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Monday, December 2, 2002

Agrahayana 11, 1924 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English Version)

Eleventh Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

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CONTENTS

Thirteenth Series, Vol. XXVIII, Eleventh Session, 2002/1924 (Saka)

No.10, Monday, December 02, 2002/Agrahayana 11, 1924 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
* Starred Question Nos. 182-184 .	2-23
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS .	24-386
* Starred Question Nos. 185-201	24-53
Unstarred Questions Nos. 1983-2212 . . .	53-386
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	387-394
JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT	
Fifth Report .	394
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
Forty-third Report	394-395
(i) Re: Reported decision for closure of Central Govt. Printing Press in Kolkata and Gangtok	404-405
(ii) Re: Non-involvement of local MPs in the inaugural functions organised in State Government in respect of projects completed under MPLAD scheme	410-412
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	418-426
(i) Need to introduce L.P.G. as auto fuel using replaceable cylinders to check vehicular pollution	
Shri A. Narendra .	418
(ii) Need to prepare a comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme for the benefit to farmers	
Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan	419
(iii) Need to review the decision to evict people from the Cantonment particularly in Sagar and Mahu in Madhya Pradesh	
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	419
(iv) Need to shift Doordarshan Relay Centre to Akashwani Bhawan in Dhule Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra and also to start telecast of Metro Channel from there.	
Shri Ramdas Rupala Gavit	420

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

SUBJECT COLUMNS

(v) Need to include the Satnami Community in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in the list of Scheduled Castes

Shri Punnu Lal Mohale . 420

(vi) Need to introduce Hari Prayag Express between Allahabad and Dehradun via Lucknow and Haridwar.

Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna Singh 420-422

(vii) Need to take necessary steps to solve the issue of distribution of water of Indira Gandhhi Canal among Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan

Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram Choudhary 421-422

(viii) Need to take over certain ancient temples in Dhenkanal Parliamentary Constituency, Orissa by the Archaeological Survey of India

Shri K.P. Singh Deo . . 422

(ix) Need to check unauthorised cultivation of tobacco in Karnataka

Shri Y.V. Rao . . . 422-423

(x) Need to take suitable measures for conservation of water resources particularly in Agra region, U.P.

Shri Ramji Lal Suman 423

(xi) Need to increase duty on import of cotton

Shri Anant Gudhe 423-424

(xii) Need to run proposed train between Mau junction and New Delhi via Azamgarh in U.P.

Shri Bal Krishna Chauhan 424

(xiii) Need to exempt Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Employees Pension Fund Trust from LIC annuity scheme

Shri C. Kuppusami 424-425

(xiv) Need for creation of a separate State of Bodoland

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary . 426

(xv) Need to restart passenger train between Andal and Chittaranjan in West Bengal

Shri Bikash Chowdhury 426-492

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY BILL 426-492

Motion to consider

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri T.R. Baalu .	426-429, 467-473
Shri Shivraj V. Patil	429-439
Shri Bikram Keshari Deo .	439-442
Prof. R.R. Pramanik . . .	442-447
Shri Ravi Prakash Verma . . .	447-449
Shri K.P. Singh Deo . . .	449-453
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh . .	453-456
Shri Prabodh Panda	456-457
Shri Ramesh Chennithala .	457-460
Shrimati Margaret Alva .	460-463
Shri S. Murugesan . . .	463-464
Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan .	464-466
Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale . . .	466
Clause 2 to 63 and 1	474-492
Motion to Pass	492
DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT RAILWAYS	493-533
Shrimati Margaret Alva .	493-497
Shri Basu Deb Acharia	497-502
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	502-504
Dr. Manda Jagannath .	504-507
Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel	507-509
Dr. K. Malaisamy	509-512
Shri Akbor Ali Khandoker . .	512-513
Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab . . .	513-515
Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi . . .	515-519
Shri Rampal Singh	519-520
Shri Chandrakant Khaire	520-521
Shri K.H. Muniyappa .	521-522

Subject	Columns
Shri Prabodh Panda	522-523
Prof. A.K. Premajam	523-524
Shri Ramesh Chennithala	524-525
Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale	525
Shri Bhaskar Rao Patil	525-526
Shri Ramdas Athawale	526-527
Shri S.S. Palanimanickam . . .	527
Shri Nitish Kumar	527-533
APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO.5 BILL	534-536
Shri Nitish Kumar	534
Motion to Consider	534
Clause 2, 3 and 1	534-535
Motion to Pass	535-536

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 2, 2002/Agrahayana 11, 1924 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, we do not want to disturb the Question Hour. But the Prime Minister yesterday gave a nation-wide alert and warning that many more Temples would be attacked. The Prime Minister also said two days before the attack on Parliament, in Mumbai, that Parliament would be attacked.

