The manner the language has been used, I do not recognise that as correct. In India, if every matter is boycotted and we are not ready to listen to the Defence Minister, and if the same attitude is maintained, it is not a Democracy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one more thing that an introspection meeting of congress was held in Simla, in which it was said that they were ready for a coalition. The reasons is that in these last five years everyone is amazed to note as to how Shri Vajpayeeji is running. The government with the support of so many parties whereas a coalition Government of merely three parties does not survive. If change is observed in Simla after Panchmarhi, the main reasons is that the coalition is successful because in 1998, all the parties in India got ready to accept Hon'ble Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji as an undisputed Leader. Till similar situation arises, nothing is

going to happen there. The opposition coalition will continue in its present manner only, and the opposition will be formed with such hue and cry. Sometimes, I think that it would have been better if we had a system on the line of Germany. If you want to move 'No-Confidence Motion', move it after proposing the name of an alternative leader. In this manner, 'No-Confidence Motion cannot be moved. Had such system existed here, No-Confidence Motion would not have been moved in 1999 when you defeated our Government by a margin of a single vote. And today, it can't be moved at all.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Under which rule you have said that leader of opposition can't move No-Confidence Motion. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The next speaker in the debate will be Shri Somnath Chatterjee Please keep silence in the House,

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep silence. Hon'ble Members who want to leave, please carry on by keeping silence.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Please bring the House into order. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

Please bring the House into order. . . .(Interruptions)
I know, they have no respect for the Opposition Parties.
. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee is going to speak. The members who want to leave, please do not talk to each-other.

[English]

Please keep silence in the House. The House desires to listen to Shri Somnath Chatterjee's speech.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, everyone was feeling so hungry that all of them left.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, everybody seems to be in lunch mood. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, please extend the time for debate till half past six or seven of the clock in the evening.

14.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till forty-five minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.48 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then reassembled after lunch till forty-eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS – *Contd.*

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of CPI (M), support this No-confidence Motion. Sir, the way the present Government has burdened the public in various ways in its four year tenure and the way this Government is involved in corruption. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata North West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Member speak like this reading out?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Its alright to speak reading out in Hindi.

MR. SPEAKER : You should be pleased that hon. Somnathjee is speaking in Hindi. He should be appreciated for this.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I can tell my friend.

[Translation]

That Hindi is not my mother tongue yet I am to speak in Hindi. Therefore, I am speaking reading out.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : We are happy.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, corruption has increased in the regime to the present Government. The way our soldiers sacrifice their lives for protecting our country, the present Government has taken advantage of their sacrifice also and led our soldiers to miseries.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, agriculture and industry of the country has been badly affected, communalism has been spread, labourers and employees have been attacked, they have been deprived of their livelihood, farmers have been forced to commit suicide and unemployment has multiplied.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the promises made by this Government to take advantage of election time and for misleading the public have proved to be a bag of lie today. It is for these reasons that the present Government must go. I congratulate the leader of opposition of bringing this no-confidence motion and appeal the common public to take steps, as soon as possible, to support that party or group which could work for upholding secularism and unity of the country, and welfare of the public and it should give that party or group an opportunity to form Government so as to enable it to form an efficient Government in public interest. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Many congratulations for delivering speech in Hindi.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support this Motion fully on behalf of my party because

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we believe that it is our patriotic duty to try according to the democratic process to get rid of this anti-people Government. We know that this Motion is likely to be defeated because of the temporary majority which has been contrived by most tenuous, totally unprincipled and a glaringly opportunistic and weird combination called NDA, but I have no manner of doubt that the vast majority of the people outside this House, especially those who have to face the serious problems created by the mis-governance of the NDA combination and those people who believe in probity and do not support corruption, those who believe in the secular traditions of the country and who are guided by the national interest, have already decided to consign their concoction to the dustbin of history and that is the opportunity they are waiting for today.

Sir, I am told that today, there was a meeting of the NDA, presided over by the Prime Minister. They are entitled to do it. I have no quarrel with that. What is it that keeps this so-called National Democratic Alliance together? Certainly, they do not have common ideology and they do not have any common objective either, but what is it that keeps them together? It is sharing of loaves of office.

I hope, the Deputy Prime Minister will come here. Today, he showed great nervousness. The *Loh Purush* was very nervous today. I found him nervous for the first time today. The Deputy Prime Minister has been candid enough, which on earlier occasion I had appreciated. He has said that the BJP is in power today because of the *rath yatra* he had taken out. He has openly denounced any question of having a common ideology for NDA partners because he says what can be a common ideology there. Their only objective is to remain in power and, Sir, I have been adding, by hook or by crook.

Sir, today the governance of the country is in the hands of this motley combination – without any policy, without any ideology – only because they want to enjoy the fruits of power.

Today, I read in the newspaper that our very good friend Shri Vaiko would be here. I would have been very

happy to see him here because this is his proper place. I understand that he will be brought for voting only, and I hope not in handcuffs. Let him come. I expected, after reading the newspaper reports, that he will come back here. But, he has been detained under a draconian law that he himself strongly supported, sitting here, expecting that that law will be utilised against terrorists. But, he became, as I had forecast, that he would be one of the first victims, and he became so. We are very sorry, he has lost his freedom today because of that draconian law. But, the reality is that his main ally, that is, BJP has showed utter cowardice, and has made compromises with the politics of evil by kowtowing to the whims and caprices of a Government in a State because they have 11 votes here. Today, the liberty of Shri Vaiko has been traded for 11 votes in Lok Sabha. This is the position of this Government.

Sir, I know that Shri Vaiko may be brought here tomorrow for casting his vote and that would be a very short reprieve. But, he will win back his freedom if this No-Confidence Motion is passed, and not so long as this Government remains.

Sir, what are the achievements of the Vajpayee Government which are told to us. What has been achieved in this country? Which section of the people has been benefited? What rights of the people have been upheld? Is there no greater impoverishment of the common people, and people in the rural areas? Is there no greater unemployment today in the country? Is there no serious attack on established institutions? The education system has been selected by this Government for a sinister attack, for the purpose of communalising and saffronising the textbooks.

Sir, corruption has reached Nadir-Shahi proportions. Shri Advani is a very good friend of mine. I came together with him in Parliament in 1971. I had the great privilege of working with him in many Committees. He said that the words 'arrogant' and 'capricious' used by the Leader of Opposition should not have been used. I hope Sir, he does not mind if I call his Government anti-people, and communal because communalism is their only issue. Sir,

has there been no calculated and brutal attack on the democratic rights of the people? Is POTA not being misused for their own political benefits? Sir, the country's economic interest has been sold-off. It is not being said by us alone, but there are many hon. Members here. I do not know what will be the speech of Shri Khaire today on this. Are you supporting me on this? Are not you? Have you changed your stand?

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra) : No change.

[Translation]

I am about to explain my role, at this moment both Dada and the leader of opposition should also be present in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Who is Dada?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I was trying to take some sustenance from him.

15.00 hrs.

Sir, there is a deliberate sale of our country's vital economic interest at the dictates of an imperialist power, which is now called sole super power, and they are getting inspiration, if not sustenance, from that country. Whatever may be said, I shall try in my humble way to show how our national foreign policy has become a totally partisan foreign policy just to keep some country happy.

To many people in this country, as to us, this Government represents today some die-hard, communal and fundamentalist minority, which is bent upon to remaining in power to indulge in divisiveness on the basis of religion. Today, Shri Vajpayee is showing more attachment to RSS Charter than to the Constitution of India, which is a glorious document.

We were being told that our country has progressed in every manner, and our hon. Deputy Prime Minister referred to an article written by one of our former

distinguished Members of this House, namely, "since the dawn of the millennium this country has progressed." He is a very eminent person. I did not know of his authorship so long, but I admire that he has taken the pains to express his views. Probably, Shri Advani has forgotten that this country, under the dispensation of this Government, has achieved a dubious distinction of occupying 127th position among the list of countries, as per the report, not of us but the Human Development Report of UNDP for the year 2003. Having dropped below Botswana and even Palestinian States, who have suffered greatest attacks – from 124th position, it has come down to 127th position – we find the unseemly spectacle of their thumping the desks that we have developed this country!

Why are we supporting this No-Confidence Motion? There are serious differences still; there were and still are in many matters, so far as the Congress Party is concerned. We have not exonerated them ever for the declaration of Emergency, but does that inspire you? Just because they had made this mistake — that is why, they are here – and just because they had also committed sins earlier, do we have to tolerate a combination like this, which has decimated the Constitution of India, which has denigrated the biggest institutions of this country and which has declared a war on the common people of this country by depriving them of their livelihood, of their employment opportunities, of their right to live a decent life? Nobody feels ashamed that in this country ordinary peasants are committing suicide! Not one word of remorse I heard from Shri L.K. Advani.

Many of the peasants have committed self-annihilation, committed suicides, in the States which are supposed to be very advanced States. I am not happy; as an Indian, I feel ashamed. I am sure, most of us feel ashamed when any peasant, any farmer, in this country commits suicide because he cannot face the challenges of his livelihood or his very existence.

Considering all these matters, I shall try to elaborate some of them. I feel it has become the duty of every Indian – in the national interest of India's honour, its unity and integrity; and for the sake of peasants, workers and the

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unemployed youth—that we should endeavour seriously to weed out this cancer from our body politic.

There have been promises made by NDA galore. Nearly four years have elapsed. We have forgotten what their promises were to this country. There was an elaborate manifesto, the BJP Manifesto. They have not given up any one of their demands. They have not given up their demand for temple construction, their demand for repeal of Article 370 of the Constitution, their demand for a Uniform Civil Code, their demand for ban on cow slaughter and so many other things. They say, "Well, we are keeping them for the time being under the carpet because otherwise we cannot have this motley combination of 28 parties. If we do not do so, how can we remain in power? Power is our only objective. Therefore, we will make compromise with our policies and programmes. We are not giving them up."

I pity their allies. Do they have any sense of honour and dignity? The BJP has openly proclaimed that it shall fight the elections in the States which are coming up later this year, alone because they feel that their allies are irrelevant. You do not exist for them. For coming to power, they do not have to go to you, kowtow to you and give you prize posts in the Cabinet. That is why they shall fight on their own. They shall fight on the BJP agenda. They shall not fight on the NDA agenda. This is the true colour of the BJP. Whenever it suits them, they will take a particular posture. When something else suits them another time, like a chameleon changes colours, they will take another posture. This is what has happened.

With the help of DAVP and Prasar Bharati, they cannot go on misleading the people all the time. What were their assurances? This Government came to power on the basis of what is called the NDA manifesto. It seems to me sometimes like a collection of jokes. Yesterday, when I was re-reading it, it seemed nothing but a collection of jokes. What would they do? It says :

"In the economy, we will continue with the reform process, give it a strong *swadeshi* thrust to ensure that

the national economy grows on the principle that India shall be built by Indians."

Is it not a joke, Sir, after four years of their rule? I am sure you will also share my view, though you cannot express it, and I am sorry for that. It further says :

"We will bring the GDP growth to seven to eight per cent and control the disease. . ."

It says :

"*Berozgari hatao* – eradicate unemployment – is our call."

The Leader of Opposition rightly cautioned us that we should not raise the question of unemployment because it disturbs our Prime Minister.

The agenda further says :

"*Swadeshi* is not re-inventing the wheel. It means that we will facilitate the domestic industry to gain enough muscle to compete with the multinational companies in the local and global markets. We want domestic companies to flourish and acquire a transnational status."

How many companies have acquired that status, one special and favoured one? Everybody knows which one that is. How many companies are there fighting against the transnational companies?

Then there is another NDA commitment.

"We will earmark 60 per cent of the planned funds for public investment in agriculture, rural development, irrigation, and by diverse incentives, including tax shelters, achieve a quantum leap in agricultural production so that the agriculture, horticulture, etc. becomes a vehicle for growth resulting in enhancement of the purchasing power of the people."

I would like the hon. Prime Minister, with all humility, to tell this country as to how this clause has been fulfilled in his four years of governance.

Sir, then they had said :

"We should be able to have a growth which will enhance the purchasing power of the people."

I will come to it. It is the Government record.

Then, they have said about labour. I am glad that the Minister is here. Probably, he will feel ashamed to look at me.

About the labour they had said :

"We will make labour both organised and unorganised, equal and plough faster in the production of the nation's wealth and its progress. Laws relating to equal pay for equal work for men and women shall be strictly implemented."

Then, there is a heading "Eradication of Unemployment" saying, 'recognizing the right to work to every citizen, the main thrust of the new Government will be *berzogzari hatao*. As against the present trend of jobless growth, our Government will measure growth by generation of gainful employment.'

Then, they had said that they will take strategic and pro-poor policy; they will ensure food security for all; they will improve the public distribution system; they are committed to total eradication of illiteracy.

Now, Netaji here, sitting next to me, will be angry. Even then, I have to remind this House and the country that it was their commitment for reservation of 33 per cent seats in Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies for women.

Sir, they had said that the necessary electoral reforms will be introduced on the basis of the recommendations of the Goswami Committee, Indrajit Gupta Committee, and the Law Commission, all of which have now been jettisoned, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Then, they had said about corruption. About corruption, only three-four lines are there. They had said :

"We will enact the Lokpal Bill (no comment is there) with adequate powers to deal with corruption charges against anyone including the Prime Minister."

About the administration of justice, they had said :

"We shall not allow discrimination between rich and the poor, empowered and the powerless, the rest of the majesty of law and the objectivity of the State. . ."

I think, it is enough to read their manifesto to show how utterly this Government has failed in every sphere of their commitments and every sphere of national life. Sir, the point, which is important is that who are the victims of this mis-governance. Who are the victims of the malfeasance on the part of the Government? They are the common people, the rural people in the rural areas, those who live in slums, ordinary people living on the pavement in India after 56 years of Independence, people dying of starvation, without any treatment. Child mortality, I believe, is still the highest in this country. Women are subjected to the illegal demands for dowry and what not. On all these issues, nothing has been said.

Sir, the first intervention that came from the Government side was by no less a person than the Deputy Prime Minister of India. He said, "Why have you brought this No-Confidence Motion, I do not understand. However, I am happy." Very well, he is happy, and he is happy with these performances! That is why the people of this country have decided. This Government is completely oblivious. I charge this Government to be completely unconcerned and oblivious of the real sufferings of the people of this country. They are busy looking after themselves!

[English]

Sir, I cannot use strong words. Mr. Advani said :

[Translation]

"The prestige of India has gone up."

[English]

We saw that almost every week one or other officer from the office of the Secretary of State, US is coming here. What are they doing here every week or every month? You are having joint exercises with their people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Advani was taking credit that when he went to see Microsoft at Seattle, he found so many Indians. Sir, in four years, this Government has not

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equipped them in such a manner that they will get jobs here. Whatever is being done by the student community in this country, either in the sphere of education, or in the areas of technology or software, is in spite of this Government. It is because this Government had created such a serious joblessness in this country that they are forced to go outside to earn their livelihood, although, they have equipped themselves to meet the challenges anywhere and everywhere. Therefore, the credit does not belong to NDA. Shri Amitabh Bachchan has said "Since the dawn of this millennium, the country has progressed." Sir, I sympathise the Shri Advani. Of all persons I have such a high regard for his commitment, and to his ideology also! Some of them are very destructive ideologies! It seems that he has found no other person than Shri Arun Shourie as his teacher. What is teacher he is! . . . (Interruptions) I do not know as to what will be tomorrow's admonition from RSS headquarters at Nagpur, if today the Chief of RSS finds that Shri Advani is being influenced by Shri Arun Shourie, who is indulging in the selling spree of public enterprises in this country. I can say nothing more. I must confess that I was one of the voracious readers of Shri Shourie's articles. Those were the days of Bofors and other news, and every morning I used to wait anxiously as to what news would come out. I am sure, Nitishji also used to do that until he got into bad habits of his company. Of course, he was almost become an idol for the large sections of the people of this country. That Arun Shourie and today's Arun Shourie, is with a small 'a' and a small 'a', I can say only this and nothing more.

Shri Advani said that *Pokharan* has been a turning point. What? How have we benefited from it? How is this country, where nearly 50 per cent plus people are below the poverty line, where you cannot create jobs, where you cannot provide investments in rural sector, for example in agriculture; and where even the public enterprises cannot sustain which have contributed substantially to India's economic development, benefited by this? You have thought fit to spend on this. It is because that will show how powerful the Hindus are under the leadership of Shri

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who owes his allegiance to RSS and Viswa Hindu Parishad.

Sir, we cannot forget that the Prime Minister going abroad – he goes abroad as Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister of India. It is not a question of any personal criticism. But when he goes abroad, he represents the country. When he goes to a meeting and says: "I am first of all a *pracharak* of RSS. What is the message given to people of this country by this?" . . . (Interruptions) The Prime Minister's *gaddi* may go. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : You are thoroughly mistaken. He never said this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He said that the Prime Minister's *gaddi* is uncertain, but what is more important is that he was a life long *pracharak* of *Rashtriya Swayam Sevak*. . . . (Interruptions) As an organisation I have nothing to do with RSS. I am happy that I have nothing to do with RSS. But without any disrespect, I hope that *Swayam Sevak* is not literally translated to mean 'serve yourself'!

Shri Advani has referred to the allegations against the Defence Minister. There is nothing personal. Everybody knows is this country what was he in 1970s. He had played a glorious role in India's trade union movement, fighting for the working class. Our question is not addressed to him. Our question is addressed to the Prime Minister.

A Minister resigned. Initially he was hesitating to resign. Then he resigned. The Prime Minister was hesitating to accept his resignation. Then, one very important political party, an ally in the NDA, resigned. It came out protesting against the delay in acceptance of the resignation. I did not say that alone. The NDA was minus one. Then, it was accepted.

Then, the Ex-Minister goes on the Television, although he was not entitled to. He addressed the nation as an Ex-Minister through *Doordarshan* and said that he was committed to it and that he would give his assurance. He further said that he would never go back until he was exonerated.

He has not been exonerated till today. I would like to know from the Prime Minister what was the change of circumstances and what were the compelling circumstances which made Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee as the Prime Minister of India, to induct Shri George Fernandes again. Till today there is no explanation given. It is for his conscience. He has to tell the people. . . .*(Interruptions)* I did not disturb you. Please do not disturb me.

Shri George Fernandes gave an undertaking to the people of this country on the official media that he would not join until he was exonerated. Why was he taken in? Till today, hon. Prime Minister has not replied.

I believe one of the reasons for bringing forward this Motion of No-Confidence was to get our elusive Leader of the House in the House! When major issues come up, he is conspicuous by his absence or silence. Nobody bothers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are trying to see that this House runs properly, but the Leader of the House does not bother.

When major issues come up before the public, the Opposition is not consulted and we are not taken into confidence. Can any instance be given by the hon. Prime Minister or by the Treasury Benches or by the most voluble spokesperson that we have not responded? The spokesperson is very well dressed today. . . .*(Interruptions)* He is a handsome person.

Has ever any explanation been given? Can anybody challenge us saying that when the Prime Minister had called the Opposition, we have not responded? Have we not responded with a spirit of cooperation? We have cooperated with the Government on every decision. With regard to Jammu and Kashmir situation, we said that we strongly support. We said that it was their job and that we shall not stand in the way. It was a very difficult job of maintaining internal security of the country. We said that please for Heaven's sake, do it; we would support them. They wanted to stop the action. We said, "Yes". They wanted to resume it and we said, "Yes, do it". The Government today cannot say that the Opposition stood in the way. We never did that. Either on the question of

PDS or any other question, whenever we have been called, we extended our cooperation. Only on one occasion we had to oppose, when a meeting was called for POTA. I do not remember whether hon. Prime Minister was there during a discussion on this. Probably, the hon. Home Minister, hon. Deputy Prime Minister, presided over the discussion. Excepting that, on no other occasion we had objected. But, we find that Government makes its own decisions on major issues. When we ask, the hon. Prime Minister does not come. Hon. Speaker, tries to narrow the differences, but there is no response. Probably, today I am happy but it is also a lesson to us that if we want the Leader of the House in the House, we will have to move a No-Confidence Motion against him.

Mr. Deputy Prime Minister talked about a number of roads and buildings that have been made, but who will drive on them? Whatever one may say, interlinking rivers is still an utopia. Nothing is to be done during our lives at least. So many young people are here. Maybe this could happen in their life times but not in my lifetime. He had talked about great advance in IT. He had said that it is nothing but negaholics. He had said that POTA was necessary to stop terrorist funding. I do not know from which place Shri Vaiko is getting money! Where are our MDMK friends? Where are they? Dr. Krishnan?. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Please address the Speaker. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You do not have to teach me now.

It has been used against workers, opponents and Government servants. It has been used to declare illegal strikes in this country.

He had said that since the Congress imposed emergency, it should not talk of democracy. They imposed emergency in 1975, for which they had to pay. I am happy that they had paid for it. They deserved to be rejected by the people. But shall we embrace you because of that?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : You did embrace us in 1977. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We did not embrace you. . . .(Interruptions) In that case you had also embraced us.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is one and the same thing.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We did not embrace each other but had joined hands to support a Government which would bring back democracy into the rails. We did it. I remember, Sir. I am not disclosing any secrets. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Shri Jyoti Basu and Shri Advani jointly addressed a public meeting in the city of Kolkata for defeating Shri Rajiv Gandhi. So, it is not correct. They joined hands together and appealed to the people to defeat Congress. CPI(M) and BJP were all together. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : Today, where have you gone? How have you forgotten your past? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No interruptions, please.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : I do not want to disturb the House. If you want a clarification, I can reply. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Yes, both of us were supporting Shri V.P. Singh's Government from outside. But did you not ask yourself – when we were sitting on the same side – why both of us were supporting the particular Government that was set up here? Why did we both support that Government when we had so much against each other? It was because that was the urgency of the situation. That was the requirement for the nation.

Do you not realise today as to why we are opposed to each other? It is because of your agenda. Shri Malhotra may tell us what is the Government's real agenda. I would like to ask the Government, is not dividing the nation on the basis of religion its main agenda. It has been shown

in the recent elections in different State Assemblies. Except Gujarat where you have fought elections on the dead bodies of innocent people, you have lost everywhere. Why are people so much against you if you are such bosom friends of their's? The people of Jammu and Kashmir have also given you their real judgement. With great difficulty, you have got only one Member – *ekamevam adwitiyam*. This is your position in Jammu. You have to survive as parasite of various parties and you only want parasites to be with you. This is the bane of this country.

I felt I should deal with some of the issues raised by our celebrated Deputy Prime Minister. Before I conclude, let me read the charter of commitments in the NDA manifesto. Shri Khaire is a party to it. It says that India shall be built by Indians, *berozgari hatao*, major growth by generation of gainful employment, a hunger-free India, food security for all, health for all, potable drinking water to all villages, eradication of illiteracy, primary education to be made free and compulsory up to class V, elimination of child labour, present day national charter for children, and comprehensive administrative reform. I would like to know which one of them has been done. I challenge this Government to tell us which one of your commitments – which are almost like Ten Commandments or probably little more – has been fulfilled. This is the position. You are giving us lectures on propriety. You are giving us lectures on democracy. You are giving us lectures on your commitment to the nation. There is a limit to joke. You play hoaxes with the people. That is why, the people outside are ready. They are just waiting for the elections to be held and to send you where you belong to.

As regards security position in this country, I am not blaming Shri Advani. But this Government has not succeeded so far in containing terrorism in this country.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, how much more time you would take?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I will take a little more time than my allotted time.

MR. SPEAKER : Your time is already over. Your Party's time is 45 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Somnathji started his speech in Hindi therefore that period of time should not be included. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That time should be omitted. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am ready to extend time if you speak in Hindi.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I can give you more time if you speak in Hindi.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I shall end with Hindi. Till then, you kindly permit me.

I am not blaming for the sake of blaming Shri Advani. I know they have tried to contain the security situation. Shri Swami is sitting here. He is a very loveable Minister. But I do not know how much power he has got in the Ministry of Home Affairs though. My good friend Shri Harin Pathak is doing some good work by trying to help the old pensioners. I am not blaming them. It is very difficult. But one thing I want to say is that till today you have not been able to eliminate terrorism. Contained you have some because the people of Jammu and Kashmir have shown exemplary courage. The people of Jammu and Kashmir have shown exemplary attachment to democratic rights and I salute the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the wonderful response that they had given when the call came for exercising the constitutional right. I was very happy. I had an occasion to go there alongwith the Members of the Standing Committee on Information Technology. We called a meeting there and so many people came. They said that you give us mobile telephone.

They want to come back to the mainstream, lead a normal life and participate in the industrial development of Jammu and Kashmir in the normal avocations of life. Then and there I had sent a FAX message to Shri Advani through the BSNL there saying, 'please consider favourably their request for mobile telephones'. I am thankful to Shri

Advani for his prompt reply. As soon as I came back I got his reply wherein he had said that the Home Ministry has cleared it and it is awaiting the clearance of the Defence Ministry. That is what is needed. But till today the situation is still grave. One has to remain extremely vigilant.

Sir, the same situation is prevailing in the North-Eastern part of India. On 14th of August there were two simultaneous attacks in the Khowai sub-Division of Tripura where 30 innocent people including 13 women were killed and nine people including five women were injured. I, at the request of the Chief Ministers and on their behalf, had met him. The Chief Ministers of both the States, of my State West Bengal and also of Tripura, had come here and requested the hon. Deputy-Prime Minister for strengthening the para-military forces there. They have drawn the attention of the Home Ministry to the inadequacy of the Forces there. I am not reading, for the sake of time, what all demands have been made by them. I earnestly request Advaniji, two hon. Ministers of Home are present here, to please consider their request for strengthening the para-military forces in the State so that the lives of the innocent people may be saved.

Sir, in regard to POTA what we apprehended has happened. I would like to know which incident of terrorist attack in this country has been prevented because of the promulgation of POTA? How many political workers have been detained? How many trade unionists have been detained? We were shocked when we found in one of the States, which is now having a close liaison with the Ruling Party here, strikes have been banned. They applied ESMA against Government servants. They had dismissed lakhs of employees. We had expected that the Government of India, at least Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, would say one sentence about those people, they are citizens of India, who were dismissed under ESMA. The right to strike is being banned. Now the Supreme Court has banned strikes. What is the response of the Government? Where is the Ministry of Labour? Has he fled? But not one word has come. Is it not shameful for a Government to have done so if they say that they are Government of laws and not of men? If it was so, then this Government should have condemned this misapplication of POTA and ESMA against

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the working class of this country. How would they have faith in this Government? Shri Swamy, how do you expect that the working class would trust you?

Sir, so far as the Supreme Court judgement is concerned – with all respect of the learned judge, we have said, I have also said – it is an unfortunate decision, a decision that only looks after the interests of the employers. The judgement has said that they should go to a Tribunal. Which Tribunal would they go to? Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have got vast experience. How many cases are pending in the Tribunals? How long does it take to decide a case if the workers go to the Tribunals? Most of the Tribunals have no heads. They do not function. For years together the workers will starve and they would have to wait for a decision but they cannot exercise their democratic and legal right of going on a strike. Is strike a daily phenomenon? Strike is the ultimate weapon in the hands of the working class when nothing else is open to them. That right is being taken away. This Government is so coward and so callous that for 11 votes here they are not opposing it and they have not said one word about it here. This is a senseless thing.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, how much time would you take?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I would take another five to ten minutes.

Insofar as unemployment is concerned, it appears from the Government records that every year the unemployment figures have been increasing. I have got the figures here pertaining to rural unemployment and with your kind permission I would lay it here. What can I do; I have no time to read them out. In there out of five years that it has been in power, the NDA Government has delivered less than five per cent growth. Agriculture has failed to deliver employment because there is no investment in agriculture. Employment figures reveal that the growth of employment has declined. Deceleration has gone up from 2.37 per cent per year in 1987-88 to 1.10

per cent in the period 1993-94 to 1999-2000. I do not know whether Shri Amitabha Bachan had these figures when he wrote that article. Of course, Shri Arun Shourie could have found them convenient.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai) : This is only in the organised sector; what about the unorganised sector?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : There is unlimited unemployment.

[Translation]

Leave West Bengal, they have nothing in their mind except West Bengal, what would they will do.

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Minimum wages in India are the least in West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Everything is bad there. For the sake of peace here, I would say everything is bad in West Bengal. But why do you not perform? Are you inspired by the Congress for non-achievement? Are you inspired by us for the purpose of unemployment? What are you talking? Please do not get nervous. Everywhere figures are there for every sector to show that this Government's achievement is zero.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition has mentioned insofar as corruption is concerned. I have to hurry through. She has reminded us about the petrol pump scam and about the gas agencies. Please remember, I may remind you that the Prime Minister announced – from his room of course; he did not come out and announce it – that there will be cancellation of these licences. We immediately said in the House that what he was doing was wrong because that was not the correct method of cancellation. They will go and get the stay order. Precisely that happened. Since then what has happened, Shri Malhotra and Shri Swami? Are they are enjoying it?

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Malhotraji was in favour. You are speaking about gas scam. But it was well

calculated to cancel the allotment and get stay from the Supreme Court. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Then you had your members in P.A.C., auction the allotment made in the Congress regime.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, Shri Malhotra, that is why you are wearing a black coat! . . .(Interruptions)

I thought in my future as a lawyer after I cease to be a Member of Parliament, which will be very soon, he will be my rival. But I find that it is a velvet coat and not a black coat!

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : A velvet coat with an American cut!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I would like to know whether they are enjoying or not these ill-gotten gains? The Prime Minister thought that they were improper allocations. I am an humble person; but the Prime Minister thought that those allocations were improper. But those allottees are still enjoying those allocations.

Tehelka is telltale example of not only the Defence corruption, but also decimation of a media house. How it has been treated in this country! Of course, the great Shri R.V. Pandit thought otherwise. He is not here. He cannot ever come here, I believe. The Government has circulated his report which mentions that. If the PAC report is true, Government thinks that this time people will forget it.

I come to the Women's Reservation Bill. Please give me a few minutes. I will have to hurry through.

MR. SPEAKER : You have taken almost one hour now. You can understand the time constraint.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We are all combined together. Why are you giving us the time party-wise! The Deputy Prime Minister was their opening bat, to be ended by. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Today all our Members have kept totally quiet.

On the Women's Reservation Bill, I would like to know from my friend, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, who is very affectionate and efficient, as to what happened to that Bill. Very recently I find her a little angry. Maybe it is a simulated anger, I do not know. Women's Reservation Bill is the only Bill on which there is so much effort for consensus. Which other Bill has been introduced here or brought here only after consensus has been reached? This Government is so concerned about consensus that it had to drag all of us to the Central Hall to pass that draconian law! This is their faith in consensus. Shri P.M. Sayeed presided over that in the Central Hall. You had that ignominy.

Saffronisation of education has been maintained. The whole system has been communalised. Then, there is this issue of Ayodhya. Suddenly cow slaughter has become an issue before the elections. It is a very convenient tool to rouse passions. Then, there is this issue of Uniform Civil Code. One stray observation of the hon. Chief Justice which was not germane for that case has now been lapped up. This Government is now so full of admiration for the Supreme Court because one learned judge has spoken, as a stray observation, that Uniform Civil Code should be there. Mr. Malhotra, it suits your party. Of course, once you take that up, then all the objections of these allies are gone. They have to enjoy the fruits of power till the elections are held.

Then, the NHRC is being attacked. Insult is heaped on it, on the Election Commission, on the C and AG, and on the PAC. The CBI is being misused. Mr. Speaker, Sir, such a long time is taken because I have only come to the fringe of their misdeeds. If I have to go through all these, it will take nearly two or three hours. I have to abide by your kind decision. I submit that all these issues show the utter incompetence of this Government. I feel great sorrow when I find some good people still sitting there. Why are they there? In the second bench, one is sitting. I do not know why he is there. Some are there. Even my good friend Arjun is there. Why are you there? What are you getting? You are spoiling your reputation. Come out.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

You should be with the people. People have jettisoned this Government.

I demand that in the interest of probity, in the interest of democratic polity of this country, in the interest of secular traditions, which are basic structures of our Constitution, it is high time this Government is sent out lock, stock and barrel. Let a people's Government be formed in this country.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMTA BANNERJEE (Kolkata South) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the No-confidence motion. I express my good wishes to all those hon. Members who have participated or will participate in the ongoing debate on no-confidence motion.

Sir, it is a tradition that the ruling party governs and since opposition is a pillar of our Parliamentary democracy, therefore, if it wishes it has the right to move no-confidence motion or adjournment motion. It can move either of these two motions.

I would like to say one thing on behalf of the Trinamool Congress.

[English]

On behalf of All India Trinamool Congress, I would like to say that we oppose the No Confidence Motion. It is because wherever there is no mission, wherever there is no vision or where there is no action or where there is inaction, our reaction is positive. We have seen so many Governments. Shrimati Margaret Alva told me that I was also in the Congress Party. Yes, of course I was in the Congress Party. My Party's manifesto is the Congress manifesto. You will be happy to know about it. Now also, I feel that I belong to the Congress family but not to that side Congress family. Our Congress is different. It is a grass-root Congress. We are anti-CPI(M) people. You have to appreciate that. . . .(Interruptions)

I have listened very carefully to all of them. I think they should not disturb me. If they disturb me, then, they have

to compensate their time to me. . . .(Interruptions) This is my only request to you, Sir.

Sir, for the information of Smt. Alva, I would like to say that we were expelled from the Congress Party. It was so because our relation was tough with the CPI(M). . . .(Interruptions) When so many workers have been killed and tortured, how do we go along with them? How do we adjust with the CPI(M)? We cannot. We have the political compulsion. We cannot go along with them. Now, you are made for each other. That is our problem. . . .(Interruptions) That is our basic problem. I respect Shrimati Margaret Alva very much because I worked under her. That is why, when she asked me to make the clarification, I made this clarification.

We are supporting this Government because we have seen how the other Governments could not last long after Shri Narasimha Rao's time. After the death of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the same thing happened. Of course, I have great respect for the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi now and it will continue for ever. In 1991, the Narasimha Rao Government was there. At that time, I became the Minister of State for Youth Affairs. I continued for one year and five months. At that time, there was no majority. The CPI (M) quietly helped them. We were so foolish at that time because we were not so mature. . . .(Interruptions) We did not understand things. There was the hobnobbing of the CPI (M) with the Congress. That was the reason why I resigned. Then, of course, we worked together. When Shri Deve Gowda became the Prime Minister, when Shri Gujral became the Prime Minister, we had seen that within two or three years, two or three Governments were toppled. After a period of thirteen months, only for want of one vote, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government was toppled. At that time, we thought that an alternative might come up. We waited and waited. Even today morning also, we had seen that on a particular issue, some Members walked out. Some people know about it. So, there is no unity in the opposition parties at all. Of course, in our alliance also, there may be some difference of opinion. Yes, our manifesto is different. We have some different points of view on some issues. . . .(Interruptions) In almost every State, nowadays, on one party rule is there. Coalition is the order of the day.

In the case of coalition politics, I must congratulate Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee because he has completed five years in office. This year also, he hoisted the National Flag from the ramparts of the Red Fort for the sixth consecutive year. . . .(Interruptions) So, what I want to say is that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has shown to the country, to the people that this side, the Government side, the NDA side is able and stable. But the other side, the Opposition side, is totally divided. They cannot accept a leader. They cannot pick and choose a leader who will lead the alliance. They cannot pick and choose a leader who will be projected as a Prime Ministerial candidate, who will lead the nation. Till now, there is no such thing in sight. Even in the near future also, it will be the same. Even after the next election, there will not be any alliance on that side. I do not know what will happen. Like *Bohurupi* – the rainbow – they may change their colours also. Madam, till you are with the CPI (M), we will not be with you. Please do not insist on this. Yes, we did adjust with the Congress in our last Assembly elections. In the year 2001, how had we been deprived? How did we been ditched? How had we been cheated? I am not saying about your national leadership. I am talking of the State leadership. After the joint signature also, they gave so many candidates. We have been cheated like anything. We tried our best. So, we must rectify all this.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Why do you ally with us? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mamtaji, you need not answer every question. You can just address the Chair. Let them speak.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He must behave himself first. I know him very well not for his political background but for this other background. He should not insist me to tell all these things. I do not want that.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb her. Let her complete her speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : I am not disturbing anyone, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : When you are speaking without permission, you are disturbing.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, this time I thought when the Gujarat issue was discussed, the Opposition may bring the No-Confidence Motion against the Government. But, they did not bring it. At that time, they brought a Motion under Rule 184. Even when the Ayodhya issue came, the Opposition did not move the No-Confidence Motion. It was done only to show the people soft *Hinduvta* and sometimes to show secularism. At that time, they did not bring the No-Confidence Motion. After four years what has happened now that they have brought this No-Confidence Motion? It is because they are keeping in mind 4 State elections which are coming and that is why they want to give a befitting reply to the Government. But I am sorry to say that today there are no charges which they have put up against the Government. There is nothing new. We discuss everyday regarding Gujarat. Gujarat has been discussed so many times. Can we not appreciate at least where appreciation is needed? One super cyclone which was a disaster for Orissa was helped by this Government like anything under the leadership of Vajpayeeji. The Government tackled all the situations like the Gujarat earthquake which was a major disaster, floods in Andhra Pradesh and drought in other areas very well. Of course, one cannot please everybody and whatever are the demands and choices of the Government, there may be some restriction for them also. Whoever is in the Opposition side will oppose the Government's view and whoever is on this side will oppose the Opposition's view. Sir, cannot I congratulate my Prime Minister and his Government for the Road Revolution? He has given Rs. 54,000 crore for Golden Quadrilateral Project and also for North-South and East-West Corridor. I have seen in my own State also. Excellent work has been done from South to North and from East to West. We have seen the Green Revolution earlier; we have seen the Telecom Revolution earlier. People will remember Vajpayeeji for his Road Revolution and his Prime Minister *Rozgar Yojana*, *Antyodaya Yojana* and so many other rural development programmes. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : She is not yielding.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can continue with your speech.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You can ask me the geographic boundary. I have visited all those States, including my own State. If you ask me, I can tell you the names of all the roads. You can challenge me on this floor. I am ready for that. You can ask me about any road of my State.

16.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : Mamataji, there is no Question-Answer Session going on here. You just address the Chair.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, in my parliamentary constituency, there is an Assembly segment called Sonarpur. It is a Scheduled Caste area. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi once contested an election from there. You can ask him whether I am saying the truth or not. It is a rural area. I know it very well because I visit every district, I visit every *mohalla* and I visit every block of my constituency.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Also every village.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Did you visit all the villages in your constituency? . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

We have confidence in Vajpayeeji because he led the coalition Government for five years and that coalition was needed for the country. We have been witnessing for last three or four years that elections are being held every year. The country can not function without stability. This is the reason why cross border terrorism has increased to such an extent. I would like to say that it is not for the first time that issues have been raised about defense deals. I do not want to discuss it as the Defence Minister will himself express his views about it. However, one thing is clear.

[English]

Sir, Soniaji also said – I appreciate that – that we are proud of our jawans. Everybody is proud of our jawans.

[Translation]

But it is very easy to say that we could not provide those equipments to our jawans which should have been provided to them. I would also like to know the reason for our inability to provide the same to them. But, we have also to look into the point that if such questions are repeatedly asked about defense deals, this may pose question on defense itself.

[English]

I am saying that everything is correct.

[Translation]

But, there should be a method. It relates to the country's secrecy.

[English]

All the important leaders from opposition parties can go to his chamber and they can see for themselves whatever files that are available with the Government on this matter.

[Translation]

Our discussions are watched by our enemy countries. It also demoralises our defense jawans. Have you ever thought about it? You talk of coffin. If any scandal has taken place in the procurement of coffin, it should be investigated and action should be taken. But, the fact is not so. . . .

(Interruptions)

[English]

I have confidence in all the political leaders here.

[Translation]

We talk of coffins, but no one thinks about those persons who go alive and are brought in coffin. I am shocked to see all this.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Why did you resign at that time? . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER (Serampore) : We shall also not allow your leaders to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, shall I say something? . . . (Interruptions) about those 34 cases? . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

On 14th of August, we celebrate Freedom Mid-night programme from six o'clock in the evening till 12 o'clock at midnight. I came to know about No-Confidence Motion while I was attending Freedom Mid-night programme. I was shocked to know about it.

[English]

I was shocked.

[Translation]

What is the timing? 15th of August is our Independence day.

[English]

14th August is not the appropriate time to give a message to the people of the country that we are moving a Motion of No-Confidence against the Government. The timing of the message is wrong.

Sir, I would like to quote only two lines from the Bible.

"There is a time for everything." That is one line. The other line is :

"There is a time for war, and there is a time for peace."

[Translation]

What is the message we want to convey? We issue whip. Cross border terrorism, terrorist attack on Parliament, the Kandhar incident, the attack on America Centre, the attack on Jammu Kashmir, Assembly, the killing of Civilians – was this the message which we wanted to convey.

The body of the soldiers is brought in a coffin. Our soldiers face bullets while we celebrate our festivals.

Jab ghayal hua Himalaya

Khatre Mein Paree Aazadi

Jab tak thee sans lare woh

Phir apni lash bichha di

Jo shahid hue hain unki

Jara yaad karo kurban

We pay our homage to the martyrs a day prior to our Independence Day. We do not support. No-confidence-Motion because its timing is inappropriate.

[English]

Secaue this is not a proper time.

[Translation]

The coalition politics will continue in the near future. Single party ruled the country for 45 years. But, one party rule will not continue in the future. Many parties will come together in the formation of future governments. At present, Vajpayeeji is the leader of 24 parties. Is there any other leader who has led even two parties? They do not want to even consider Soniaji as Prime Minister. If they think so, they should declare her as their leader. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

I am not telling the Members belonging to the Congress Party. I am telling it to other friends.

[Translation]

We have a coalition which is known as NDA. Vajpayeeji has emerged stronger after every No Confidence Motion brought against his Government. NDA will be more solid after this No Confidence Motion and in the next election.

[English]

There will be the numbers game, Shri Chatterjee, and no other thing. . . . (Interruptions) The NDA team will come to power. Nobody can stop it. You forget all these things.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

You mentioned about the economic problem.

[Translation]

By whom was GATT Agreement signed?

[English]

There are some problems. I appreciate that. The farmers are facing problems.

[Translation]

Our farmers used to export rice and vegetables to Bangladesh, but, now they do not get that opportunity.

[English]

There are some other countries – I do not want to mention their names – which want to capture our markets. Where will our people go?

[Translation]

So, when GATT Agreement was signed,

[English]

If I remember correctly, Shri Pranab Mukherjee was the Minister concerned.

[Translation]

The WTO Minister was called on the 18th as the homework was not done thoroughly.

[English]

I want to point out that especially the medicines have become so expensive.

[Translation]

Today, we should discuss the burning issues like the issue of farmers and the issue of unemployment. But, I want to say that all of us appreciate Jammu and Kashmir. . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mamataji, how much time do you need?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I have got extra time from NDA.

MR. SPEAKER : You have already taken fifteen minutes. How much more time will you take?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are providing her extra time not from her party but from NDA. So, please allow her to continue the speech.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : No one from my party proposed a name for delivering the speech, but NDA has proposed my name because we have such an understanding. The most notable achievement of the Government is that it has kept united the coalition Government for five years. The second achievement is in some other areas. Even the Members of opposition could not say anything significant.

From 1990 to 2001.

[English]

a decade of violence

[Translation]

occurred. During this period 13,326 occurrences took place. It may be a case of explosion or killing)

[English]

Tourists killed 3148; civilians killed, 9319; civilians injured 13,468; casualties – police and security forces 3053; explosions 4541; terrorists surrendered 3148.

[Translation]

But, even after that, the Government has conducted free and fair election.

[English]

We want to congratulate the Government and we want to congratulate the people of Kashmir for holding free and fair elections in the State.

[Translation]

Now come to unemployment.

[English]

These are very important matters. We would also like to put our views on unemployment and disinvestment because we are basically in favour of the working class. So, my request to the Government would be that instead of closing down units they should try to revive companies because there is a serious unemployment problem in our country. They should have some survival package.

At the same time, I would like to point out that the State Governments are facing serious financial crisis because many of the State Governments have borrowed money from all possible sources and now there is no scope for them to take any further loans. This is the situation as far as the States are concerned.

Why is it so? It is because the population is increasing like anything. We have to think in this direction. Our population has become sky high. After China, we are the second largest country in the world as far as population is concerned.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar) :
Now, we are the largest.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am quoting the Government figures.

The Census was started in 1881. As on mid-night of 1st February 2001, India's population was 102.7 crore.

[Translation]

It is 127.76 crore in China as in February, 2001.

[English]

As far as population is concerned, the first ten countries are as follows : China is first; then India; then USA; then Indonesia; then Brazil; then Pakistan; then Russia then Bangladesh; then Japan and then Nigeria.

[Translation]

Population is increasing rapidly.

[English]

Twenty per cent of the world's population is Indian population.