Sir, if the Prime Minister is concerned that many more Temples would be attacked, he must apprise us and the nation of the preventive measures he is ensuring for the security of the temples and the people of this country. These kinds of things are not casual and should not be treated so casually. This Parliament was attacked on 13th December last year. On 11th he said that Parliament would be attacked again.

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise this issue in 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, this is a serious matter. Everyday, if you hear that the Government is in possession of an information, Government must also apprise the nation of the measures they have taken to ensure the safety. ...*(Interruptions)* This is not correct. Some statement is made here and there and we shall sit in Parliament as onlookers. This is a very serious thing. I think, the Prime Minister must share the information and understanding with the House. We would like to know what steps they are taking. One Minister says that we will attack Pakistan because things are coming from there, the other Minister says that we have information that temples would be attacked, and the House is sitting as onlooker. While we support the Government on these issues, the Prime Minister must assure us about the safety of the nation and its people.

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise this issue during 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: All right, Sir.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.01 hrs.

[English]

Law for Protection of Unorganised Labourers

+

* 182. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision on the report of the Second National Commission on Labour for giving protection to the workers in the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) ether the Government are planning to bring any legislation for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

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

Statement

(a) to (d) The Second National Commission on Labour (NCL) has made wide ranging recommendations on various issues which, inter-alia, include giving protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. Extensive consultations and interactions on NCL's recommendations have already taken place with the representatives of trade unions, employers' organizations, labour law practitioners, eminent persons, academicians etc. The report of NCL was discussed at the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29 September, 2002. Further, the recommendations relating to unorganized sector were discussed, in detail, at the National Seminar on Unorganised Sector held on 7-8 November, 2002. The NCL has recommended an umbrella legislation for the worker in the unorganized sector to ensure their minimum protection and welfare. It is proposed to bring a legislation on the subject in the Budget Session.

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, it is a fact that losing of jobs by workers in skilled and unskilled sectors is increasing in our country due to disinvestment of so many industries in our country. I want to know from the Government whether they have taken any steps for the rehabilitation of these skilled and unskilled workers in the disinvestment sector. If so, the details thereof.

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has asked question regarding industries wherein disinvestment is being made. Though it is not related to the main question yet I would like to submit that while pursuing disinvestment we have ensured that there should be no retrenchment of workers and provisions have also been made in this regard. We do not have any report so far as to how many workers have been retrenched. However, the Government is formulating several schemes to convert our unskilled labour into skilled one. A comprehensive scheme is being formulated to train the employees as per the latest technology in case there is any change in industries. We want that employees be trained before one year of upgradation of technology in a particular industry. We have talked to the industry personnel and also to the employees organisation in this regard. Your question is originally linked to the unorganised sector so you ask the question on that.

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, from the reply it is learnt that the second National Commission of Labour has already recommended an umbrella legislation for the workers in the unorganised sector to ensure minimum protection and welfare. I want to know from the Government whether the Government has any proposal to give minimum wages to the unorganised labourers in the country. If so, the details thereof.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: There is already a law that a worker whether in organised sector or in unorganised sector should get the minimum wages. We keep on increasing it from time to time and have also made several provisions from time to time in this regard. We keep on increasing their minimum wages keeping in view their standard of living, education and health etc. So far as Labour Commission is concerned, we have held a detailed discussion on it and we have organised a Indian labour conference on 28-29th September, 2002 in which discussion on labour commission was held for a day and also organised a national seminar on 7-8th November on unorganised sector so as to ascertain as to what kind of laws be formulated for that. The labour commission has also suggested for enacting an umbrella legislation in this regard. We had discussed during the seminar as to what kind of laws be framed. We have discussed the issue with several NGOs, Labour Organisations and also employees organisations and also with the labour institutions or universities and I am assured that this work would be completed till the budget session and umbrella legislation for the workers in the unorganised sector would be introduced during the budget session.

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish you heartiest congratulations and a happy and prosperous life on your birthday.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Is your question over?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: So we all do.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, the National Commission on Labour has given enormous powers and free hand to the employers also. The Commission has prepared the Report in accordance with the diktats of the present Government, some of which were spelt out by the Finance Minister in the last Budget. My specific question is, (a) what are the specific proposals and recommendations made in the National Seminar on Unorganised Sector on 7th and 8th November in respect of the workers who are working in the unorganised sector and (b) whether the Government is considering seriously to bring a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of the agricultural labourers of our country.

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the recommendation of the labour Commission include the need for enacting comprehensive laws for ensuring the social security and skill upgradation of the workers in the unorganised sector. These recommendations have been examined exhaustively in consultation with the various Ministries, departments, State Governments, labour organisations, planning bodies, NGO's etc. Besides, a two day seminar was organised in Vigyan Bhawan on 7th/8th November, 2002 on unorganised sector. The agenda of the seminar included the formalities to be completed for formulating comprehensive legislations for providing the social security to and the skill upgradation of the agriculture labourers. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri K.C. Pant, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and the representatives of the labour organisations, employers,

NGO's, State Governments and Union Ministries and the educationists and various social workers participated in it. Three groups were constituted to discuss these issues.