I congratulate the South Indian people as they have controlled the population, at least. But as far as Eastern India is concerned, the population is increasing like anything. I am not speaking here from any religious point of view or from any political point of view, but I am speaking as a citizen of this country. If we want to control the population in a proper manner, we have to take some measures in this regard. I feel that the Government has already set up a Population Commission. The Supreme Court has also given some verdict in this regard, but it is a different verdict. I feel, to control the population, the Government has to do something. It has to take into confidence the leaders of all political parties and has to prepare a plan of action. Otherwise, who will give the resources to so many people? So many people will have to be provided the facilities.

Here, I would like to say that blaming each other will not help. Someone blames the Central Government and someone blames the State Government. This way, naturally it will not solve the real problem.

[Translation]

Somnath Dada had concluded his speech. He said that we are here for power, but it is not a fact we are not in power in centre as well as in state, even then we are happy. You have been in power for 26 years. Despite being in power you are not allowing free and fair elections.

[English]

One Qutubuddin from Gujarat came to my State under CPM-sponsored team. I am happy for that. We welcome all the 'Qutubuddins' – because of human values. In my State there are more than one lakh minorities who are facing atrocities every day. If I ask them to come to Delhi to take shelter, will the Parliament give them shelter? Similar situation happened to our boys in Nannur. Eleven Muslims have been murdered. They are being kidnapped; and they are being threatened. Everyday witnesses are

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

unable to go to the court. These things are going on including the pregnant mother, including the Haji Sahib and others. . . .(Interruptions) Central Government must take care of them.

Minorities is a Central Subject. It is not the State Subject. Sir, the Minorities, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the women. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : If you do not go in for medical examination after rape, after 17 days, will you get the medical report? What will happen to the evidence? Do you want to suppress the evidence? In Dham Tala many women were raped. We know the law. I was the Minister for Women also. I worked for 1 year and 5 months. Within 72 hours you have to go for medical test, otherwise, there will not be any evidence. After 17 days, the National Commission went to Dhan Tala.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, I went to West Bengal. Where did the hon. Shri Somnath Chatterjee go when he was talking about Human Rights Commission; when he was talking about Best Bakery? At that time, what was he doing when similar incidents were taking place in West Bengal?

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down everybody. Everybody is requested to sit down. Nobody is allowed to interrupt now. Please sit down.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Now they are talking about Human Rights. You go to the West Bengal. They have killed the political activists there.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Eleven minorities were killed in one day in Shri Somnath Chatterjee's constituency. Can he deny that? Eleven Muslims were killed, brutally murdered in one day. What is going to happen? Is that a State Subject. . . .(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, you see their behaviour.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not take anything on record except the speech of Kumari Mamata Banerjee. Except the speech of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, nothing will go on record.

Please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Kumari Mamata Banerjee, please address the Chair. That is all.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Hon'ble Members, do not shout like this.

MR. SPEAKER : I have told them to sit down.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : When Somnathji was speaking for an hour, nobody interrupted there was a pin drop silence. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is very much relevant. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am there to decide whether it is relevant or not. If every Member starts deciding it, it will be a difficult situation. Please sit down now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : The atrocities on Minorities, on Scheduled Castes, on Scheduled Tribes and on women come under Central List and the Central Government is the sole authority to give protection to them. That is why there is a Minorities Commission.

MR. SPEAKER : Kumari Mamta Banerjee, your time is over.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, they are wasting my time. I appreciate one point made by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow her to speak.

*Not Recorded.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, just now I heard the speech of Shri Somnath Chatterjee regarding the working class and I appreciate that. I have also written a letter to the Prime Minister saying that it is not the verdict, it is an observation. But it is on a fundamental right. So, the Central Government has to take up the matter seriously in the appropriate forum so that it can be sorted out. But, Sir, while we talk something, we have to do the right thing and we have to say the right thing in one voice.

Sir, with your kind permission – it is a notification of the West Bengal Government – I just want to quote it. It is dated 31st December, 2001, much before the Supreme Court verdict. It bears the number 453/Home(Cons)/RIM (Con.)/942001. It says :

"The State Government observes with great concern that to register protest against any general a flimsy ground, road blockade, blockade on rail tracks, etc. are being put up too frequently causing great inconvenience to children, patients, . . .

Such obstruction to the vehicular traffic and movement of Railways encroaches upon the every democratic and human rights of a large number of the common people. . . ."

Further it says :

"It should be dealt with firmly under the relevant sections and provisions of IPC, Motor Vehicles Act, Calcutta Suburban Police Act, West Bengal Highway Act or any other law or subordinate legislation or order now in force."

Sir, it is a movement sometimes. If there is. . . .
(Interruptions) Nobody supports. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : SIR, they have grown up by these type of movements. . . .(Interruptions)
These people had emerged through these movements – road blockade, train *rotko*. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, if she has anything to lay, she can lay it on the Table of the House.
. . . .(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, what is this?
. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, I am reading the Circular. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No interruptions please. Let her complete.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I am not yielding.
. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is the offence in what she says? She is quoting from the Circular of the West Bengal Government. If that notification is wrong, you can always tell me. But why do you want to interrupt her? Please sit down.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I have a point to make.
. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : She has not yielded.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, we are not discussing the Government of West Bengal here. This is a No-confidence Motion, which is moved against the Union Government. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : In what capacity is he saying this?. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know, Please sit down.

Kumari Mamata Banerjee, how much time will you take? Please conclude now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I do not want to waste the time of the House. They are disturbing me.
. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : She is concluding her speech. Please sit down. No more wastage of time please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this going on? We expect a good behaviour from every Member. When the Chair is on his legs, you have to sit down.

Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I have no objection for raising that particular point which you are trying to raise. I can always understand that it can become a part of the present debate today but we have a limited time. So, I would request you to conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I do not wish to waste the time of the House because I know that there are many Members who would like to speak.

Why I am saying this is that basically we are not for this kind of rail *roko* or road *roko* agitation. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nobody should disturb her.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We do not like it. If there is a spontaneous incident, sometimes it is the people's movement and the people who come out. That is why, this circular, which was issued two years before, means sending the people to three years jail. You have to go to jail for three years. I said, "Do not follow double standard; do not be hypocrites." There must be one voice in whatever you say. There should be no two voices. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk) : Who is hypocrite?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What is this?. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Their hypocrisy has been understood by the people of West Bengal. . . . (Interruptions)
[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : If they are so much angry, then our views should have been heard first. When you started speaking first we said nothing. They said that they have lost their base. When they have lost their base then why do they cry? You can forward your views with regard to PAC's report.

[English]

If I show you the CAG Report, the maximum amount of rural development money is being misused. The CAG is giving the report. The PAC is giving all the reports. I want to say that this is an illegal notification for the detention

of the people. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please do not disturb her.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I want to congratulate Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee because now our foreign reserve is about 90 billion dollars. Maybe, it differs from day to day. The GDP growth rate is also about 6.8 per cent. In spite of odds, the instability, the Kargil war, earthquake, supercyclone and so many other things, of course, there is this stability. So, the Government is also facing trouble. All the State Governments are also facing the same trouble. But, as you are saying about the CAG Report and PAC Report, in my State also, I asked the PAC Chairman. I should not mention his name. He said, "I am asking for the papers, but they are not giving." So, in every State, always the PAC and the CAG give some reports and make some observations, but you did not implement them. I have the record. If the Speaker permits me, I will lay it on the Table of the House.*

At the same time, they are asking for a ban on cow slaughter. It is not in the NDA's agenda. Ayodhya is not in the NDA's agenda. The uniform civil code is also not in the NDA's agenda. That is why I am not talking about them. Shri Somnath Chatterjee said, "Where are you successful?" We are successful in implementing the NDA's agenda. You have to appreciate that. That is why I am telling you that whatever we have in the NDA's agenda, the Prime Minister never bypassed them. We appreciate and congratulate our leader, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

At the same time, I want to quote just one poem of Rabindra Nath Tagore. I am submitting the points regarding the slaughter of democracy to you because there is no time. Otherwise, I can give you thousands of examples. I have just to say this. Let good sense prevail on these people, especially the people on this side. Rabindra Nath Tagore, who fought for the country, wrote so many poems, but we love and respect this poem which is :

*As the Speaker subsequently did not accord the necessary permission, the documents were not treated as laid on the Table.

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high,

where knowledge is free, where the words have come out from the depth of truth,

where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls,

where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit,

where the mind is led forward by Thee into ever widening thought and action, oh my father, let my country awake."

We want to see that we are together. India is a vast country with a huge population. It is like a small sweet world. We want to stay together and work together. We want to see that our country's prestige remains sky high.

[Translation]

I want to recite a Sher, -

"Fanus banke Jinki hifajat hawa kare,
Vaha shamma kya bujhe, Jise roshan khuda kare."

You will never come in power. With this words I am grateful to you and the NDA for giving me more time to speak. Besides, I am confident that. . . .

[English]

this No-Confidence Motion will be bowled out by a big majority.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I also thank Shri Chandra Shekhar who permitted me to speak before him as his turn was before me. I sought his permission because I felt that I will be more relaxed after delivering my speech and will be able to listen to his speech peacefully.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the No-Confidence Motion brought against this government. The

achievements of the government in four years have been enumerated here. Before I start my speech, I would like to thank the hon'ble Somnath Chatterjee for giving his speech in Hindi for the first time on this serious debate and he spoke good Hindi.

MR. SPEAKER : He spoke in good Hindi.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Whatever letters etc. are written to me by Somnathji are in Hindi, I can show you all those letters. Probably he might have not written to you in Hindi but he writes to me in Hindi. I have shown these letters to Dasmunshiji also. I would like to congratulate him for it and would like to say that we have got the support at least from you and your party also and you have the support of Samajwadi Party and due to it the official language Hindi have been given due respect in this session. I thank for this. I congratulate Shri Somnathji for his good speech. The remaining part of his speech, which was in English, a foreign language, could not be understood by the public of the country listening to that speech. So some points of his speech could be repeated here. I will not repeat all those points. I would try to conclude my speech within the time period allotted to me by you. Perhaps I may take two to four minutes more. For this I may please be excused.

In the history of Democracy this is the weakest, most incapable and most directionless Government. This Government have blotted out the glorious history and great traditions of India. After independence, our country was highly respected due to two reasons, one was democracy and the other was communal harmony. This Government assaulted on both the fronts. Here this thing was very much advocated, Iron Man Prime Minister. . . . (Interruptions) I will give reply to it. Why do you speak? You do good by interruptions, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the time taken in interruption be excluded from my time. They could not come in power for 14 years but they are not taking lesson from it. You should take a lesson from it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister has mentioned about 500 Al-quaeda terrorists. He told that none of them has Indian Muslim. If there was no Indian Muslim then Hon. Prime Minister should state at the time

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

of reply as to how many Indian muslims have been booked under POTA and the number of such Hindus who had relation with Pakistan or foreigners and weakened the country. Was POTA used against them? That's why I am saying that democratic traditions and great values were set aside. Hon'ble Prime Minister says that he has tried to strengthen the democratic values and morality while in opposition for 40 years. I do not want to say more in this regard, but he should contemplate sincerely that during four years of his tenure all democratic traditions have been overlooked by this Government. I leave it to him. If he wants to have discussion on it I am ready for it on any other occasion because of time constraint today. But he himself and his Government has strangled his thoughts during these four years. He says repeatedly that he has done penance for 4 years. This is true but he has boasted about his diplomacy and foreign policy. I would like to ask him if his foreign policy has succeeded then how for his relations with neighbouring countries have improved, leave Pakistan aside. Had we not sacrificed our men and money for the sake of Bangladesh, were you able to make friendship with Bangladesh? See how they murdered our Jawans and threw them inside our border by hanging on twigs? Have we sustained our relations with Bangladesh? Do we have a cordial relations with Nepal? Maoists have spread terror there. All the weaker and smaller countries had a certain respect for India and had got support from India. Whenever human rights were violated, whenever they were trampled upon, crushed, India used to oppose it on international forum. It never considered it to be an internal matter of any country. It used to defend human rights. Is it not true that whatever little bit of democracy our neighbour country Nepal had, Maoist terrorists have abolished that.

16.39 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

What is said regarding human rights, what is your policy. There is a little country by the side of us called Myanmar where an elected lady Prime Minister is behind bars and you have your friendship with those rulers. Our

country used to fight for great traditions, democratic institutions, upholding our foreign and non-alignment policy and human rights on international fora, have they not defamed our country by doing such deeds? I shall say again that for our country this is the Government of national shame. Now this country can not speak against the violation of human right in any country, can not say anything. We know what is your compulsion. When I say that, Prime Minister threatens to resign – should we receive a threat like this? I do not want to ridicule the Government but his way of dealing things is not right. I just respect his age otherwise I would have told all the things. We respect him but would certainly like to say that the Government claims to have won against terrorism. The Prime Minister heads this department. Now the iron-man, the Deputy Prime Minister should tell about North-Eastern states. Do we not face a challenge for our country's integrity from the very fund we allocate to North-Eastern states for development and they use this money to procure arms from the foreign countries, to be used against us only?

Have you succeeded? Not only from North-East to Jammu and Kashmir but from Andhra Pradesh to Orissa and certain parts of Bihar and Jharkhand have become a breeding group for terrorism. Is violence not taking place there? Where is peace? You say that we are going to ask for vote from public on two grounds. Now itself you have proclaimed. Are you not doing a vote politics? You are politicizing the whole country. You have said that security of the country and development of the country, these are two points for you. You just tell where you have safeguarded the country. Have you not spoilt the Jharkhand? You just ignited the flaring point of pre-1970 and have created a havoc and massacre for those who had established their business, constructed their own houses etc. You have put whole Jharkhand on fire, as it peace? Next time you will do same more divisions. In the name of separation, the more states you divide, the more problems you create. There are many questions like that. This is our experience and we are suffering also. For how long we pulled on together. So many Chief Ministers came from that area and today you are sowing the seeds of separation. Now Nepotism and regionalism is taking place. That officer belongs to that place so we must favour him.

I have read all these applications. Today this kind of separation is being created. This all has been done within four years. Okay you can say that it was done with your support. Yes, we supported you but when circumstances changed, we did not support you. Probably you will say that Dr. Lohia had said so about common civil code in 1967, but that time it was another question in 1963. It was never same situation in 1967. Then Mosque had not been demolished. The Muslims of India were not terrorised in those days. Today they have a sense of insecurity that their religion, their place of worship and their mosques are not safe. We talk many things in the name of foreign countries but today we ourselves do not have any place of honour amongst them. On the Gujarat episode, Prime Minister had said himself that this is national shame and how I shall show my face in those foreign countries. But he supported the same incident here and when he was pressurised by USA and Britain from outside then he opposed whatever happened in Gujarat. These are strange traditions. What sort of a democratic convention is this that when one becomes Chief Minister then he makes a courtesy visit to Prime Minister. But despite the tyrannical attitude of the Chief Minister of Gujarat, the murder of humanity caused by him, the Prime Minister attended his oath taking ceremony. Had there been such a practice ever? That is why, I said that during the last four years you have again and again gone against the conventions of this country. The Prime Minister himself in independent India reached there. If someone recollect any such occasion when a Prime Minister would have attended an oath taking ceremony of a Chief Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA) : He is absolutely wrong. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji has not spoken such a thing about the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Mulayam Singhji you please tell the truth. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I, therefore, said that there had never been such a bad situation in the country.

You have completely failed on the front of foreign policy and diplomacy and so we can say that now the country believes that this Government is in dilemma. The people are prepared that they should get rid of this confused Government and the people of the country must get relief. This is a confused government. What more dishonour can this Government do to the country. The Prime Minister was the Mahanayak of Kargil, and as a Mahanayak he asked for votes in the name of Kargil, where our soldiers sacrificed their lives. This is true that the praise being expressed today sounds soft. Indian army is the most brave in the world. Our brave army drove away Pakistani terrorists and when Mr. Clinton visited India, in the Central Hall of Parliament he said that it was American pressure that made Pakistani forces to withdraw and at that very moment Mahanayak Prime Minister and Iron-Man Deputy Prime Minister were mute spectators. We were surprised to see that. . . .(Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the one hand disgrace was done to the bravery of our soldiers and on the other hand our Defence Minister kept on sitting without saying a word. We were already expecting such thing from America, but we were not expecting that the socialist Defence Minister of our country would become a mute. When Bill Clinton said that it was their pressure that forced Pakistani forces to withdraw from Kargil, our Defence Minister became a mute spectator, and we were not expecting this from him. I would like to know his reply. Defence Minister please respond, was it brave soldiers of our army that drove away Pakistani forces out of Kargil or was it American pressure that made Pakistani forces to withdraw. I raised this question in Lok Sabha also, but did not get a reply. I asked that who was right, Bill Clinton or you. This should be made clear. This country, people of the country and our army want to know.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I again want to say that. . . . So it will be better the sooner this country gets rid of this Government, I want to say that when in Pakistan a military General overthrew the elected government, why the Prime Minister of our country Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

[Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai Chikhaliya]

hurried first to congratulate him? The elected government in Pakistan was overthrown, the elected Prime Minister was imprisoned, Democracy was strangled, and on what basis the Prime Minister of our country congratulated Parvez Musharraf ahead of his taking oath. By doing so, did you not diminish the prestige of the country? On what basis you congratulated the persons who suppressed democracy, who slaughtered human rights before becoming Prime Minister? In your neighbourhood, democracy was suppressed, human rights were slaughtered and you kept watching as a mute-bystander? India has been vocal on national platform against such injustices, but no reaction has been shown since this Government came into power.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that when Parliament was attacked, our Government provided much security, when Kashmir Legislative Assembly was attacked, you provided much security, when Akshardham was attacked, you provided much security, when pilgrims were gunned down in Pahalgam, you provided much security, when the Red Fort was attacked, you provided much security, what an iron man, what a Sardar Patel? We do not want to use that language, but we know we do not want to tell those things. We have endured a lot the language and the style used by the BJP since it came into power.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even our parents were not spared of abusive languages. I want to tell that once a public meeting was to be held in Bulandshahar and Hon'ble Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji had to address it. There was a picture of mine kept in front of the dias. He said that first of all remove this picture from here and throw it away only then he would address. In Bulandshahar, my picture was thrown away and broken up by the officials. When the picture was got removed and thrown away and broken-up only then the Prime Minister stepped up the dias to address the meeting. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I came from Bulandshahar. This is completely baseless. Hon'ble

Mulayam Singhji has said this thing to mislead the House as well as the whole country. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, not only this House and the country but any person of the world who knows even very little about Shri Atal Bihari Bajpayee, he, too, will not believe this. It is totally false and baseless. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am an elected representative of Bulandshahar. I know that no such incidence has occurred. It is totally baseless. No one would believe this lie. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Pradhanji and Pathakji why did you stand up and why are you speaking. If there is any such thing, if there is any un-parliamentary word, then what for I am here. I will see to it. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : What do you count against the hon. Prime Minister?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Ashok Pradhanji, what is this going on, does a Minister speak like this? If there is anything objectionable I am here to see. Why are you getting disturbed? If there is any un-parliamentary word, I would expunge it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we do not want to create any fuss we have addressed the Prime Minister as 'Lauh Purush'. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Even five speakers have not finished their speeches in five hours. If it goes like this, how this debate would be concluded?. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We have addressed the Prime Minister as Lauh Purush. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : We are not ready to believe your statement, leave aside the Prime Minister, even the Deputy-Prime Minister cannot speak such thing. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If something objectionable has been said, I shall expunge it.

[English]

If there is anything un-parliamentary, then I will remove it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If there is anything objectionable, then I will expunge it. Why are you getting agitated, Shri Harin Pathak?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Ashokji do you want promotion? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : I want to say that such things have not taken place, please do not level such allegations. Mulayam Singhji, you are a very senior leader, it is not worthy of you to level such allegations. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Ashokji, please do not forget that now you are a Minister.

[English]

When he is not yielding to anybody, either from this side or that side, nothing will go on record except the person who is on his legs. It is against the rules.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, for heavens' sake, do not interrupt.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when the biggest temple of Indian democracy was

attacked, then the Prime Minister, immediately said that the water had gone over the head and ordered the army for the final battle. 'Lauh Purush' Prime Minister said that Pakistan would have to pay heavy price for this and deployed army on the border. The army was deployed on the border and it was ordered to be alert for battle. Thereafter, nothing happened. Are these two statements not contradictory? When we talk of contradictory statements you say what is the compulsion and when we say that these are our compulsions, then they threaten us to resign. We want him to continue because there is no other better option. . . . (Interruptions) At present, we do not enjoy majority. . . . (Interruptions) You do not have to decide it, we will decide, why are you anxious about that? . . . (Interruptions) Why are you getting upset? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is this going on, why there are arguments from both the sides without my permission? It is very difficult to control.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Please do not worry about it. . . . (Interruptions) Therefore, I want to say that if there is such type of Government and if it becomes a challenge for the self-respect of the country, then as per Chanakya, it is the duty of the vigilant public to throw such Government out of power.

I am saying it because it has already been said. . . . (Interruptions) I want an answer. Please listen to me. They do not have even the patience to hear my speech and they are having such a huge majority. I have already said that we respect your Prime Minister as much as you respect him. But, I am just reminding the style of his working and the dignity which he had maintained while he was in the Opposition so that we can remain safe. We people from the opposition are saving our lives so I shall tell about it also. I want to say that during his visit to China, the Prime Minister had said something in English which was heard by all our countrymen. Somnath Chatterjeeji did some good work and Mamtaji went away; she had also said something in Hindi and I think some more colleagues will express their views in Hindi. But the credit goes to Samajwadi Party and to some extent to Shiv Sena, but not

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

to BJP. The Swadeshi Jagran Manch went into oblivion. They do not love our country; they love other countries and foreign companies; they have love for power and they have love for the above mentioned things. . . .(Interruptions) So, I would like to say that when the Prime Minister visited China, then some hint was given in his speech; although people could not have understood Hindi. The hint was made about Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai and attack on Arunachal Pradesh. But, where is the security of our borders when our soldiers had been made hostages and their arms were seized. Our internal security is in such a pathetic condition in North East that the integrity of the country is in danger and the foreigners are also attacking.

I would like to say that he gifted Tibbet to China when he went on a foreign tour. . . .(Interruptions) Please listen to me for the sake of the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are disturbing the House so the time allotted to me should not be treated as 'spent'. If I exceed my time limit, you may get annoyed. It will be better if they hear me peacefully. I know your temperament and you also know about my temperament. So I would like to say that I want to produce the speech of the Prime Minister who has gifted the whole of Tibet to China on his visit to that country. Please look at this picture and try to recognize the person in this picture. I do not hate that person but it is his picture. I would just quote the speech of the Prime Minister delivered on the 17th of March in this House itself. This speech was not delivered by the Lahu Purush (Iron Man) but by the Prime Minister himself on 17th March, 1960.

'I think that security of India is connected with the autonomy of Tibet. If we can support the freedom of Algeria and if the Communist Party can take active part in it, then one should not raise his voice against the demand of granting autonomy to Tibet. But China claims that Tibet is its integral part. It is similar to Portuguese claim that Goa is its integral part. We can not accept the claim of China and Portugal. China has wiped out Tibet from world map. But I am pained to see that Tibet has been wiped out even from the maps published by India. China has wiped out Tibet from its map but is it proper on our part to wipe out

Tibet. I do not think this policy will produce any beneficial result for us. It is appropriate neither on moral grounds nor from the point of views of national interests or long term interests of India.'

17.00 hrs.

I would like the Prime Minister to clarify whether this speech is authentic or the speech delivered during his China visit is authentic. . . .(Interruptions) You had visited that country as the Minister of External Affairs. I would like to know your answer to this question also. . . .(Interruptions) I am saying so because I know about all of your policies. I say so because two different statements have been made. I do not to annoy you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to be brief in my speech, I would like to say something about our economy. It has been said repeatedly that we have become more developed and stronger. The data shows somethings different. We have slipped three steps downwards and occupy 124th position while we were occupying 127th position prior to it. Let us see per capita income. Our per capita income is even below Maldives and Sri Lanka of South Asia. . . .(Interruptions) We are even behind Botswana. How can one say that the country is becoming stronger economically? The fact is just reverse. It was rightly said by our leader, Dr. Lohia that the economic policy is the arm and the defense policy is the first of a country. If the country is economically strong, it will be strong in other aspects also. Only then, we can be able to defend our country. You praise the Government for the construction of roads. Our respected sister, Mamtaji has just told about it. We did not expect so much praise from her. She said that roads are being connected in all the directions. It is an act which should be appreciated and I am not opposing it. The roads should be constructed but I want to say that the construction of roads has enhanced your prestige in other countries because contracts for road construction were awarded not to Indian firms but to foreign firms. I want to ask two questions. Why did not the Indian Companies came forward for constructing those roads? Why are these roads being constructed by foreign companies and foreign engineers?

After all, what is its reason? I do not want to say its reason. I will not make allegations otherwise hon'ble Prime Minister will get annoyed. I can tell the reason but I do not want to say anything. I want to say that one kilometre long road is costing four crore rupees. I would like to know from the Government whether the money is being used or misused? For whom the roads are being constructed by the foreign companies and foreign engineers? These roads are for the imported cars. The Prime Minister has been provided a imported car. I can also have it, our people can also have it. We can also move in an imported car. I would like to say that these roads are not made for the common people. Where are the roads for the common man? How can a common man buy these imported cars? That is foreign. . . . (Interruptions) I can say that Indian engineers are better than foreign engineers. They can construct better roads than them. Why is it happening? I would like to know as to why the foreign companies and foreign engineers are constructing these roads? They are constructing one Kilometre long road for four crore rupees. We are in four of building roads but the money of the World Bank. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARBELA SWAIN : He has given its reply 50 times. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : He has a problem of rising. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARBEL SWAIN : You are speaking improper thing. Atleast, you should not speak improper thing. He has given its reply 50 times. What are you saying? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I seek cooperation of all sections.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Kharabela Swain, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If the main speaker does not yield, any interruption by any hon. Member will not go on record because that is contrary to the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not being allowed to speak for even half of the allotted time. I wanted to conclude early. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How much more time you still need?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I could have concluded my speech in 36 minutes but he wasted my 20 minutes. . . . (Interruptions) I can concluded earlier if you people will not interrupt in between. I am not against construction of roads. Foreign cars will fly on those roads but would you pay attention to the problems of villagers and poor farmers so that indigeneous cars can fly there. There are grave irregularities in this sector. The roads will be constructed from the tax levied on diesel and petrol and the day these roads will be completed the common man will be burdened with tax. Whether the work is being done properly or not, I demanded that a probe be conducted in this matter.

Now, I want to tell about the speech made by the hon'ble Prime Minister from the ramparts of Red Fort on 15 August. It was stated in that speech that the food-grain in plenty is available in the godowns of the farmers. I would like to ask two questions – first, why there are starvation deaths and secondly, why the farmers are poor? You have admitted that the farmers have increased their production but now this production is declining because farmers do not get the remunerative price for their produce. What led to the ruin of the sugarcane growers? The private sugar mill owners are paying the price of the sugarcane Rs. 30 per quintal less as compared to that fixed by the

*Not Recorded.

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

Government. The sugarcane has not been crushed so far. Until the sugarcane is not crushed, the factory will keep running. You go to the Purvanchal. Sugarcane crop is still in the fields. Similarly, the out standing amount of rupees 1100 crore has not been paid to the farmers so far. The farmers have been ruined. The Government which has ruined the farmers is a big criminal. Farmers were killed and bullets were fired at them. On the one hand ten lakh tons of food-grains kept in godowns got spoiled due to the negligence of the Government while on the other hand people starved due to utter poverty and committed suicide due to hunger. The wheat growers also face the same situation. Today, the potato growers are facing the worst situation. What you did for the farmers? Nothing has been done for the farmers due to which their production is declining.

This is also being considered whether the indigeneous or foreign firms can take the farmer. In this way also the farmers are being ruined. I do not want to take more time because I would also like to listen the speech of Chandra Shekharji. Hon'ble Prime Minister had assured that employment would be provided to one crore people very year. But, 50 lakh people are becoming unemployed every year. Our leaders had set up the industries at the cost of billions of rupees which were providing employment to the unemployed people but those industries are being sold at throw away prices. The problem of unemployment is aggravating in the country. Two Commissions—Ahluwalia and Gupta Commission—were set up by the Government. Both have observed people that the number of unemployed people is increasing by two crores and seventy lakhs every year. At present, 5-6 crores people are unemployed and by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the number will be 10 crores. Unemployment generates poverty.

Unemployment leads to poverty. How can unemployment be reduced? How long can you manage these unemployed youth? If you want to know our viewpoint on unemployment. We are ready to share the same with you. But it is your duty to provide jobs to unemployment persons and youths. Now instead of

providing them jobs you are retrenching employees every year. Where the employment opportunities are increasing? Rather it is unemployment which is increasing. It was stated in the Ahluwalia report that the Prime Minister's claim of giving employment to one crore youths would remain only a dream. Now they are saying that for the development of the country the Prime Minister had cautioned his Party leaders in Amritsar to be careful. We are in power because of temple and Ayodhya issue. We can not leave that issue. Did you hold any national debate in Amritsar? Didn't you tell this to your leadres? Today, you are in power because of temple issue and you cheated none other but saints. You had given the slogan 'Ramlala hum aayenge, Mandir Wanhi banayenge?' Is this the target for development? Didn't you rasie such slogans as the temple has not been constructed so far? I am not the only person who is saying this.

Shri Govindacharya, the Prime Minister's old friend had termed his announcement of giving employment to one crore youths as a mere farce because unemployment is on the rise.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Since Shri Govindacharya had spoken like that, he was expelled from the party. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : He was expelled. However, Shri Advani did not oppose the move. The Deputy Prime Minister should have opposed it. You had made a firm promise. You are in iron man. People compare you with Patel and still you did not oppose it. He was your friend. You would have settled the issue but he was ousted. . . .(Interruptions) It's true that he is a scholar. He had not fully catapulted the movement of Swadeshi Jagaran Manch to its desired height as yet he has been expelled from the Party. It seems that he is insignificant everywhere. Didn't you deceive him? We are not telling this. This is the statement of Ashok Singhal. He was made to give this statement. He is an iron man. The false statement and tactics of the Prime Minister shocked Mahant Ramchandraj, so much that the saint left us and departed for his heavenly abode. . . .(Interruptions) This is not my statement. This is the Statement of Ashok Singhal.

Hon. Minister of Defence is sitting here. Why are you talking hither and thither, Shri Nitish Kumarji?

Just think for a while, they are loyal to none. They will only use you. . . .(Interruptions). They ruled for five years due to the clout of Raja Bhaiya and Ashok Singhal ran the entire movement on the money funded by Raja Bhaiya's old father and today, he is in jail under POTA. . . .(Interruptions) Today's UP Government was made possible by Dhananjaya. Today, he, too, is in jail under POTA. Similarly, Vaiko who was an ardent supporter and by raising her finger at me he had called me an anti-national, he himself is in jail under POTA. But the leaders of DMK are doing nothing. . . .(Interruptions)

SHIR SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They are afraid.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Yes, they are afraid lest Karunanidhi should also not be booked under POTA like Vaiko. Therefore, I say that power is acquired through sacrifice and struggle. My friends of DMK please remember this. Due to one fear. . . .(Interruptions) Mamta Bhan has spoken a lot and George Saheb, you just think over it. You have seen yourself. Your Ministry was to be changed. It was because of the issue raised by us that it could not be changed and it would not have been just. If you work a lot they will change your portfolio. This Ministry will be given to the RSS. What will happen then? Now, they are abusing. They are doing nothing.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji, now please conclude.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the end, I would like to add two more things. I am pained to say that a girl was murdered in the constituency of the hon. Prime Minister. The case is being investigated by CBI and CBI is under the Prime Minister. CBI is investigating the true facts but I have got information that efforts are on to hide the facts. At present, I do not want to comment on that, I will speak on this later on. There is a big international issue involved, in it. I would like to submit before you in brief. A girl Madhumita was murdered in the constituency of the hon. Prime Minister. The name of two UP Ministers have also figured in it. In addition to

this, I would like to say one thing more. One foreigner is also involved in it. At some point of time, that foreigner used to organize one-day cricket matches and he also used to decide the venue of the match.

There is an International Cricket Council. . . * All this has been published in English newspapers and in other newspapers also. They had to take permission to organise one day cricket match here. . . * The news has also been published in newspapers. This is an international issue and an issue of involvement of two ministers in it. It is said that shooter be searched out. Would this direction be given by the Government? Now, It is heard that the shooter has also been killed, then how the evidence can be obtained. I would like to ask both the Prime Minister and the Home Minister to give orders to CBI. How many false encounters were done in Ghaziabad, everyone will come to know. This news has already been published in a number of newspapers and I am telling this from the same source. That foreigner would give permission to organise one day cricket matches. . . * and have been published in the newspapers. These are the conditions. Which direction you want to take the country to.

Similarly, I would like to say one more thing here. If that thing doesn't prove to be correct, I would express my regrets. The police was instructed to put all Amar Singhji, Akhilesh Yadav and me behind bars under POTA particularly. In the month of March Jaish-I-Mohammad Area Commander Manzoor Dar was encountered in Noida. In that, Head of the Delhi Government had given instructions and Mulayam Singh, Amar Singh and Akhilesh Yadav's names were also mentioned. By that time, the Home Minister had already received the required report from I.B. Whether the Home Minister is aware of it or not, I don't know. But I.G. is aware of that and everything. That report had come, the officer concerned has said that as I.B. has given the report given the report directly to the Home Minister, how the three, Mulayam Singh, Amar Singh and Akhilesh Yadav, can be put behind bars under POTA. A senior officer was sent to investigate. I want to put this fact before you. You please get it investigated. We are also

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

ready to meet to and discuss the matter with Prime Minister and the Home Minister. If it doesn't prove to be correct, we would express our regrets in this House. These are the conventions of this Government. I have talked about unemployment and farmers. But the matter of foreign capital is still there to be talked about. Finally, I would like to say to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji and to you that the promises which you made from Red Fort or from somewhere else, have not been fulfilled. I can point out those promises one by one, but as Hon'ble Deputy Speaker is giving me instructions to conclude, I would only say that if one is not true to one's words, he is the most serious culprit to Democracy. This Government has not fulfilled its promise, therefore, this Government is at fault of breaching its promise and we should immediately get rid of it. We want that this Government should go at once and this is the opinion we have.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was in 1962 when I first became the Member of Parliament. Since then almost 42-43 years have passed. But the unhappiness that I have felt today, has never been felt before. I had never thought that the proceedings in Parliament would reach to this level. I would not speak anything about any individual. Before taking up the matter of No-Confidence Motion, we have passed five bills in the one hour period. Out of these, two bills were related to constitution amendment. Both, the Government and the opposition are agreed to them. I don't know and even am not able to think that in whose favour I should speak. When I think about the condition of the country, I fully agree with each and every word, except the language he used, spoken by Hon'ble Somnathji.

17.22 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I know that today the country is passing through a state of poverty, helplessness and compulsion. I also know that we are under threats from everywhere. What to talk of big forces, even our neighbouring countries do not have a healthy attitude towards us. Under the circumstances, we

should have to look forward to mutual understanding, should have to talk about to work together. But it seems to be remote today. I am surprised, who no confidence motion was moved at this point of time? Why it was not moved when Gujarat incident occurred? Why it was not moved when there was a serious situation before us that there could be a civil war situation at any moment in Uttar Pradesh. I don't want to point out anybody because Hon'ble Mulayam Singhji has already given an indication in that direction. We are not raising any question to that. Why no confidence motion was not moved when disinvestment was talked about openly? In this very House, I had said that if you would accept an interference in economic matters then be ready to accept an interference in political matters also. At that time, I was taken lightly. Just now our friend Hon'ble Advaniji has praised Arun Shouriji. I have been very impressed by Arun Shouri and Arun Jaitely. I give much more importance to these people than they should have been given in Janata Party Government. But how people get changed? The asset, the country has acquired during the last 50 years has not been acquired by a Prime Minister's money or members of Parliament's money, which is being sold for nothing. Moreover, it is being sold as if it is a matter of great achievement. What is being said is that we are generating employment, creating avenues of employment. The Government Commission has said that if spinners are also included, 50 lakh people have become unemployed in Khadi Commission. Here, in the debate, nothing is done except marking allegations and counter-allegations against each-other. The question of poverty, unemployment is never discussed. I won't talk about the Policy on Agriculture, but despite all efforts our farmer is in a very bad condition today. Farmers is compelled to commit suicide. Many persons have repeated this issue. In Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab and other states which are developed in agriculture sectors, the farmers had no other alternative than to do so. I do not want to go in its reasons. We could not discuss it. At that time, Shri Shivraj Patilji did not move the no-confidence-motion.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We do not move No-Confidence Motion on such issues.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : You do not move No Confidence Motion on such issues and you moved it after four years and on such a subject and that too when PAC was not shown a report. You became angry when that report was not shown to you and it was said. Shri Somnath Chatterjee also said that it was a big blow on parliamentary institution, but there are some parliamentary practices also. Many a time, it so happened that if there is something serious in PAC report and if there is any objection from government's side to disclose its contents, then there has been a practice to show the report to the Speaker, the Chairman of PAC and the Minister concerned in the Speaker's Chamber. In this way, they used to solve the problem. It has happened many times. I do not want to disclose personal matters, but I talked to the Defence Minister and requested him to follow the said practice. He said that he was ready to show it. I asked the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee to see the report. He answered that the government was not ready to show it. The next day, when I asked the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee, he said something else. The Defence Minister told me that he said that he would not see it alone but the entire committee would see it. When I asked the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee, he said that he was ready to see it but the Minister was not ready to show it. I said to him. "Please accompany me. I shall request the Speaker and we shall call the Defence Minister also". But, he did not agree to my proposal at that time. I want to know whether the parliamentary democracy would function in that way? Are these our practices? Will the practices be followed in that way? I became agitated when it was stated in the other House that there was not any report of Vigilance Commissioner in the case of Kargil. Then a method was adopted to make it a tool to attract the attention of the people. I am pained to say that. Elections are to be held in four States. We are levelling allegations on one another thinking that it will benefit us in the elections. If it is the intention of moving No Confidence Motion then I can not support that Motion even when I agree with Somnath Chatterjee, Mulayam Singhji, and the leader of the Opposition. I can not support it as my conscience does not permit me to do so. Sir, when I came

here in the morning I was in a dilemma. But, do you think you are enhancing constitutional dignity by the way you have amended the constitution?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The Constitution (Amendment) Bill has not been passed; it has been introduced.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : It has been passed by Rajya Sabha. I also have some understanding. You boycotted that Bill. The Representation of the People Act has been passed. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I had told the hon. Speaker in the morning that it is not the practice and asked him to have a discussion. I had requested not to pass the Bill in that manner.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : You pass a Bill which is against the spirit of the constitution and you think that you are strengthening constitutional conventions. I do not want to discuss about the individuals who were in favour of it and who were against it. If I start naming them, it seems to me that we are slowly but gradually progressing towards ending parliamentary conventions.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Chandra Shekharji, I want to convey to you some information through the Chair. It seems that the present issue being discussed by you will create a situation of doubt in the country. The Bill mentioned by you was discussed and passed by Rajya Sabha and after that the discussion on that Bill was concluded in this House also. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad had taken part in the discussion on that Bill. He was requested to do so. It was for voting. So, it is wrong to interpret that a Constitution Amendment Bill has been passed. It was not a Constitution Amendment Bill and even otherwise a Constitution Amendment Bill can not be passed without division. It requires 50 per cent and two third majority. It was an ordinary legislation but it is true that it will have far-reaching effect because it was in regard to Representation of the People Act. But it was sent to Lok Sabha only when discussion and voting was complete in Rajya Sabha, moreover the discussion was also complete

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

in Lok Sabha. On the day when it was listed for voting, it was requested by Somnathji that voting should be held tomorrow. It was on the stage of voting and voting could have been conducted if they wanted any division at that time. so, please do not create an illusion that it was passed without any discussion. Complete discussion was held on that Bill in both the Houses.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have great respect for the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs but most humbly I want to tell her that I too know something about parliamentary practice. Your act does not become justified even if it was passed by Rajya Sabha. The second point is that even if constitution has not been amended by this Bill, the fact remains that if such a Bill is passed by parliament which is against the spirit of the constitution, then it is not permissible from the point of view of parliamentary convention, practice or rules.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Chandra Shekharji, much discussion has taken place against the time allotted in Lok Sabha.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Enough is enough. . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, this does not mean that if every Ministry rises then I would have to take my seat everytime. . . .(Interruptions) I am not creating confusion rather it is you who is creating confusion. You are deliberately breaking the parliamentary practice because you want to achieve someone's support. I do not need any support. I know how the parliamentary practice is being broken. I would like to urge you but pardon me that it has now become difficult to raise a question in the Parliament. Badal Sahib's son's house was stormed by the CBI. I do not know if he is a member or not. He is in Rajya Sabha. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Chandra Shekharji, I would like to speak on this matter for a minute. I am speaking so that there should be no confusion in the House. The House is discussing on the motion for

[English]

further consideration and passing of Representation of People Act moved by Shri P.C. Thomas.

[Translation]

Two hours were allotted for it and this matter has been discussed for 2 hours and 35 minutes earlier also. Reghuvanshi, in my opinion, was the last speaker and he stood to speak and the discussion was over. I have said this only to maintain correct record in the House.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Thank you for the information. But at that time too. I had raised the matter as to how the Punjab Police had raided the M.P.'s house but I sat down silently as I was not allowed to raise this issue. But I think that we are trying to let down the people of opposition parties and it is becoming a practice. I had heard about walk-outs and boycott of the Government in Parliamentary system but you have evolved a new practice of cooperation with the Government and boycott of a Minister. How far this practice is proper, only the House and the history will tell. Secondly, I would say to my friends that the coalition is very good. Malhotraji, NDA coalition is very good but there are some rules of a coalition. Coalition means to be unanimous on problems, programmes, policies and on speaking outside. But, I am sorry to say that in order to maintain the cooperation from their allies the Prime Minister and to a lesser extent our Home Minister, has to change his statements many times. This has not enhanced the respect either of the country or the Government and the parliamentary traditions. It will be good if we can detach ourselves from it. I want to say this only that I will not vote on this motion so that there may not be any confusion.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri George Fernandes.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been boycotting him for the last one and a half year. Therefore, we are boycotting today also. . . . (Interruptions)

17.34 hrs.

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon. Members then left the House)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri George Fernandes will speak now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are not right.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Silence, please, in the House. I have allowed Shri George Fernandes to speak on the Motion.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while moving the No Confidence motion against the Government, the hon'ble leader of Opposition discussed 8-9 points today in the morning. She started with the Defence. She not only raised one issue but raised many issues related to the Defence. Her first allegation was that we had endangered the security of the country and secondly weakened the National Security. With full responsibility I would like to tell the House that much better work has been done to strengthen the security of the country in the last five years as compared to the previous five years. At the time when we came to power allocation of funds for security had declined a little. I will not go in details in that regard but I would like to answer each question here.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount allocated for defence in the last five years by the NDA Government is many times more than what was in the previous years. We have given such an acceleration to the desired modernisation in the field of defence that today all the three wings of the Armed Forces are having the weapons of strategic importance which were not available previously.

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : The Defence Minister should give the allocation of each year percentage-wise.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot speak without my permission.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the Question Hour. A question about not spending enough money has been raised. The capital expenditure for the year 1997-98 was Rs. 900 crore whereas for the year 2002-2003, the current year, it has been fixed at Rs. 15,000 crore. Therefore, wherever the funds should be used, these have been used there. It is true that while allocating funds in the defence field the items to be purchased in that year or the demands made by the three wings of the Army are kept in the mind. The item which is required immediately cannot be made available at any shop or a factory. Two former Defence Ministers are present here and they are a witness to it and many such friends are also here who have served in the army. They know about this. Therefore, it should be kept in mind that we had allotted Rs. 10,000 crores for the AJT's and that money has been received back. Sometimes, problems are faced in many areas like in negotiating the price of AJT's and other related issues and sometimes someone else comes in between to sell his things saying that his product is superior to the others. Than once again a cycle in started and in this way a year goes by. This should be understood and it will not be proper to go ahead only on the basis of records and the figures given by someone and the comments of the newspapers on the issue. Therefore, again I would like to say that so far as the security is concerned, no one needs to be worried about it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I am not referring to any paper. We refer to the report of the Standing Committee on Defence. Whether the Government demanded money, without having any plan, did the Government not take note whether it could spend this money, did the Ministry of Defence not take note whether it could spend this money or not? On the one hand, not making demand for money, deficit is increasing and on the other hand, the funds allocated, the funds allocated for capital expenditure have not been spent due to poor planning and poor vision. Should we not draw a conclusion that what is being done in Defence is not correct.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has yielded to him.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : This is not a question of vision and planning. Vision and planning are proper. If the person, who is contacted in connection with the purchases, does something wrong, what vision and planning will do. Therefore, this allegation has no basis.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of Opposition had raised the issue of Operation Prakram and Hilkaka, and enquired about the terrorists movements as to when they came, when were they killed. I want to tell that the issue of Hilkaka is not a new one. The people who are familiar to the valley of Kashmir and that region, its geography, land and its difficulties, they know it. And who else knows the spots and places from where the terrorists can enter into our region better than the Army. Army is always on its toe and taking care of that. Hence, the incident of Hilkaka i.e. the operation that was conducted, was not a new one. The operation conducted in Hilkaka is a continuous process. But some confusions have been created in this regard. About 107 terrorists were killed in this area during the last four years and about 65 terrorists were killed during the recent operation. It means that during the last four and a half years period, we have succeeded in killing 172 terrorists there. But much has been talked about this and I do not understand why a feeling of so much anger has started taking place against the Army. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : This feeling of anger is not against the Army, but is against the Government. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : This feeling of anger is against the Army. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

THE PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : You are trying to twist the issue. . . .(Interruptions) You are trying to play with fire. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SEAPKER : Please sit down. You can stand up and make your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He is twisting the matter. He must withdraw that Statement. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shivraj Patil, there is a way out. He had made a point. If you do not agree with him, one Member of the party or the leader of the party can stand up and speak. I will permit him. He can make the position of the party clear. Please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am thankful to you. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have never criticised the Army. We have always praised it. We have spoken about the happenings going on in the Ministry. We have spoken about the Government. Please don't do anything that may mislead the country and the Army.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think that is enough.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the incident of Hilkaka is not occurring in the office, it is occurring in the hills.

MR. SPEAKER : Fernandesji, you played your role and he played his. Now you please go ahead and continue your speech.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Army. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, here the Standing Committee is being referred to again and again. Whatever he has said about the Standing Committee that is the half portion of it. The Standing Committee has said that since it takes time to make purchases and the funds don't get lapsed, budget

for Defence should be allocated for at least five years period.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can go ahead now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no further discussion on that particular point. Shri George Fernandes, please go ahead with your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was alleged that we have failed in protecting our borders and as a result of which the Kargil episode took place. If we have to think of the security of the borders we would have to go to the Simla Agreement. In the Agreement between India and Pakistan at Simla two officers of India and Pakistan determined their respective borders by drawing a line in ink on their territorial map. This line is passing through a stretch of 148 kms. long and at some places it is 15-20 kms. broad and at others there are mountains of approximately 12, 15 and 18 thousand feet height. Since the day the agreement was reached no Government did strive to translate the agreement into reality. Atalji's Government came into power but no such arrangement could be made. The Indian Army used to go there during summer season and return during winter. The same thing was done by the Pakistani Army also. This situation continued for 20 years. When Pakistan attacked Kargil, the Government said one thing again and again that it was an act of treachery on the part of Pakistan, and not only to this Government but to the nation also. For when the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, and Shri Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on behalf of Pakistan took the decision, Pakistan has somewhere gone against that, and as a result of it such a situation has occurred. Therefore, it is not proper to term this situation as intelligence failure or the failure of army.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Army had to listen a lot at that time. Everyone should be aware of it that how Pakistani television indulged in telecasting everyday our leaders'

voice and trying to demoralise our leaders and the army. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Why is he accusing us? Shri Subrahmaniam gave the Report, not the Congress Party. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can respond to his speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai, North-East) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when their leader was speaking we were not saying anything. They should also listen. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can go ahead with your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have not mentioned anybody's name. I have said that if the people here don't want to be aware of the fact now, don't try to understand the fact then the movement which was started should come to an end. It should not be allowed to continue. The things which have come here in connection with PAC. . . . (Interruptions)

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one question remained unreplied. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed him, you can go ahead with your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : You are allowed to speak, please speak. You need not hear him, I have not allowed him.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am speaking after 22 months.

MR. SPEAKER : If you think in that way, you should speak for 22 hours.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now I am speaking on PAC. I will reply each and every question raised in this regard. However, Hon. Chandra Shekarji has just explained about PAC, therefore, I need not speak much on that. Its true that Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari was the Chairman of PAC and when he started looking in to it then he had taken up this issue with me. The then speaker of Lok Sabha the then Chairman of PAC Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwariji and myself assembled in this room. While sitting here we had decided that the said report would be shown to him on a particular date. The date on which we were to meet that day only he was asked to go to the hill region. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He was sent to the hill region or made the Chief Minister. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Yes Sir, he was sent there as the Chief Minister and the issue ended up there, there after, demands were made for the report, now which report is being demanded. This issue was continuously raised in Rajya Sabha that how many scams place in the last 20 years. It was decided in 1989 that there would be no middle man but a number of midedlemen are there. The issue of a PIL filed in a court was raised time and again in the House then a demanded for all documents including the last one signed by me. I demanded for both CVC and CAG documents. They were asked to do whatever they wanted to see and take decision on that and submit the report and the same was submitted. That report is voluminous and while sending the report the CVC has marked it as secret. It is not for the first time, whenever the CVC has submitted any report, it has been marked as secret. Shri Atalji is not present here at this moment, sometime he was the Chairman of PAC and at that time the issue was not related to security but something else. Being

the Chairman of PAC he asked for that report. He was told that it would not be made available to him. He again asked for the same and he was told that it would not be made available and he did not get it. Today we are talking about security. I do not want to hide any thing. When some journalists came to me to talk about this issue I told them day before yesterday that for the sake of transparency I am ready to go to any extent. I am not going to hide anything. If anyone indulges in any wrong doing in the Ministry of Defence he should certainly be punished. I am not such a person to spare anyone. But he is sitting here who is my friend for the last 50-55 years. . . . (Interruptions) he is in a different party, I do not have any grievance against him, but the report that was sent to him was an abridged version. He did not show to his friends because that report was marked as secret. Since it was a secret report and he struck to the rule the rule I am sticking to and will continue to do so. But I told this publically the days before yesterday that I do not have any objection if all the reports that of the past are made public. I am ready for that. . . . (Interruptions) I am ready to make all reports beginning with the report of Anderson Group public only when some new rule is framed. There is provision in our rules in the rules of this House which report can be made public or not. If some question is raised about it, you say that it will not be made public. At the same time the person putting question is given some information. Generally this process goes on continuously and that is why today I have to hear this that I am hiding the report. In the evening of the last 15th there was a rumor in the Rashtrapati Bhawan that there thousand crores; one is born as yet who can bribe me. I have fought against corruption throughout my life and today I have become corrupt. I have spent 35 years in this House. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Why all of you are standing please sit down?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Jadhavji, please sit down, your Minister is standing. Others too please sit down, you need not speak on every subject. Minister will deliver speech.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let him come out with facts. . . .(Interruptions) Let him not pretend to be a holy cow. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand why you are all agitated. The Minister has said that nobody can purchase him and he is against corruption. What is wrong in it? if he has said anything wrong. I can remove it from the record, but he has not said anything wrong so far.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ananth Kumar, you were a Minister also. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Shri, he cannot behave like an extraordinary holy saint teaching us. . . . (Interruptions) He cannot pretend like a holy cow. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is for the Minister to say what he wants to say. He said that nobody can purchase him. I do not think there is anything wrong in it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can please go ahead.

18.00 hrs.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed the hon'ble Minister to speak. He is presenting his points and you should let him do so. Why are you disturbing him?

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of the opposition and people surrounding her are

repeatedly raising fingers regarding coffins inside as well as outside the House.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : It is the CAG Report. . . .(Interruptions) The CAG has made it clear. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After the Minister, Shri Jaipal Reddy is going to speak.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The basic question is about the CAG.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have faced such difficult situation. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Everyone should cooperate because I want that the Minister should complete his reply properly in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The whole issue started in 1995. Our 11 officers and Jawans were killed while our Army was in Somalia of North Africa on a peace keeping mission in 1995. Their bodies were brought to India in such a casket which was very strong and without any defect. While sending the casket the Commander of Indian Army, posted there wrote a letter to the Officer in his department. It was stated there that much honour is given to the martyrs in the Western countries while in India no such things happen. He wrote this letter to an officer and the process started from there. This pertains to 1995. This process ended in 1999. This agreement was signed between an American firm and the officers from our Army after discussion on this issue. A director gave clearance to it as it involved rupees 1 crore 70 lakh. He signed on it. After that order was placed. 18 kg. weight was written there. It must have been of 18 gauge so it was made 18 kg. Its price in the agreement was around US\$2600. I saw all this on that day when allegations were levelled against me in the House and it was said that this Government is

[Shri George Fernandes]

making money at the cost of lives of our Jawans. I challenge the leader of opposition to come up with proof. . . .(Interruptions) I challenge everyone to come up with proof. You can bring the proof till tomorrow evening. . . .(Interruptions) Do you have the courage, human pursuit and honesty to speak to me? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the leader of Opposition has not said even a word against him. . . .(Interruptions) Why CAG report is like this—Explain it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I challenge you to give proof till tomorrow evening. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, why is he confining himself to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi? He should confine himself to the CAG Report. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, will this lie prevail in the House. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Our leader has not said any such thing. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : He is quoting CAG report. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Georgeji, they are asking for CAG report from you.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, with all his might, he can question the CAG and he can castigate the CAG also. I am so clear about this. . . .(Interruptions) This is deplorable. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, he is a Minister of such a high standing, questioning the observation of the CAG in public under his political programme and now he is passing on the buck to us. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please, sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : They could not find anything in PAC, therefore, they played politics and said that the report is not being given. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kiritji, sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Let him say whether the CAG report is right or wrong. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is not right. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : If they have honesty then they should come up with proof till tomorrow evening. . . .(Interruptions) Whatever they want, we are ready to give. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will come to the point of CAG Report. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Minister, you please speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, we have the equal right to ask him. If he does not stick to the issue of CAG Report, he has no business to question the Opposition? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is coming to point. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot ask the hon. Minister what he should speak. He is making his observation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, nothing has been found there, that is why these people are making such noise. . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, the hon. Home Minister did not take the shelter of a friendly journalist, Shri Pandit, to justify his innocence against the CAG. It is he who has done this. He has the capacity to do it. Let him say this. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have to conduct the business of the House. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERANDES : Let me tell about the story of CAG Report also. The CAG Report was presented in the House one 11th December, and the same day there was a row in the House. On that day only I came to know that some thing has been purchased by our Army. Lalji told me that there was pandemonium in Parliament and our Party is holding a press conference at 3 o'clock. You please go there and make the things clear. I asked my office as well as the Defence Officers. I got a small note only and I had no information as well. Since, I had got no information. I could not say anything there. The next day, when it was published in newspapers there was a din in the house on that day also. The day ended and some other thing had happened the next day.

What is the truth, I made a quest for that. In the process, I made available all the documents that were not of a secret nature to the journalists who demanded and even to those also who did not ask for them. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Not to all the media persons, but to the selective ones. . . .
(Interruptions)
 He gave it to his journalist friend, Shri Pandit – whose son,

Shri Pandit, is a lawyer from London – to monitor this. This is the procedure. This is the transparency. . . .
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

The CAG Report, as per rule, should first be submitted to the President. From there, it comes in the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry of Finance sends it to the Parliament and from there it reaches to the Ministry of Defence. But in the case of this Report this procedure was not followed. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South) : Under which rule, is he on the point of order?

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted a point of order to be asked. I have permitted a point of order. The Minister may please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, please sit down. There is a point of order, I will have to listen it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I am raising a point of order on a Constitutional issue. C and AG is a constitutional agency. . . .
(Interruptions) This has been mentioned in the Constitution because all the accounts of the Government have to be examined by C and AG. That is why it is an independent body. It is a Constitutional body and what it says has to be treated with respect it deserves. The Government's side is coming and attacking the Constitutional body which is not there in the House to protect itself. This matter should not be allowed there. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me decide his point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not said anything against C and AG. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : The hon. Minister has not said anything against C and AG.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I have raised a Constitutional issue, if they have any objection to it, a proper procedure has to be followed. There has to be a Substantive Motion before the House is order to criticise what C and AG is doing. If he is not speaking against C and AG under the Substantive Motion, he cannot criticise this body like this. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has not said anything against C and AG. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Will you allow me to speak or not?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shivraj V. Patil has raised the issue.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not said a single word against C and AG here. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let me complete. He has raised that issue and this issue can be raised if at all there is a criticism against the body. He has not completed his sentences. He has only said that this particular procedure has not been followed. I am going to ask him how can he say this. Let me ask him.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I said that what is the truth. After finding the truth, I informed everybody about that and when this report came, it was published in the 'Times of India' on the very first day. The next day the report was laid on the table of the House. Pardon me, the day it was

published in the 'Times of India', very same day it was laid on the table of the House. I raised this issue with the Editor of the 'Times of India', His letter States :

[English]

"Dear George, I have been travelling and was unable to respond to your note earlier. I have read Mr. Pandit's pamphlet and the extensive documentation it has cited. However, insofar as the *Times of India* coverage is concerned, I would like to make the following points .

- (i) The time of December 11 was based on a forthcoming report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General who, as you know, is a Constitutional authority in our Governmental system. Since the C and AG has the authority to access most Government documents and is seen as an impartial figure, we do not normally question his Reports which are tabled in Parliament.

We simply reported what the C and AG has said. However, we also carried an extensive report on the front page of our newspaper on December 13, which contradicted the points made by the C and AG. I am attaching copies of both to you." . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I had raised a point of order. You have said that you will note it and then you will give a ruling. Now, the point has come. What the Minister in essence is saying is that the Report has been given to the media by somebody in C and AG. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has not said about the source. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, let me tell you, he has not said from where the Report came. He has not said how this Report came to the newspaper. He has only read the letter and I do not think there is any point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, C and AG is a constitutional body as you are a constitutional body. This Parliament is entitled to protect the constitutional body. As

you will be protected. C and AG also will be protected. What is the insinuation in this statement? The insinuation is that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : There is no insinuation. There is nothing. . . .(Interruptions) I am always direct. I call a thief a thief. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : If this kind of discussion can take place without a substantive motion, the aspersions can be cast against the C and AG, against the Government. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has not cast any aspersions. No aspersions have been cast.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : As Shri Chandra Shekharji has said, protect the constitutional body. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I am on a point of order.

I am quoting Articles 150 and 151 (1). Article 150 says :

"The accounts of the Union and of the States shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, prescribe."

Article 151 (i) – this is most important in the context of what Shri George Fernandes has said – says :

"The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament."

It means that the C and AG Report goes to the hon. *Rashtrapati* and then it comes to the House. According to the apprehension of the *Raksha Mantri*, either it has been leaked by the C and AG or by the *Rashtrapati*. Sir, you give a ruling if that is insinuation or not. If it is leaked by the C and AG or by the *Rashtrapati*, a substantive motion should be brought. He cannot make aspersions in this

regard. . . .(Interruptions) Both are the constitutional heads. One is the agency and the other is the Constitutional head. He must spell out as to whom he is doubting. Otherwise, it cannot go on record. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am giving my ruling on the point of order raised by Shri Dasmunsi.

Article 150 of the Constitution says :

"The accounts of the Union and of the States shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, prescribe."

Article 151 (1), which Shri Dasmunsi has read, also needs to be read. It says :

"The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament."

If there are any aspersions in what the hon. Minister has said, I would have definitely objected to them. But I have heard what he has said. After hearing him, I do not think that he has said something against the C and AG, nor he desires to do that. And if he desires to do that, I will definitely stop him from doing it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

Sir, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of Opposition has come just now here, therefore, I want to ask a question from her. She has started this campaign for the last two years. With regard to the purchases made by the army, she is raising this issue at every level. Sometimes she raised this issue before the election and sometimes after the election and inside the House also. The final letter might have gone from the Ministry, and it must be. But as this purchase has been made by the Army, the Leader of Opposition has alleged that some officer of the Army made money out of this deal. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He does not know that the Minister has the accountability to the House and not the officer. . . .(Interruptions) He is passing the buck to the bureaucrats of the Defence Ministry. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I want reply of this question. . . .(Interruptions) Who took money and who made money out of the deal? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Why are you trying to blame the Army? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete his speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister complete his speech. Thereafter, the Member from your Party can also reply and put the points to him.

[Translation]

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (Meerut) : The enquiry could have been conducted outside the Ministry. Why did you involve the Ministry. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I have permitted the Minister to make his observation. He is making his observation. After that, whenever you get an opportunity, you can reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

Mr. Minister, you can go ahead.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Don't take this matter lightly, it is a question of blood of Jawans. . . .(Interruptions)

I have spent 37 years in this House. I have not been here to suck the blood of Jawans but to save this country from the thieves. . . .(Interruptions) and to stop the wrong thing wherever it happens. . . .(Interruptions) I am a man who works for the benefit of Jawans by risking my own life. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are charging the Government, the Ministry, the Minister and his office. We are not charging the Defence Forces. Let it be very clear. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Whom are you charging then?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are charging the Minister and his office. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : They themselves do the wrong things and blame Army for it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please co-operate with the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It will be decided in the House only. . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a Member of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let me listen to him please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : But when he is misleading, we are objecting. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your position clear now.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, I have been a member of this House for the last 37 years. But in the last two years. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is wrong in it. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have been a member of this House for last 37 years what is wrong in it? Please sit down. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have been witnessing since last two years that. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : If you have courage, impose the charges directly. . . .(Interruptions) Once you impose charges you will be sued for defamation. (Interruptions) But they are not naming anyone. (Interruptions) Every time they level false allegations. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been speaking on this issue for last two years. . . .(Interruptions) Every time it is said that we are making money at the cost of blood of Jawans. . . .(Interruptions) This allegation has been levelled on Atalji, the same allegation has also been levelled on Advaniji and so far as I am concerned, such allegation is levelled on me everyday when I come to this House, I hear nothing but word 'coffin', 'coffin'. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Is he above all these charges?. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand why every hon. Member wants to participate in the manner in which he is participating. I am now addressing all hon. Members. No hon. Member should speak unless the hon. Minister resumes his seat. I have permitted the hon. Minister to speak. The hon. Minister has every right to say what he has said just now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You are making a gross mistake when I say that Minister has stated only that he has been a member for 37 years, then what is wrong in it, why do you stand up.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted only Mr. George Fernandes, the hon. Minister to speak. Only what he says will go on record and nothing else would be taken on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a member of this House. For the last 22 months. I have been hearing an allegation levelled against me that my government and I have made money in the purchases of coffins at the cost of the blood of Jawan. . . .(Interruptions) If I have done such work, I do not deserve to be a member of this House any longer. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you that. . . .(Interruptions) as the rules of the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If there is any allegation made without any basis, I will remove it from the record. I will expunge it from the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. The hon. Minister is making his point. Please let him continue with his speech.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister do his job. How you can do it.

(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. The hon. Minister is capable enough to put his points before the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will remove from the record all the allegations which have no basis and which have not been proven.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shivaji Mane please sit down. Let there be discipline in the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard, the whole country heard, whatever discussion is going on here is being listened by the country. The whole country has heard that George Fernandes has taken bribe while purchasing coffins for our jawans. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you that. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The relay to television should be stopped.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are not ready to listen to us. They have been making various allegations since morning. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you that. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Before that I want to tell the House that all are aware that it is being telecast live on television.

The whole country is watching it on television. The members should behave like members. If leaders of the country behave like this, what the people of the country will think about you? I request all of you that everything should take place in a smooth way here. What is going on here, is not a good thing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. If you want that the business of the House be conducted, please cooperate. I request the members of both the sides that

[English]

the Minister is on his legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : When I speak, will you also speak that time? What do you think of yourself? Please, listen to me.

[English]

So, let the Minister speak. The Minister is speaking in the House after a long time. Let him make his point clear. Do you not understand that the Minister has every right to speak in the House?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted him to speak. Please listen to me. Fortunately, the Members are cooperative. Let the Minister complete his point of view. I have no objection it from the Opposition side also a few Members speak and put forth their points after the Minister complete his speech. But he has every right to speak. So, please allow him. My request to every Member of the House is – I am not referring to this side or that side of the House – not to disturb him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to disturb him, then it is very bad. Please do not do it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the business of the House be conducted smoothly. This is a debate. The people of our country are wise enough to know who is doing what and, therefore, we need not tell the people of our country. They will understand who is right or who is wrong. It is for you to put forth your point rightly before the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I am standing here. Do you not understand that the Speaker is standing and speaking to you?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, if there is anything unparliamentary and abusive in nature, then you are free to expunge it from the record. This is my appeal to you. . . .*(Interruptions)* I want to say this much only. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whoever does not want to listen to the Hon'ble Member, he may leave. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all of us are in favour of the No-Confidence Motion. Since he is telling about himself that he does not deserve it and if we say the same thing, there should be no objection to it. He can definitely criticise this and anyone can respond to that. We are not able to stand with you today because you are not listening to us properly. We have been saying this since yesterday. Allegations have not been made yet. He said that he did not deserve it and false allegations have been levelled against him. In this, what are you worried for? Jaipal Reddyji is going to speak, Dasmunshi will also speak, tomorrow this and that will speak. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji, I thank you for this, because your point is correct.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please keep silence.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The relay of television may be started.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Let the Hon'ble Minister speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view what Mr. Mulayam Singhji has said, as well as your request, I would like to say that we have to follow certain rules in this House. Under those rules, there is a provision to punish the culprit. If anybody has told a lie in this House, rules are there to punish the person. If I tell a lie, I may be given punishment, if the Leader of the Opposition has told a lie, she may be given punishment. You call and listen to both of us. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, what is it that the hon. Leader of the Opposition has said which is untruth? . . .*(Interruptions)* It is not correct. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing about.

[English]

'Probity in public life'. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has not said a single word in her speech which is not correct. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : This is also a necessary thing. This is not in our Government, this

[Shri George Fernandes]

thing has come from their side. I have been fighting against corruption through out my life. I have suffered a lot for that, but I have never withdrawn and will never withdraw.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two ways to fights against corruption. A question was raised when I was in the other House, Dr. Manmohan Singh was there to whom I had said that first, the person should have such patriotism in mind and also some deterrant should be there, only then that person would not do a wrong thing, would not indulge in corruption. Or such law should be there which can take care of it. We make much hue and cry about corruption, that will do nothing. But here what has been said is about Probity in public life. I would not like to say anything about that. But our Government is making efforts in this direction and has been launching legal proceedings against culprits for a long time. But some difficulties are being faced in such legal proceedings. We have noticed that all these things cannot take us to the ultimate stage of uprooting corruption. Therefore, in this matter I would only like to say that the House has adopted various resolution. If such resolutions are moved from your side, it may be possible that they leave an impact on some people. In this regard, I would like to State as to where this corruption can take this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the former Ambassador of USA in India Shri Daniel Patrick Moynihan has written a book 'A dangerous Place', in which he has shared some of his experiences. It is written in the book that the CIA had made certain efforts to plant on Atomic device at our Himalaya about which Government of India had received an information. Much controversy was raised on that. Another similar effort was made during the Prime Ministership of Late Morarji Desai. The then Prime Minister said some things on that and this Ambassador had expressed some objection to that and some things had happened. In the book, he says—

[English]

"... In 1974 Mrs. Gandhi was still making speeches about the ever present danger of subversion by the

CIA, whilst I was meeting with the relevant Indian officials about our common interest in China.

In New Delhi I had pressed the Embassy to go back over the whole of our quarter-century in India, to establish just what we had been up to. In the end, I was satisfied we had been up to very little. We had twice, but only twice, interfered in Indian politics to the extent of providing money to a political party. Both times this was done in the face of a prospective Communist victory in a State election, once in Kerala and once in West Bengal. . . ."(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI Sir, it. was challenged in public by every section of the society and now, he is taking shelter of . . . (Interruptions) at the behest of United States of America. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Therefore, I am telling as to what extent corruption can damage country. I am not levelling any allegation on you. . . .(Interruptions) I am not levelling any allegation on the leader of opposition. I am only reminding them of history as to where the corruption can lead the country. . . .(Interruptions) All of us should think over this. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, this is not fair. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, has he given notice? . . .(Interruptions) Sir, will it go on record? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, this book was condemned by everybody and he is now taking shelter under a book written by the Ambassador of USA. . . .(Interruptions) What does it indicate? . . .(Interruptions) It indicates that Government is acting at the behest of Washington and not at the behest of . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would conclude my speech after speaking on two-three points. I have a book in my hand. . . .(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am on a point of order.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is a point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He has exposed himself as to on whose behest he is working. . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am on a point of order. I am reading Rule 352(ii). . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, I am not making any allegation. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : You are making an allegation against the party that it took money. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I read from a book and that is all. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : That is how you made an allegation.

Sir, I am reading Rule 352(ii). It says :

"A member while speaking shall not."

Sir, it is not 'may not'.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : This book is from Parliament library. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, Rule 352(ii) reads :

"A member while speaking shall not make personal reference by way of making an allegation imputing a motive to or questioning the *bona fides* of any other member of the House unless it be imperatively

necessary for the purpose of the debate being itself a matter in issue or relevant thereto;"

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please let me listen to the point of order.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, he is reading a book to allege against the Congress Party that the money was given to the Congress Party. Is it not an allegation? Sir, have you received a notice? Are we informed about it? Will the House and the floor be used for this kind of a thing – to malign a party, to malign a Member, to malign the people who are not here, who have died and gone? These types of things are being done. Sir, will you allow this thing to be part of the proceedings?

Again, I am reading Rule 353.

"No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person unless the member has given adequate advance notice to the Speaker"

Sir, have you received the notice? It further reads :

"... and also to the minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make an investigation into the matter for the purpose of a reply."

Has the Home Minister received the notice to investigate into this? This is applicable not only to the individual, but this is applicable to the party also. If you want, I can read it all from this book

Sir, I want that you should give a ruling on this point. On this point, the rulings have been given by other Speakers. Sir, you yourself have very kindly given a ruling expunging all such remarks from the record.

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard the Point of Order.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when in the morning the leading of Opposition had levelled

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

so many charges against the Government at that time why Shri Shivraj Patil did not tell about this rule. Then I had told him about this rule that no charge can be levelled against the Government, party or the Minister. hon. Minister of Defence has not levelled any charge against any one. He has cited the example from a printed book. How can be raise a point of order on that and how can it be treated as a allegation on any one? . . . (Interruptions)

How can they object to that?

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, this book is from the Parliament House Library. It has been there for the last 30 years and more. . . . (Interruptions) You see page number 41. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : There are books against the individuals, and against the parties. We can bring those books and we can also read them on the floor of the House. If it is allowed, this floor will be used for all these kinds of activities.

MR. SPEAKER : Fortunately, the rules on this issue are quite clear.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two points. I would like to request the leader of Opposition that. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you speaking on the Point of Order?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Then please sit down. The rules, fortunately, on this issue are quite clear. The rules have been read out by Shri Shivraj V. Patil. Fortunately, on this issue in Kaul and Shakhder – fifth edition in page 921 – they have more specifically cleared about the allegations

made in the House. Firstly, the Member should give adequate advance notice to the Speaker and the Minister concerned. Secondly, the details of the charges sought to be levelled should be spelt out in precise terms and should be duly supported with requisite documents which should be authenticated by the Member. Thirdly, the Member should before making the allegations in the House satisfy himself after making enquiries that there is a basis for the allegations. Fourthly, the Member should be prepared to accept the responsibility for the allegations. Fifthly, the Member should be prepared to substantiate the allegations. The rules are clear. This procedure has been made clear by Kaul and Shakhder, and if you find these rules, the rules are also clear that any allegation made by the Member should be specific and such allegations must be substantiated.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me give the ruling. When Shri George Fernandes read some material from the book, he also said that he is not making allegations. The portion that he found from the book he quoted here and if that portion is not in the book then I can ask him to authenticate it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. If he is making a specific allegation, then he will have to authenticate and say that he is making these allegations. While speaking Shri George Fernandes said that he is not making allegations. He read certain portions from the book. I will go through it and if I find that there are allegations against a political party or against an individual, I will see to it that those are removed from the records. Shri George Fernandes, you can go ahead.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Thank you, Sir. I would not take any more time of the House. I am grateful for the time that has been given to me and for the patience with which the hon. Members have heard me.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make only one request to the Leader of Opposition that when we have to fight

against corruption then she should extend her cooperation in the extradition of Quatrochchi to India. It will help in the completion of a task which is pending for quite long time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my another request is that it is a book written by Shri B.N. Tandon. He was the Private Secretary of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. This book contains full information regarding. Pre-emergency scenario. I would like that a CBI enquiry should be conducted in this regard. Then many things may reveal out of it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, this time it is the Opposition's turn. I have checked in the list.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you are right. It is only because Shri Chandra Shekhar spoke immediately after Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : No, Sir.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, it is not proper.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Malhotra, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy will speak now. Thereafter, you can speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Janardhana Reddy, there is nothing, before the House, so please sit down.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet) : The hon. Defence Minister was telling. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted you to speak. Shri Jaipal Reddy will speak. I have not permitted you to speak, unless it is a point of order. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Sir, you have said that after the Minister's speech, you will allow the Members, if there are any clarifications.

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Jaipal Reddy and not you.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : After Shri N.D. Tiwari, I was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. I had inherited this episode. In my office, I was told that if the Defence people did not want to show the record in public, they would show it to the Chairman as an exception. this precedent is there even when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jaipal Reddy, would you like to speak or not?

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : They have given a note to me and it is there on the record.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not permitting anybody to speak, except Shri Jaipal Reddy. You have made your point.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : It is such an important thing, but he has misled the House. I was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I can understand what you to say. You are a senior Member, please sit down.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I think, he is very much right. He was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. You said that after the Minister's speech, if somebody wants to make a valid point, he would be allowed. He was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and he wants to make his submission.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : There are many former Chairmen of the Public Accounts Committee in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted him to speak. Shri Janardhana Reddy, when return of your party will come, then I will allow you to speak.

With the permission of the House, I will extend the time of the House up to eight o'clock.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : I am not taking your time. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : We, ten Members of the Public Accounts Committee, have given notices to you. If you are going to allow him to say something about the Public Accounts Committee, then, we would also like to say something about it.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted him, unless he has a point of order. Otherwise, he will speak when his turn comes.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : I will take only two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : How can I give you two minutes time? Please understand and please sit down.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : This is an important thing.

MR. SPEAKER : In the House, everything is important; nobody speaks unimportant things here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Jaipal Reddyji, why are you not speaking?

[English]

Why are you not speaking Shri Jaipal Reddy?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jaipal Reddy, if you do not stand up and speak, I will have to announce another Member's name. You will have to speak now.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the No-Confidence Motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. This I do, not in a desiccating debating mode but with a view to conveying one consuming concern to the people outside about the numerous shortcomings and atrocious wrongdoings of this Government.

Sir, the most cardinal aspect of this Government in my considered view is its fascistic character, and the fascistic character has two faces: One is the Hitlerite face, as part of which certain groups are targeted, which is now called

ethnic cleansing; the other is the nakedly corrupt and brazenly authoritarian aspect. Today, I wish to deal with the second aspect, namely, the outrageously opportunistic and oppressive nature of this Government.

For want of time, I will not deal with the first face. This is a Ministry which is held together through a mighty chain of mutual blackmail. You have Ministers who are facing charge-sheets and you have Ministers who are facing gave charges. They are holding one another to reciprocal ransom. That is the secret of the numerical strength of this Government. This is a scam-ridden Government. The scams have been enumerated by our leader in the morning. I do not want to go into all that. They are monumental and multitudinous. For want of time, I propose to focus on one or two such things.

Nothing illustrates the degeneracy and depravity of this Government as Tehelka expose. This expose produced the effect of an earthquake in New Delhi on March 13, 2001. The epicentre of this earthquake was the NDA and it produced many tremors. First, it was a culture shock. I am referring to all this because the memory of the people is short and the memory of leaders of the NDA is even shorter. Therefore, I would like to recapitulate some of these basic facts. I want to refresh their memory.

National leaders were seen accepting money literally on camera. That was a culture shock. Second, it engulfed so many parties and so many personalities. It looked as if – I am not alleging, please do not refer to the rule that Shivraj Patilji referred to – all the top guns of NDA were on sale on a bumper discount. They were all on sale.

Shri Bangaru Laxman taking Rs. 1 lakh is a shocking casual – I am sorry not casual – visual. It may be a very casual thing for them.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Shivraj Patilji, please make him also understand the same rule which you were making us understand.

[English]

Tell him also about the rule.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am referring to facts. It was a shocking visual which the nation cannot forget but the leaders of NDA are doing their best to forget. It is an exercise in self-deception on their part. It looked as though the official residence of a Defence Minister was the beehive of brokers, middlemen and agents. It looked also as though the procurement agencies – please note, Sir, I am not referring to the Defence Forces – of the Defence Ministry were steeped and soaked in corruption. I do not want to hurt our Prime Minister. I also hold him in high esteem. But, Sir, I do not respect personalities beyond a point. I respect facts. Facts are more sacred than personalities.

19.00 hrs.

The videotape records contain pregnant references to the Defence Ministry, Finance Ministry, Prime Minister's Office and Prime Minister's foster family.

Sir, what was the fallout of these tremors? Shri Bangari Laxman had to resign as the President of the leading party of a Central Coalition; the President of Samata party, Shrimati Jaya Jaitley had to resign. May I also point out that the PMO was criticised by none other than RSS Chief, Shri Sudarshan at that time? May I refresh your memory? . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, what type of reference is he making? He is making references of Shri Sudareshan, a person who is not here. . . . (Interruptions) . . . He is making a wrong statement. . . . (Interruptions) He has not given any prior notice to refer to those names. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am not making any allegation. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . . (Interruptions)

He is referring about a Judicial Commission which is already investigating this particular episode. . . . (Interruptions) Once, Parliament had already decided to appoint a Judicial Commission and which is going on, how can he refer all these things?

[Translation]

On one hand Judicial enquiry has been initiated, simultaneously the Commissioner has also started its investigating into the matter how can you discuss that issue here?

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am not making any allegation. I am referring to allegations made or criticisms voiced.

May I also tell you, Sir, that the PMO was criticised by Shri Bal Thackray, the Shiv Sena chief in 2001? I say everything here with full sense of responsibility. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : I would like to ask my colleague Shri Jaipal Reddy as to why has started giving much weightage to the respect of hon. Bal Thackray? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am complimenting him. Shri Bal Thackray, on this occasion, appeared as a crusader against corruption like Shri George Fernandes has been. . . . (Interruptions) Shri Bal Thackray and Shri George Fernandes have been great crusaders against corruption for all these decades. In that very complimentary manner I am referring to Shri Bal Thackray.

MR. SPEAKER : Your complimentary manner is different from others.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are praising their leaders, what objection does he have? Shri Bal Thackray is speaking correct, Shri Govindacharya and Shri Ashok Singhal, Shri K.S. Sudarshan all of them are speaking correct. We are praising them. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Reddy, please go ahead.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : My sister Kumari Mamata Banerjee is not here. She resigned from the Ministry demanding that Shri George Fernandes be ousted.

I would like to state one thing in all humility that the Congress party. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI SOMAIYA : Shri Jaipal Reddy should also tell as to what he had said when he left the Congress. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the Congress party in the wake of *Tehelka* expose demanded the resignation of the entire Government. I would like to tell everybody here that we did not demand the resignation of Shri George Fernandes. We demanded the resignation of the entire Government, while Kumari Mamata Banerjee demanded the resignation of Shri George Fernandes. All the leading national Papers, through their front page editorials, demanded that Shri George Fernandes be dismissed. This was not our demand. Our demand was that Shri Vajpayee's Government should go. Our demand was not that Shri George Fernandes should go.

Sir, ultimately, Shri George Fernandes had to go. Our Prime Minister is a great political naturopath. He knows as to how to administer the medicine; he knows how to get the focus diverted, and it was diverted to Shri George Fernandes.

Sir, Shri George Fernandes, on his own, taking a high moral ground – I wish he were here today in the House and said: "I will not come back until I am eronerated by the Venkateshwami Commission. He misused the forum of Doordarshan. I am sorry I got it converted into *Prasar Bharati*, its continues to *Prachar Bharati* of BJP. . . . (Interruptions) Sir, we did not ask him to make this

commitment. We were asking for an enquiry by JPC. This Government, in a clandestine, surreptitious, conspiratorial fashion appointed a Judicial Commission. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (Darbhanga) : I am on a Point of Order. I do not understand some of the words he used. . . . (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, at least ask him to make it easy so that I can understand. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

He is using such words from English which are not understandable. I have also studied in English medium school but I am not able to understand. . . . (Interruptions) Please ask him to use simple words.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I uphold your Ponit of Order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I can ask him to use simple words.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : He should not use such humogous words that we do not follow. He should speak in a little easier language so that I can understand.

MR. SPEAKER : It should be taken in a lighter spirit.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : This is my request, and I am sure that he will accede to my request.

[Translation]

Hindi Interpreter.

[English]

Is not able to do it. I cannot understand his English. I tried Hindi interpretation, Hindi Interpreter could not interpret. So, Sir, how can I understand as to what is going on in the Parliament? You kindly look into the matter. It is a very serious matter. We also heard his views with regard to Bofors. He also knows to how to change things – changing from one party to another in Parliament. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

He should teach us the qualities he possesses.

[English]

So, he must also tell us his idea. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kirti Jha Azad, can you guide a bowler as to how he should bowl? It is for the bowler to decide.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that he should speak in a simple language. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I agree with you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am recalling that the Congress Party and the entire Opposition asked for an Enquiry by the JPC. The Government, in a unilateral fashion, decided to go in for a Judicial Commission.

Let me refer to other aspects. The PMO did not remain unaffected by the tremor. There were allegations against two officers in the PMO. Ultimately, Shri Brajesh Mishra survived by the skin of his teeth, and Shri N.K. Singh had to go out as a part of a compromise between the RSS and the PMO. I am recalling the facts. If the facts are very harsh, I cannot help. . . .*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : What is your business to bring RSS here?. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the resignations of Shri Bangaru Laxaman, Shrimati Jaya Jaitely, Shri George Fernandes, and the exit of Shri N.K. Singh from the PMO were all calculated, and calibrated concessions to an inflamed public sentiment of the moment. They were never designed to do real justice. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Whoever speaks without my permission, is not shown in T.V. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Therefore, I would say, Sir, it is not only a story of bribery; it is a story of trickery, it is a story of treachery, it is story of tyranny. . . .*(Interruptions)* I will come to that, Sir. In the meantime, 9/11 took place; the World Trade Centre was struck; the Pentagon was struck by terror. It was a terrible, terrible bane for America and the world. But may I also tell you that it was a terrific, terrific boon for Shri George Fernandes! What was a bane for the world turned out to be a boon for Shri George Fernandes.

Lo and behold! Shri George Fernandes returned to the Cabinet and Tehelka became a George-centric issue. Who made Tehelka a George-centric issue? It is the Prime Minister of India who by taking Shri George Fernandes into the Cabinet has made Tehelka a George-centric issue. Shri George Fernandes does not even know who his enemies are. Of course, we are his enemies. But he has many in his own ranks. Anyway, this is that happens to all those who conspire with the fascist forces!

When Shri George Fernandes returned, what was the impression? Every leading newspaper wrote about it. I did not bring them because I did not want to waste the time of the House. Shri Advani's latest intellectual icon is Shri Amitabh Bachchan. Unfortunately he is not mine. I can read the editorials whose writers are not necessarily my intellectual icons. Almost every newspaper condemned the reinduction of Shri George Fernandes. It is not only a case of condonation of corruption, but a case of coronation of corruption; I repeat, it was a case of coronation of corruption. It signalled sanction for shamelessness. It is an epic example of enthronement of effrontery!

Sir, let me come to facts. Let somebody stand up and deny the contents of the Tehelka videotapes. Have they been denied by anybody? Again I am looking for Kumari Mamata. Poor Mamataji, who left at that time, has since been cooling her heels, has been left out in the cold, while

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

Shri George Fernandes re-entered the Cabinet quietly. Shri Bangaru Laxman admitted to the contents. Shrimati Jayaji admitted to the contents. The Army officers admitted to the contents. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions) I would like to refer to Rule 352(ii) at page no. 133. It says :

"A member while speaking shall not make personal reference by way of making an allegation imputing a motive to or questioning the *bona fides* of any other member of the House unless it be imperatively necessary for the purpose of the debate being itself a matter in issue or relevant thereto."

Simultaneously I would like to refer to sub-clause (x) of the same rule, which says :

"A member while speaking shall not refer to Government officials by name."

The hon. Member has referred to Shri Brajesh Mishra by name. Simultaneously he referred to Shri Bangaru Laxman also and made an allegation. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is describing some matter which according to him, is a fact. You can always dispute if you do not agree that that was a matter of fact. Apart from that, no such allegation was made. About Shri Brajesh Mishra also, whatever he has mentioned, he said that it was a fact, according to him. He has not made any accusation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : But he cannot name the Government official. . . .(Interruptions) It is very clear that he cannot name the Government official. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If any Member is making an allegation against an officer, this rule is applicable. I would still request him to refrain from mentioning the names.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I will take note of your request.

Nobody, who figured in the video tapes of Tehelka denied the contents as such. They have been trotting out hypothetical excuses but none of them contradicted the basic facts. I have got great respect for Shri George Fernandes. I have known him for more than two decades. But I do not take anybody's integrity for granted because the proof of integrity lies in transparency. When a Minister refuses to be transparent, when a Minister indulges in obstinate opacity, that is the proof of lack of integrity. I am not making any allegation.

Let me refer to what Shri R.K. Jain, the then Treasurer of Samata Party said. Shri R.K. Jain claimed, maybe falsely, that he had spoken to the Defence Minister, Shri George Fernandes about the purchase of Barak Missiles. . . .(Interruptions) And, Shri R.K. Jain admitted that Shri Suresh Nanda gave Rs. 1 crore by way of bribe in connection with the purchase of Barak Missiles.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was nothing like this in cassette. R.K. Jain had said that Defence Minister George Fernandes will not take about money. If any one will talk to him, he will be get him out. It was shown in the cassette. Hon'ble Member is delivering false statement in the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the point I am making is, I do not know about the character of Shri R.K. Jain. I do not know him from Adam but I am only speaking from the contents of the text of the video tape of Tehelka company. . . .(Interruptions) Shri R.K. Jain said that on his representation to Shri George Fernandes, Shri Fernandes overruled the advice of the then Scientific Advisor, Dr. Abdul Kalam, Dr. Kalam's advice was overruled. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad) : If they had a little bit of moral courage, they would have tried to know the

fact. . . *(Interruptions)* Jain had said that George does not touch money. . . *(Interruptions)* What Jaipal Reddyji is saying is not correct. His position has become awkward and it is unfortunate. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is not my contention that the Minister cannot overrule the advice of any Scientific Advisor however legendary that Scientific Advisor be. That is not my position. My question, however is as to, how Shri R.K. Jain came to know about the manner in which the advice of Dr. Kalam was overruled by Shri George Fernandes. I would like to know it, Sir. How this wonderful character came to know of this highly classified secrets? Everything in the Defence Ministry is secret, but nothing is a secret for middlemen and brokers. They are however secrets for Parliament of India, Public Accounts Committee. How did Shri Jain come to know that Dr. Kalam's advice was overruled? Dr. Kalam advised on file that Indian variant 'Trishul' would serve the purpose. I am not saying that he was necessarily right or wrong.

But how did Shri Jain Know? Shri Jain says. . . .
(Interruptions) He was not then the hon. President of India.
. . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, please expunge the name of Dr. Kalam.

[English]

Sir, he has mentioned the name of Dr. Kalam thrice. It is not proper. It should be removed from the records.
. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will go through the records and whatever is unnecessary I will expunge it from the records.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I would not mind that. I have no particular insistence on it. . . . *(Interruptions)*

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : Sir, the references to Shri Brijesh Mishra should also be deleted. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, Shri R.K. Jain says that he paid a visit to Moscow in regard to purchase of MAPO MIGs and before that he talked to the then president of the Samta Party, Smt. Jaya Jaitely. After some hesitation, he was permitted to go by Smt. Jaitely.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, I am on a point of order.
. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the point I am making is that whether Shri R.K. Jain made the right claim or not can be verified from the passport of Shri R.K. Jain.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : He is giving wrong statement.

SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR (Mangalore) : Sir, All the matters related to Tehelka is before the commission. How, he is speaking here on this subject.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Yes, one can speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not question anybody's integrity. But I would like to put questions and seek clarifications.

Shri, Shri R.K. Jain admitted that he had received one more crore of rupees from Shri Suresh Nanda in regard to the purchase of 250 Armoured Recovery Vehicles and he says on record that there were three bidders. One was a Czechoslovakian company, the second was a Polish company and the third was a Slovakian company.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, George Saheb is a socialist. He even does not touch the money. They are levelling false allegation.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, they are giving false statement in the House.

SHI ARUN JAITLEY : George Fernandes is an honest person. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the Government can clarify this. Shri Jain says that on his speaking to Shri George Fernandes, Shri George Fernandes was good enough to ask his Private Secretary, Shri Rajiv Gobha to speak to the Military Attache in Prague who said that this company was closed. Then Shri R.K. Jain claims that Shri George Fernandes wrote in the file to the Joint Secretary, 'do not consider the offer of the Czechoslovakian company because, according to his information, the company was closed.'

MR. SPEAKER : How much more time will you take?

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am not saying that all these are true. . . .(Interruptions) All these facts can be corroborated or contradicted. . . .(Interruptions) I am not yielding. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : If you have a point of order, then please address to the hon. Speaker. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, all these facts could have been denied, if untrue, by the then Defence Minister Shri George Fernandes and the present Defence Minister, Shri George Fernandes. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am only asking you about the time. We have a limited time. Your party's four other Members may not get time to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the price of the Polish company was lower than the Slovakian company, yet the Slovakian company was given 50 per cent of the orders.

All this was stated by Shri R.K Jain on the tape. How would I know? According to the tapes, Shri Surendra Sulekha, an industrialist based in Kanpur. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : His party has the time. If he speaks and exhausts the whole time, the other Members of his Party may not get a chance to speak. I have cautioned him; it is for him to decide. His Party can ask only one Member to take all the time that is allotted to it. You go ahead.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He was the person who took the representative of the Weston Company to the residence of the Defence Minister. According to the tape, Shri Surendra Sulekha says he has brought money for the Party. . . .(Interruptions)

I am dealing only with Tehelka, PAC and CVC. I cannot deal with everything. I am referring to the transcript. Nobody has denied that Shri Sulekha visited the Defence Minister's residence. According to the *Dainik Jagran* news item, published as far back as 16th June 1998, Ms. Jaya Jaitley visited his residence in Kanpur.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are names of 15 Congressmen in the report of Tehelka. There are names of persons sitting here. Will the names of all be read. . . .(Interruptions) There are names of 15 Congressmen and also contain the list of other parties and opposition. Will the discussion be held on Tehelka? A Commission on it has already been set up. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am dealing with that aspect. You have not permitted a discussion on Tehelka for so long. That is the reason why we have brought this Motion. We do not want any Minister to say his or her record is wonderful. Your record must be transparent. It should not be shrouded in secrecy. It cannot be backed up by empty boasts. . . .(Interruptions)

There were news items in the *Navbharat Times* and the *Dainik Jagran* in March 2001 about how Shri Surendra

Sulekha got contracts of Rs. 14 crore within days and weeks of Shri George Fernandes becoming the Defence Minister. I am not making an allegation. It could be a classic case of commercial co-incidence. I know Shri Arun Jaitley is getting ready to argue about his case of co-incidences. According to the *Dainik Jagran*, Shri Surendra Sulekha's company was blacklisted. His company was fined Rs. 3 lakh. In spite of that, that company got the Defence orders. That is because the Defence Ministry is very transparent; the Defence Minister is honest; he is one man who has been in Parliament for so many years. I respect him. But I would like to seek a clarification on this.

Sir, I received a letter from Shri George Fernandes. He wrote to me addressing me as "Dear Jaipal", with great affection. I thank him for the affection he showed in the letter.

This was a letter written by Shri George Fernandes, commending to us a book written by Shri R.V. Pandit. Shri R.V. Pandit in that book demands the resignation of the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Defence Minister of India commends that book to all of us! I am not quarreling with the facts and formulations. We can keep on arguing on facts and formulations. I am referring to the printed demand of Shri R.V. Pandit for the resignation of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Now, look at the way in which the Tehelka expose has been treated. The military personnel have been subjected to a Court of Inquiry. Quite a few of them were suspended. The Court of Inquiry's evidence was over way back in 2001. The proceedings of court material generally do not take more than two months. The recording of evidence was over way back in 2001. Now, we are in 2003. Those proceedings have been impounded. Some Defence Ministry officials have also been suspended. But no politician was touched. What has happened to the rule of law in this country? What has happened to the legendary integrity of this Government headed by a veteran Prime Minister? How come not a single FIR was filed? Military personnel were suspended, Defence officials were suspended, but no middlemen was approached by either the CBI or by the police, or by the Income Tax Department

or by the Enforcement Directorate. How can there be two standards? How can one standard be applied to poor military personnel and how can another standard be applied to middlemen? Politicians of the ruling party and middlemen were treated with equal impunity by this Government. So, we do not know whether politicians of NDA are middlemen or middlemen in Delhi are politicians of NDA.

Look at the way the Tehelka Company has been treated. There was an assault on Tehelka Company. There is one Shri Kumar Badal. This is the clinching illustration of the fascist character of the Government. Shri Badal, a senior reporter of the Tehelka Company, was arrested in a poaching case by the CBI. I would like to know whether in the history of free India the CBI has ever inquired into a poaching case. The CBI, with its limited machinery, can not handle complaints about poaching matters! Shri Kumar Badal languished in jail for six months. Shri George Fernandes is adorning the Ministry while Shri Kumar Badal, a reporter of Tehelka languished in jail for six months. The Tehelka Company was raided by the CBI on the ground that Tehelka Company through a report on the North-East in 2000 had committed violation of the provisions of the Official Secrets Act. They made a report on their web-site about a certain terrorist incident in the North-East in the year 2000. But, after Tehelka expose, that company was sought to be prosecuted for violation of the Official Secret Act in 2001.

This is not the end of the story. There is one investor called Shankar Sharma of First Global. I do not know him from Adam. But Shri Shankar Sharma of First Global has his company registered on the New York Stock Exchange, on the London Stock Exchange but his company has been de-listed in India. It continues to be de-listed – all because he committed the sin of investing 14 per cent share in Tehelka company. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Is he supporting Shankar Sharma and the First Global? The JPC had gone through all the things. I am asking this question. Shri Jaipal Reddy, are you supporting the First Global and Shankar Sharma? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : The JPC had said that no evidence had been found against First Global and asked that the investigation should continue. Shri Somaiya was a Member of the JPC. He has utterly shocked us. He is trying to misrepresent the view of the JPC on First Global.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : There are several cases going against Mr. Sharma. The High Court also has passed severe strictures against him. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : This is not the end of the story. This is an unending story. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Again, he is talking of Shankar Sharma. The Mumbai High Court, the Delhi High Court had passed severe strictures against Shankar Sharma. Is Shri Reddy supporting him? He was sentenced by the High Court.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Shri Shankar Sharma was arrested many times. He was made to languish in jail along with his wife Devina Mehra for more than one year. What a shame! It is a crime in itself.

What is this Government doing before the Venkatasami Commission and the Phukhan Commission? The Government's case has been that the tapes have been doctored. The Government was to assist, it was not to take a position. Further, the Government took the position on record that the First Global, as a partner of the Tehelka company, has inflicted damage on India's stock market. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jaipal Reddy, please sit down for a minute.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : Sir, so many Members have taken more than one hour.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me explain it. That will be useful to you also.

Two hours and twenty five minutes have been allotted for the Congress Party. Out of that, only 38 minutes are left now. Shri Jaipal Reddy, I do not mind if you speak for 38 minutes. But, thereafter, other Members in your party

may not get a chance to speak. I am not personally against you speaking at all.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : Let him speak.

MR. SPEAKER : If others do not get time to speak, you would not blame me for that.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Shri Shankar Sharma and his wife were jailed for more than one year. Do we know about it? Do we have any conscience? Are we sensitive? What a devil is happening in this country! . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : The Court has sent them to jail. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Instead of investigating the incriminated, the Government not only began to investigate Tehelka company but it began to inflict untold hardship on anybody associated with Tehelka company. This is what can be called the "theatre of the absurd".

Now, let me come to the PAC/CVC controversy. Our hon. Minister said the rules need to be amended. I think the attitude of the hon. Minister needs to be amended. . . .(Interruptions) What do the rules say? The rules only enable a Minister to withhold the document. We also worked on the Public Accounts Committee. I have also been a legislator for 35 years in my own humble way.

Sir, I am reading from Rule 270. It says :

"Provided further that Government may decline to produce a document on the ground that its disclosure would be prejudicial to the safety or interest of the State."

If falls completely within the purview of discretion of the Minister. It is not a binding provision. It is an enabling provision and our clever Defence Minister has been able to project an enabling provision as a binding provision. Why do you withhold Reports from the Public Accounts Committee, unless you have something to hide? Are we

to take anybody's honesty for granted just because of his self-professed record? I am stating one thing with full sense of responsibility. It was stated by a constitutional functionary the other day that there were only two items common both to the paragraphs of the Comptroller and Auditor-General relating to Operation Vijay and to the inquiry made by the Central Vigilance Commission. I am stating with full sense of responsibility that there were five items. Let me place those five items on record. One deals with Crasnopol Projet Fire and it is there in the C and AG Report at para 4.2. The second deals with the procurement of 200 radio sets for Indian Army. It may be seen in para 6.2. Sir, if the Minister denies, I will give the file number. I can do so only within the House because outside he may get me arrested under the Official Secrets Act!

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You are not worth arresting!

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am thankful to you for small mercies!

Sir, the third item refers to the payment of commission in the contract for purchase of spares of 155mm Bofor guns, the fourth item relates to purchase of spares for T-55 and T-72 tanks. May I tell you, Sir, both these tanks could not have been taken to the high altitudes for participation in Kargil war, even though the ammunition was purchased on modified terms in the name of Kargil war. Of course, anything can be done by the Minister who thinks he is honest. And the fifth item relates to purchase of AK-47 rifles and ammunition.

So, this is the point that I am making – I know I have taken much of my party's time more than the time of the House – this is the kind of immorality that is represented by this Government. In my view, this Ministry represents a miasmic mix of immorality, impudence and impunity. I am absolutely persuaded that the people of India are dissatisfied with the all-round malperformance of this Government. Since, we cannot throw out this Government, we request Shri Advani to give effect to his great idea of having synchronised poll; and to go in for polls in November, people will defeat him.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra will speak now.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to have one clarification from the hon. Defence Minister. You said that I can raise this after Shri Jaipal Reddy's speech is over. It is only a clarification that I want from the Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not yielding.

MR. SPEAKER : If you are not yielding, you can go ahead with your speech.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please get him seated, so that I could speak.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Sir, it is only a personal explanation that I want to make. I succeeded Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you permit him, then the other Members of the Public Accounts Committee will also ask for a chance to make a personal explanation or clarification. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted him. I have permitted Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra to speak. He can start speaking.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they do not let the members of ruling party speak, how it will do, please give protection, we need your protection. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : On their turn, I will give them time to speak.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is asking for a chance as the former Chairman of the

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni]

Public Accounts Committee, not as a Member. . . .
(*Interruptions*) Is he not responsible to explain his position
as the former Chairman of the PAC? . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No charge has been made against
him. The question of personal explanation comes only
when a charge is made against him.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Sir, you were kind
enough to mention that I can mention this after the Defence
Minister's speech is over. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The Congress Party has still got 35
minutes left. So, I can permit you to speak at the right time.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Sir, I only want to
have a clarification. . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, I have repeatedly
been requesting for permission to speak since morning.
Please give me permission for that.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted him. I have
permitted Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Malhotraji, I have
never disturbed anybody. When I want to say something,
you are disturbing me. The Speaker has allowed me.
. . . (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I have succeeded Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari as the
Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. I inherited this
problem of secret document not being given to the
Committee. But the officers mentioned to me that there is
a precedence for this. They told me that when Atalji was
the Chairman of the PAC, a similar situation arose. At that
time, he demanded that the relevant document should be
given and it was shown to him. That was verified by Shri
Balayogi when he was the Speaker. Now, the Minister says
that, despite the pressure, the Government did not give the

document to the then PAC Chairman, Atalji. He is
misleading the House. So, I want a clarification from him
on this matter. . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, yesterday Shri N.D. Tiwari
has given an interview to the Press and in that he said
the hon. Defence Minister agreed to show him all the
papers. This has appeared in today's *Economic Times*.

[*Translation*]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr.
Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the No-Confidence Motion
moved in the House. I can also mention many issues like
Jaypal Reddiji who has just read out many things and the
way in which he told about Tehlaka, But. I know that in
all the speeches given by the opposition leaders, there
was nothing new and all the contents have repeatedly
been said during last four years. The entire contents of the
speech of Jaipalji have already been published by
newspapers and other sources of information. He has just
repeated what he said earlier. The same pattern has been
followed by other speakers as well.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, everyone including the media is
perplexed about the reason behind moving this No
Confidence Motion. While initiating the discussion, it was
said by Shri Jaipal Reddiji as well as the Leader of
opposition that their intention behind moving the No
Confidence Motion was to express their views and anger
against the Government and also because it was their duty
to do so. I agree with them that they are within their rights
in doing so. Now, when they have moved this no
confidence motion against the government after four years,
I want to ask a simple question if it is also their right or
duty to hold this House to ransom and stop the functioning
of the House for seven days at a stretch by interrupting
Question Hour? Is it also their right to stop the functioning
of the House for the whole day on some occasions.
. . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Malhotraji, please continue.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I
have data as to how much money was wasted in the
monsoon session. The wastage of time during 10th Lok

Sabha, 11th Lok Sabha, 12th Lok Sabha and 13th Lok Sabha was 9 per cent, 5 per cent, 11 percent and 22 per cent respectively. They have wasted 40 per cent time during monsoon session. . . .(Interruptions) They did not allow the House to function and about 80 crore rupees of public money was wasted. Is it their duty to cripple the functioning of question hour in the House? Is it proper to rush to the well of the House and to say that House will function only when their demands are met? What type of democracy is it?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we including Sushmaji and Pramodji have been repeatedly saying that we are ready for discussion on any issue. They and the entire House know it very well that discussion on various issues has been conducted in this House for four or five times in a week. When they demanded discussion on the issues of Ayodhya, Taj Corridor and misuse of C.B.I., we agreed to their demands. They were defeated on the issue of Ayodhya and C.B.I. At last they came up with No Confidence Motion when no other issue was left. I agree with Chandra Shekharji's view completely that it is very strange that Constitutional Amendments are passed in this House without any discussion. They plead to pass important Bills without any discussion and insist on allotting five days for their various motions. Only five per cent of House's time was spent on government business and 95 per cent time was wasted by the opposition by holding the House to ransom so as to make the government yield to this demands. Is it a proper way?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a book with me. I want to ask. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He has forgotten Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee leading us during 'Sukh Ram' days, 'Bofors' days and 'U.P.' days. He was leading the Opposition. . . .(Interruptions) How many days? . . .(Interruptions) Dr. Malhotra, I am not justifying. . . .(Interruptions) Let him not give sermons. I am not justifying it. I am saying that this has happened. He should remember it. . . .(Interruptions) Do not give sermons. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Somnathji, I did not disturb you while you were speaking. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please do not waste time.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not utter a single word during the hour long speech of Somnathji, I hold him in high esteem, But I want to ask him, whether this is the text of the Resolution. Text of the Resolution adopted at the All India Conference of Presiding Officers, Chief Ministers, Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs, Leaders and Whips of Parties : Discipline and Decorum in Parliament and Legislatures of States and Union Territories.

[Translation]

This Resolution was passed last year and it bears Soniaji's signature. It was passed in her presence and also in the presence of the whole Opposition. It was stated in the Resolution that no body would rush to the well of the House. Nobody would interrupt Question Hour. Nobody would express any kind of protest here inside Parliament. Now even after passing this Resolution we find that they are rushing to the well of House and everyday they are making demands to suspend question hour and everyday they are doing this at their own will. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : You please ask for the record, whatever has been done. They are responsible for it.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that by passing this resolution, commitment was made to the whole country. Crores of rupees were spent on it. It was telecast live. It was stated in the Resolution that if anybody enters into the well of the House, he would get automatically suspended. If it is a matter of one day, one can understand. But they are rushing to the well everyday. Everyday they are raising demands to suspend question Hour and everyday they are asking for Adjournment Motion. Which responsibility they

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

are going to fulfill? Which duty they are going to perform. They first waste about 80 crores of rupees of the country and then they say that they are just expressing their anguish? What new things they have said. I want to know. Secondly they have said that is merely showing the opposition its unity. For showing their unity of opposition, a meeting was held at Somnath Babuji's residence. A grand opposition unity was shown is that meeting. But from today's meeting we can very well understand that how far this opposition is united. In that meeting someone is walking out, the other is sitting and while one is coming, the other is going. Someone is delivering speech and the other is speaking against them. The reason for such opposition unity has been stated to dismiss BJP Government. This is the only aim of this unity. . . . (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the aim of opposition unity is not to provide security to the country or alleviate poverty in the country. . . . (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you keep them quiet for a while, I will be able to speak better. The aim of opposition unity is not to eradicate unemployment but to remove B.J.P. This is the only aim of opposition unity. Our Dy. Prime Minister had said one thing in the morning that when they bring No-Confidence Motion, at the same time they should also try to bring Confidence Motion and they should also tell against whom it has been brought and who would be their leader. All these things should be made clear. I have heard speech that the opposition is getting united to bring secularism and curb communalism to provide security to the country to inculcate the spirit of nationalism and remove corruption.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is Banatwalaji, who is standing on the right side of Soniaji in the photograph. He is the 'Numberdar' of secularism. He is the person responsible for partition of India, the person following the theory of two nations, the person professing the idea of forming two nations, the person with whom the Congress is going to form the Government. He is removing communalism. . . . (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not talk about Somnathji. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, this is defamatory. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I am thankful to him for pointing this out. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHARY (Khammam) : Malhotraji was present in that meeting.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not talking about Mulayam Singhji because Congress Party men say that Mulayam Singhji is just an ant. So, what to talk about this out?

20.00 hrs.

Congress Party says that Samajvadi Party is just like an ant. So what to talk about it. . . . (Interruptions) Somnath Babu, I respect you a lot. I have regard for you. . . . (Interruptions) I have worked with your father. I and your father were arrested together under preventive detention. We were together in the jail. I had worked a lot with him. He had also come for canvassing for me in my first election. I respect you otherwise also. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Malhotra, since it is 8 o'clock, now I want to extend the time of the House.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : If you permit, I can continue it tomorrow. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Till what time should I extend the time of the House. Should I extend it till 9 o'clock?

†

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how is it possible to go for voting till 6 o'clock in the evening tomorrow? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are discussing varied issues. Time should be given and our submission is that the House should be extended by at least one hour.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Everyone has spoken for one hour each. Only six members have spoken so far. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Tomorrow, at 6 o'clock, there is voting. I would like to extend the time of the House till 9 o'clock today.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was telling that I cannot dare to question the patriotism of Somnath Babu, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi uses the word 'Gandhi' with her name. . . . * On 9th of August. . . . (Interruptions) I am mentioning about those with whom alliance is being done. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : You go to Andaman-Nikobar. . . . (Interruptions) How many communist's names figure there. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : When they, at the time of Quit India Movement. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing. He can speak, whatever he wants to speak but that should be authenticated. That should be substantiated by quoting some book or it should be authenticated. It should not be

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

a superficial statement. What is there in a name. We can also fabricate many stories in the name of others. This is not proper. You should ask them to at least authenticate their statements. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mahatma Gandhi gave the slogan of Quit India Movement on 9th of August. The Communist Party opposed that. They helped in getting the revolutionaries arrested and sending them to Jails. . . . (Interruptions) They made them hanged. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : What did the R.S.S. do? . . . (Interruptions)

20.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is a mockery and shows total bankruptcy of leader Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Spokesman of BJP. Who got Mahatma Gandhi killed, please tell us? . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : You are mentioning the name of Gandhiji. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Since we have extended the time of the House till 9 o'clock only, let him continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER (Serampore) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, they have been speaking throughout their life that this independence is a farce. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, will you please take your seat?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We do not have time. We cannot indulge in such extravagance.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale please sit down. When you get your chance, you can speak. Please resume your seat now.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I was telling that when China. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Please tell us who had apologized in Gwalior Jail. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : What it has to do with the R.S.S. . . .*(Interruptions)* Who had challenged imperialism? . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, Please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Somnath Dada, please stop him. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat. I am here to control the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not like to mention the name of the party which had

played the role of quizling in the war between India and China. . . .*(Interruptions)* I am just telling you to see the map. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : It should be relevant to the debate. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If there is anything objectionable that has gone into the record, I will look into it. I will not allow it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Their four stalwarts are at one side and in between them are Soniaji, Banatwalaji, Som Data and*. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : What is he speaking?. . . .*(Interruptions)* He should produce evidence. . . .*(Interruptions)* He should apologize. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Reghuvanshji, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Raghuvanshji, I shall allow you when your term comes.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, why is he saying all these things?. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If there is anything objectionable, I will look into the record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to make only one submission. Soniaji is the

Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

leader of opposition. I was also present in the meeting called by her. Whatever you have mentioned, means that I go to the residence of Atalji and therefore, I am responsible for all his works. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I did not mention that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : It is no offence to attend the meeting held at the residence of the leader of opposition. If someone had gone for such meeting then Lalooji. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I did not mention of that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR : That was not mentioned. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am hearing that it was not mentioned. I am not a deaf. How far it is correct to brand a person as dishonest, thief and a criminal. I was about to come to this point. He is also telling that whatever Shri Jaipal Reddy had said, I am afraid that if Shri George Fernandes, replies to those questions tomorrow, then there will be pandemonium in the House. While speaking and calling someone as corrupt, dishonest, thief and a criminal, one should also think that the some other person may also reply to it. I would like to request Shri George Fernandes that he should not deliver provoking speech. . . . (Interruptions) It is your debate. When he is named as a thief, he has every right to reply. Under which rule of Parliament you can call him a thief. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When any speaker speaks here, if there is any objectionable or unparliamentary remark, the Chair will regulate it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am on a point of clarification. I did not level any allegation against Shri George Fernandes nor did I call him by any name. I want

to assure him that I did not call Shri George Fernandes by any name.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Raghuvansh babu, when you get the chance, then you can also give clarification.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have brought an evidence. I have brought the letter. . . .(Interruptions) Please listen to me. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is on his legs. It is after his speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Has he got the liberty to abuse everybody?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, nobody has that liberty.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am here to regulate it. If whatever he utters is beyond rules or regulations, I will regulate it. It is not like this. Whatever might have gone on record, as I told you, I will look into the records. If there is anything objectionable, I will remove it. Now, let us hear him.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : He is a Member of that House. How can he take his name?. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. It must be given attention right now. I would like to read four lines. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What to talk of four lines, you will not read even a single line. You will get a chance after him.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is already on his legs.

[Translation]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Which document is this? . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have to follow the rules. You are a senior member. If Malhotraji yields, only then you can speak. Otherwise you can not.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is already on his legs. Unless he gives you the floor, I cannot allow you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is on his legs.

[Translation]

Raghuvansh Babu, you please listen to him.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Chandra Shekharji had asked us to bring the letter. We have brought the letter. Devras had raised the point. . . .*(Interruptions)* These people apologised. They wrote a letter to Indiraji, apologised and came out of jail. . . .*(Interruptions)* A question was raised on that. They had asked to bring the letter and I have brought the same. . . .*(Interruptions)* Just listen what the letter says. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is not now. I will allow you later, but not now. He is already on his legs. How can I allow you?

Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is on his legs. You cannot raise it now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, please listen to me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When you get a chance to speak, you can quote and read as well. But now you please take your seat. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has already sat down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I was simply saying that which imaginary Government will be formed in place of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Government in the wake of No-Confidence Motion. I am projecting the shape of the Government to be formed before you. It will include Soniaji, Mulayam Singhji, Somnathji, Communist Party, Muslim League. Will all these people join together to form the Government? Will this be the alternative Government that would take over? They have leveled allegations against us. Somnathji spoke continuously for one hour and has made all kinds of derogatory remarks against us. Congress Party also followed the similar line. We have been accused of endangering the security of the country. But they themselves had endangered the security of the country when they gave away one-third part of Jammu-Kashmir to Pakistan and 1,40,000 square kilometre area to China. There were 91,000 Pakistani prisoners in our jail in 1971, at that time, it was their Government who had handed over them to Pakistan. The land which we captured at the cost of lives of our soldiers, was handed over to them. However, it must be noted that in the five years regime of Shri Vajpayeeji could not succeed to occupy even a single inch

of our land. Now they are accusing us of endangering the security of the country. The issue of Corruption raised here. . . .(Interruptions) .

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : You take it back again. On the other end there is America.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We will. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, he is not responding to points raised in this debate. He is going into the history. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Your leader has raised the point.

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Whenever there is a debate, they go into history. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We have been accused, so, we will respond to that. Everyone knows, who is endangering the security of the country. First time there was cease-fire on the behalf of America in Kashmir. Second time in China war the cease-fire was announced under American pressure and thirdly the cease-fire was announced in Tashkand. During our regime, in the case of Kargil war America tried its level best to announce cease-fire but we did not do so till we did not take back every inch of Kargil land from Pakistan. We as well as the Defence Minister are being accused of not making any arrangement for the security of our forces.

Corruption was mentioned here. I want to challenge these people to point out whether there is a single Minister against whom the CBI, CVC, CAG or for that matter, any court has levelled even a single charge against him. There

is not a single charge against any Minister. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Three ministers who have been charge-sheeted are sitting here.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : One person who had been charge sheeted for corruption has already joined the Congress Party and now he is Chairman of some Committee and you know it very well. But there is not even a single charge against any Minister of this Government and these people are accusing us of corruption. This is the same old saying 'the pot calling the kettle black'. Their three former Prime Minister are facing cases in CBI as well as in courts. Moreover, 12 Ministers were also there who faced cases. But in our Government there is not even single Minister who is facing charges of corruption from CBI, CVC, CAG or any court. Even then we are being accused of corruption. Documents are being shown by them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Saint – kits case forged documents were prepared. The other case was of the Cabinet Secretary. A letter was produced before you and that too was forged. In the third case, their Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh held a press conference in Congress Party Office and said that these are the enquiries which are being conducted by the CBI against me. He got its blue-print prepared and circulated the same while sitting in Congress Party office. When he was asked about it, it was also found to be fake. CBI is conducting enquiry in this regard. Congress Party is a party which prepare all forged documents. They do their work with the use of fake names.

Chief Minister of Punjab brought out a poster alleging a scam of Rs. 3500 crore committed by his predecessor. He also claimed that he would get the matter cleared within seven days and put Badal behind the bars. However, one and half years passed but no scam was found. They also levelled an allegation of committing a scam of Rs. 850 crore against Hon'ble Dhumal. They also charged him for

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

having our houses in his possession in Delhi. But none of allegations turned out to be true. Jogi levelled an allegation that an official of Prime Minister's office had taken a bribe of rupees 100 crore when he was asked to name the person he did not come forward. This is nothing but a spit and run. First they impose charges and when it comes to explaining the reasons for charge they simply disappear. Now I want to ask the same question to you as to why the report on Operation Vijay was not submitted by the P.A.C.? Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the issue of Operation Vijay had come into light, I had said that chairman of the P.A.C. was from the Congress Party and he might enquire into the CAG's report. George himself has wrote this. Can you tell me if any Defence Minister has even written so? He wrote that CVC and CAG should conduct their respective enquiry into all the allegations. Our Defence Minister is the first Minister who has written and said that he is ready to provide all the documents. Can you tell me the name of any Defence Minister of your previous governments who might have conducted special audit? First time special audit was conducted and report of the CAG was submitted. After submission of CAG's report, the Chairman of PAC should have gone through it. He should have asked for documents from the Ministry of Defence in this regard. But no documents were asked on CAG's report, what did they ask for them? He demanded CVC report instead. Since he did not receive the report he would not submit any report. Why did he not submit report? He did not submit report because in all the elections leader of Congress made it an issue and said everywhere that government had made money in Operation Vijay in Kargil. They could make such statements until the report was not submitted. Had the report been issued no charge would have been proved and they could not have imposed the allegations. This was the conspiracy which was hatched. Mr. Speaker, Sir, report was shown to both the Chairman, report was shown to hon'ble Speaker in your chamber. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions) Please see Rule 376. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, the Members of the B.J.P. were also there in the Public Accounts Committee. They have adopted the report unanimously. . . .(Interruptions) It was an unanimous report. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Meeting of Leaders of all parties was held and it was decided in that meeting that Hon'ble Speaker, Chairman of Rajya Sabha should give his observation after going through the documents. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a public document. Mr. Speaker called the Defence Minister in his chamber. He called the Butta Singh. He went through the papers and then made his observation.

[English]

I quote :

"I find that the CVC was neither assigned nor has conducted. . . ." . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : No, Sir. This has not been reported to this Parliament by the hon. Speaker, neither in terms of his ruling nor in any other way. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is a public document. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : No, Sir. He cannot quote it. I strongly object. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is a published document. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I say this with responsibility that no ruling or observation has been made by the hon. Speaker in the House. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is not a question of ruling. It is a public document. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, if something is done in the Chamber of the hon. Speaker, the hon. Member cannot quote it here. I seek your protection. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is a public document, the observations made by the hon. Speaker in the meeting of Leaders of all Groups. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : How can he quote it here? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, he cannot quote it here. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is a published document. He read it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I was also a Member of this Committee for a number of years. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is not BAC. This was given in the Leader's Meeting. I am not talking of BAC. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me find out.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, you check up the records of the Lok Sabha. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The hon. Speaker has given us. He made the observation. He gave it to us. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Was this ruling announced here?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : No, Sir; not in the House. It was done in the Leaders' Meeting. It is a public document. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If it is done in the Leaders' Meeting, I think it should not be referred here.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is a public document. It is not a secret document. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I seek your protection. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, it has been given to us. He made this observation in the Leader's Meeting. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, can any proceedings exchanged in the Chamber of the hon. Speaker, if it is made to resolve any matters of controversy or as reconciliation, be treated as a ruling in the House and can it be quoted? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I do not think so.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He gave it to me. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He might have given. I want to find out whether it is given in the House. Let me find out.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It has been published by press also. I want to quote what has been published in newspaper 'The Pioneer'.

[English]

"Did Buta Singh ask the CVC note?". . . .(Interruptions)
This is a public document.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me find out a solution for this. It is merely an observation made by the hon. Speaker in the Leaders' Meeting. It is not a ruling made in the House.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : That is true. I am not saying it is a ruling. I am saying it is only an observation.

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

The hon. Speaker made some observations. That is right. It is not a ruling. . . .(Interruptions) It is only an observation. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : How can he quote here whatever happened inside the Chamber of the hon. Speaker?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever observation is made by the hon. Speaker in the Chamber should not be made a ruling here.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, it is the practice that anything said in the Chamber cannot be quoted here. . . .(Interruptions) If it is a practice now, then from now onwards anything said in the Chamber by any leader or Minister could be quoted in the house. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The hon. Speaker said it. It is his observation on PAC report. . . .(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, please allow me for a minute. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, how can the hon. Member quote the proceedings in the Chamber of the hon. Speaker?. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Why can I not say? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : If hon. Member Shri Jaipal Reddy can refer to any news item, why can Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra not quote the hon. Speaker's observations? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : If it is a document exchanged inside the Chamber, it cannot be quoted here. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It was an observation being made. That should not be made a ruling here. That is what I confirm.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It has been published in newspaper 'The Pioneer' on next day. Observation has been made in the meeting of group leaders.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, how can he mention about the discussions in the Chamber?. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, I have already given the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is this again and again?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, he made these observations.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do not quote it now. It is not permitted.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He gave it to me. He gave it to all the Leaders in the meeting. He read it there. How can it be a confidential one?. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Speaker Sahab have said so, if you desire I may quote it. This was the newspaper of 14th of the month.

[English]

It is an observation made in the Leader's Meeting. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

As truths are being unveiled you are feeling uneasy.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I seek only one ruling. Can any observation made in the Chamber of the

hon. Speaker be quoted in the House here? I want ruling on that thing.

I want to know one thing. Why is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs sitting quiet? Should it be the practice that whatever is observed in the hon. Speaker, meeting with leaders of parties/groups would be quoted here?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, he went on the television.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me clarify. Direction 55(1) of Directions by the Speaker Lok Sabha reads :

"The proceedings of a Committee shall be treated as confidential and it shall not be permissible for a member of the Committee or any one who has access to its proceedings to communicate, directly or indirectly, to the press any information regarding its proceedings including its report or any conclusions arrived at, finally or tentatively, before the report has been presented to the House.

Now, Rule 55(1A) is exactly the relevant provision. It says :

"The provisions of clause (1) shall also mutatis mutandis apply to the proceedings of meeting held by the Speaker with the Leaders of Parties and Groups in Lok Sabha."

That is it.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, he only made certain observations.

[Translation]

I do not read it. I tell it orally.

[English]

There, all the leaders assigned it to the Speaker to look into these things.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you referring to it again? When he has observed it there, you should not refer it here.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, it is all right.

Now, I say that Chairman of the Rajya Sabha gave a ruling. It is on the record.

[Translation]

If you say so. I can read out it. This is the ruling of Chairman, given in the House. This is a public document in record. You please go through records and see it.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I am on a point of order under Rule 354. it says :

"No speech made in the Council shall be quoted in the House unless it is a definite statement of policy by a Minister :

Provided that the Speaker may, on a request being made to him in advance, give permission to a member to quote a speech or make reference to the proceedings in the Council, if the Speaker thinks that such a course is necessary in order enable the member to develop a point a privilege or procedure."

First, there was no notice in advance. Secondly, it is not a matter of procedure.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, this is a public document. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

This is a public document which is in record.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, just now hon. Member Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has read out rule 354. I have to state two things in this regard that rule 354 is regarding is not a speeches made in the other House. What Mr. Vijay is referring is not a speech delivered by some member there. That is a ruling given by the Chair there, which has been published in every newspaper and is a part of the proceedings. Whatever has been published in the newspapers has been read out here. Second thing is that if Dasmunsi gives

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

a notice referring the same ruling and then asks for the ruling of the speaker then this rule 354 does not apply. If Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra refers it then rule 354 is shown. How can there be two norms for the same rule. I want a ruling from you, Sir, regarding this.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is very right in her point. I thank her. Sir, when I referred the matter, I gave in writing in advance, to the Speaker the content and then, the Speaker gave me permission to read it. . . . (Interruptions) It was expunged also later on.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : This thing has come in the proceedings. . . . (Interruptions) Why is he so worried? He is so worried because after going through all the papers of CVC. . . . (Interruptions) There a meeting of leaders with Prime Minister and Speaker was held, everything is being telecast on TV.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let it be telecast on TV now rule has come.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Dr. Malhotra, shall we quote from the letter written to the Chairman by the Leaders of Parties? It will also expose you and your supporters.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am just coming to that.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, can't we quote from the proceedings of Rajya Sabha published in the newspapers? Mr. Vajpayee delivered a speech. If it is so, then Shri Somnath Chatterjee is quoting from the speech of Shri Vajpayeejee, he is reading it out but the speech is on record.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Unfortunately, Rule 354 does not allow me to admit.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am only saying to you that there is no report of C.V.C. on 'Operation Vijay', either you see it or Shrimati Sonaijee can see it or let all leaders see it but it was said deliberately.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How does he know that?

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : When there is no CVC report: who had prevented him?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : How do you know?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him reply. Shri Basu Deb Acharia, when you get your chance you can refute it.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : How did he come to know of it?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That also you can take it up when you speak. You can refute it then.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, from where did become to know of it? I am asking this because the Public Accounts Committee was denied access to know it. Now, he says that he knows all about it. How does he know it?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : How did he have access to the secret documents?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You reserve this matter when you speak. This you can raise when you speak.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, let me tell you. It has been published in all the newspapers. Mr. N. Vitthal, the Chairman of CVC has given a statement that there is no mention of Kargil deal in the CVC report but it has been published in newspapers, it has been mentioned in all the reports. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : But it is there in C.V.C. report.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know when PAC has prevented CAG to scrutinize the report. Had there been any inquiry. At that time Mr. Tiwari was Chairman, let him see that. All reports come to him. I am also the Chairman of a committee. I also receive CAG reports. I can peruse any report. At what stage it was said that CAG want to enquire the coffin scandal whose papers were not submitted by Ministry of Defence. What these people are asking for? These people are continuously demanding the report of CVC.

[English]

They are asking for the moon.

[Translation]

When there is no such report, then from where it can be provided and they are demanding the report at such a time. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The PAC unanimously resolved this. Will it be decided by Dr. Malhotra as to how the PAC should act?

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to say to you that if in childhood some one asks for the moon and that too on 'Amavasya' day, then how can one provide moon on that day? When there is no such CVC report how it can be made available. This is also true and in records that he has asked to Mr. Tiwari to go through CVC report. He has asked Mr. Buta Singh, Mr. George, ask

him to rereport. Mr. Speaker, is a witness to it. No one saw the report. Where is the restriction on CAG report? Mr. Vajpayee also has been the Chairman of this Committee, there have also been Chairmen, who prevented them? When there is no CVC report, from where to produce it? You can see operation Vijay.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, are we discussing the conduct of any Chairman of the Committee of Parliament? Then we have to bring a Substantive Motion. There should be a Substantive Motion to discuss the conduct of a Parliamentary Committee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have also been Chairmen of committees.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am not saying that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Then do not do this. How does the Parliamentary Committees function? Anybody can point out and criticise the Chairman.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am asking if there is any restriction. I have said nothing wrong.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is not bringing any Substantive Motion.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is no need of giving report to any one. I demand that PAC should submit its report regarding coffin scandal within one month. The P.A.C. should submit the report on coffin issue in one month stating whether money has been bribed or not. The report should not be submitted after these four elections are over and for conducting these four elections. . . .(Interruptions) I demand it from the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : We accept Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra's demand. After examining the paragraphs, let the CVC give its report to the PAC. We accept it.

[Translation]

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : All the scams of West Bengal mentioned in C and AG report should be examined. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Let it go on record that we accept his demand.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, why do they want to keep the issue of operation Vijay alive. Why the report is not being submitted on it. CVC says that it has not submitted its report, P.A.C. does not submit its report then how this issue should be resolved. Whether this issue will continue till the elections. Till elections. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHARTTERJEE : It is a very serious thing. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAMSUNSI : He is casting aspersion on a Parliamentary Committee. Does the Prime Minister suggest that all the Members of the Opposition should resign from all Parliamentary Committees? We are prepared to do that.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I would like to level the charge against the Congress Party that under a well-thought out conspiracy it has ensured that the report is not laid in the House. I would like to know that the four reports viz, 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 54th. . . .(Interruptions) those four reports. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Does the Leader of the House subscribe to his views? Let the Leader of the House decide whether the Parliamentary Committee's functioning could be questioned in this fashion and tell us about it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have never heard in this House when the Chairman of a Committee has been abused in this manner or the functioning of a Committee has been commented upon in this manner, without a proper resolution to discuss the report. How can it be done? The whole system is being denigrated.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : You see that there are four reports of P.A.C. – 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 54th. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : We need a substantive motion to discuss this.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I know it because you kept on levelling charge for an hour. There are four reports – 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 54th. . . .(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Is it the Chairman who gives numbers to the report?. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the record. You cannot refer to the functioning of the Committee in this fashion. I will go through the record and see that the record is set right.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : It is a Committee of the House, and we have every right to make a reference to it.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What are you saying?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : It is a Committee of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He made a point before you. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the record.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he has levelled a charge that we have gone in for saffronization of education and change in education and books and. . . .(Interruptions) He knows that the leader of the congress party wrote to 15 states to remove saffron elements from all books. . . .(Interruptions) to bring the old things back to those books. I would like to ask what should be brought back – that Guru Tegbahadur was a plunderer, he looted with the help of Hafiz, he was a rapist, all these were removed from books, should these things be brought back. Is it a way of Saffronization. You ask him, please.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : You have to remove all the false things. You have misled the children of the country with false propaganda. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Should the words written in these books be brought back. Is it saffronization?

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Alvaji, are you supporting them. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Is it objectionable to remove from books such disgusting and indecent allegations on Guru Tegbahadur? Can any member of the Congress Party say that this should be retaught. Not even a single member can say this. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is written

in the book that the Aryan people are beef and served the meat of calf to guests. Their Chief Ministers say that cow is our mother. On the one hand the Chief Ministers say that cow is our mother and on the other hand should it be taught that the Aryan people ate beef and served the meat of calf to guests? It is written in the book that there was no Trithankar before Mahavir. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Wasn't Ras Behari Bose the brother of Subhash Chandra Bose. (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are telling that we are going in for saffronization of education. I would like to say that it was written in the book that there was no Trithankar before Mahavir and the Jains while writing their scriptures created them. If we have removed such things, what's wrong in it. That Jats were plunderers, these were no Trithankar before Bhagwan Mahavir and whatever is written about Lord Ram is imaginary and indecent; if we have removed these things what wrong we have done. They are raising this issue in 15 States that the dropped portions should be re-incorporated. Again Shrimati Sonia Gandhi told that the portraits of those who had no contribution in freedom struggle are being put-up here. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The history cannot be changed. They are changing the history.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Please listen to me now. A charge has been made.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Only in West Bengal, the history can be changed! . . .(Interruptions) Do not shout.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Go to Andaman-Nicobar and see, there is not even a single freedom fighter with you. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what wrong did we commit if we installed the statue of Shivaji. Is it a sin or crime to instal the statue of Shivaji?

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

Is it a sin to instal the statue of Maharana Ranjit Singh. Whether the portraits of the Members of only one family will be put-up in India? Whether no other greatman is born in India? Are there any names written or portraits put-up of those persons whose names do not figure in freedom struggle? Is it not just to put-up the portraits of those who have fought for independence?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Malhotraji, you have taken one hour. You started at sharp 7.50. You have completed one hour.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am surprised, in a round-about manner he has talked only about Gujarat. They are pre-occupied with Gujarat. There is Gujarat phobin and made mention of Best Bakery incident. Regarding Best Bakery incident Mamtaji mentioned that a person left Gujarat and went to West Bengal. 70 Lakhs Muslims live in Gujarat. What happened if one of them left Gujarat and went to West Bengal?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He did not go but he was taken.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, five lac Kashmiri migrants are running from pillar to post in whole of the country. But, they never said anything about them. Five lac Kashmiri Pandits are roaming throughout India. No Human Rights Commission has mentioned about them. . . .(Interruptions) I want to say that the persons who are guilty and who have committed murders should be punished. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Do you remember that photograph of Ansari? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Where were you when 11 people were murdered in your constituency. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Bishnu Pada Ray. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : One hour time has been extended and not even one speaker has concluded his speech.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : * . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, there they do not allow people to go out. . . .(Interruptions) Now, he is threatening me inside the House. Why is he threatening me? . . .(Interruptions) He cannot threaten. . . .(Interruptions) Those words should be expunged from the proceedings otherwise we would also not allow the House to run. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Sir, why is he disturbing? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will see the records.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Do not threaten like this. . . .(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : How can he threaten like this? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will check up the records and set them right.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mamtaji, I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Please make Mamtaji a Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Topdar, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mamataji, please.

(Interruptions)

20.53 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am concluding within a few minutes.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the murderer should be punished, he should be hanged, he must be punished but in the case of massacre of three thousand Sikhs in Delhi; all the witnesses turned hostile. Each Commission had said that Congress Leaders were behind it, but not even a single person was sentenced or caught.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a similar incident took place in Marar and there the Congress Party and the Muslim League got united on that issue. The people of Marar are not getting justice. The trial against the accused should take place outside Kerala and in Bihar too, the courts are saying that there is no law and order. the policemen are being transferred by the orders of the courts and similarly all the trials in Bihar should also take place out of the State.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last, I would like to say three things. They have levelled so many allegations. .
(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We cannot tolerate infringement on the dignity of Bihar

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasadji, please sit down.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Why did he mention Bihar, will he insult Bihar? . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : What was done during last five years. In the morning, it was stated that no development took place. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Insult of Bihar will not be tolerated, if someone insults Bihar. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : O.K. We will not do that.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. The time allotted to him is nearly complete. Please take your seat.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, five years ago foodgrains were imported in India from all over the world. But during these five years foodgrains were exported to 30 countries. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding. If they allow me to speak, I will conclude in one or two minutes. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Can he insult Bihar?

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. He has taken the names of many states. How persons of every state can behave in such a way. He has taken the names of three or four states. So, you please sit down

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that India had been importing foodgrains for the last 50 years and till 1998, it had imported. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : In Zee TV, it has been telecast that in crime rate Delhi is number one. Number of crimes are taking place here and the administration has become helpless in this regard. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We have been exporting foodgrains to 30 countries for the last five years.

Not Recorded.

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, wheat and rice are being provided at the rates of two rupees and three rupees respectively. It is a miracle. On India, there was a heavy burden of loan.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you please conclude.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : India has taken no much loan and we are repaying that loan before time and to bring a 'No Confidence Motion' against Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who has performed such miracle. is the biggest crime of the time.

I oppose this motion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Since it is already 9 o'clock. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 19th August 2003 at 11 a.m.

20.58 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Tuesday, August 19, 2003/
Shravana 28, 1925 (Saka).*

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