As far the social security is concerned, there was a consensus among the representatives that the social security should include the medical care, maternity benefits, old age pension, unemployment, insurance benefit and the educational opportunities to the workers. It was suggested that there is a need to alter the celling of the Employees Provident Fund and Employees State insurance Corporation and the benefit packages be given to the workers of unorganised sector so as to cover them in its ambit. Recommendation for setting up a central Welfare Fund to extend the ambit of the existing Social Welfare Schemes was made. As far skill upgradation is concerned, there is a need to improve the skill for increasing productivity of the unorganised sector and to provide continuous employment opportunities to the increasing work force in the sector. I would also like to say in this regard that skilled labour in only 6 per cent in our country. This is one of the main reason of the backwardness. The level of productivity is not at desired level due to the lack of the skilled labour and they can not get the required wages. It was felt that a skill upgratation fund by contributing a certain percentage of the Gross Domestic Product of the country and also based on the contribution of the employers, employees be set up and the Government should make available more resources for increasing the productivity of the workers. Such suggestion were also given that an outline of the labour based information system be prepared and developed for the modernisation of various kinds of skills and also for the maximum utilisation of the existing skill upgradation Institutes. Proficiency norms be developed and system of certification be started. In the detailed discussion held in Seminar on the comprehensive legislation it was said that the introduction of a comprehensive legislation is prudent for the rationalization, simplification and consolidation of the labour laws. Such recommendation has been given and suggestion made that besides having the minimum welfare provisions the legislation should have the elaborate provisions for regulation of the workers services in the unorganised sector especially in context of the minimum wages, working hours, collective responsibility etc. The need to enact a comprehensive legislation for unorganised sector is the main recommendation for this sector. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You tell us two or three main recommendations. There is no need to tell all the recommendations.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Member wanted to know about the recommendations and I wanted to reply to entire question.

MR. SPEAKER: All two-three recommendations you have told are enough.

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, I had asked whether the Government was serious about implementing the recommendations regarding agricultural workers. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, for economic development, what is required is labour, capital, management and technology.

Labour comes out of human resources and India is very rich in human resources, as the population is very huge. In the changed circumstances that we find ourselves in the world, it has become necessary for us to change with the times and with technologies that are available in the world. Before the Government drafts a comprehensive Bill or an omnibus legislation, would the Government consult all sections of this House and all sections in the society so that the Bill that would be drafted and presented would take care of the interests of all sections of the society and not become a lop-sided legislation?

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the question asked by the Hon. Member is quite good. I had written letters to all the hon. Members including those from Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha after the labour Commission submitted its report. Besides, I also wrote letters to the leaders of all the political parties. The reply from Congress party has been received. Its stand is that that they would look into the matter and decide thereafter. It is true that it is not the question of one party's consent, it is to be passed with the consensus. Therefore, consensus is necessary in this regard. The total work force in the unorganised sector is approximately 40 crore. Out of 40 crore people so far only 7 percent are in organised sector and 93 percent In unorganised sector. The Government have enacted different laws and provided somewhat protection to the workers such as mine workers and Bidi workers. This way some workers have been provided protection. The Government have made enough efforts to provide protection to Agriculture labourers. Every state has been asked to frame laws for this purpose. In all, only two states, namely Kerala and Triupra have enacted laws in this regard. Out of these two states, one state has enacted the law but has not enforced

it though the other state has tried to enforce it but it has not been able to enforce it fully.

They took initiative in this regard. Though they have included 22 lakh workers in it but it is a problem as to how to reach villages and ask farmers to give money to the labourers for the mobilisation of funds. Everyone's view should be taken into consideration in this regard. I have had discussion with political leaders of all the parties on this issue. Personally I have had discussion with all labour organisations, employees organisations and NGOs. I have had discussion with hon. Members. Their consent is very important. People are talking of labour reforms these days. But some people say that they oppose it. It means we work against the interest of labourers, but it is not at all so. The Government have no plan against the labours. India has a large labour force.

[English]

It has become really difficult to sustain that labour force with the present labour laws. It has really become difficult and crores of people are without work. We have to create an atmosphere where they also can get some jobs and where we can attract investments. That is also required. For all that, we need to have new labour laws. We have to rationalise the labour laws. This is what has been recommended in the Labour Commission's Report also. We have to rationalise all these laws and for that I need the help and cooperation of all the Members from different political parties.

[Translation]

We are discussing it and when discussion with all parties is over, a Bill to this effect will be brought during Budget Session. Then I would reply to everyone.

Mr. Speaker, Sir as far as mention of skilled labour by hon. Members is concerned, it is right that the time and the technology are changing. Earlier, the machine on which 50 labourers used to work in India is manned only by two labourers in developed countries. The reason is that we have enough man-power but they are not trained. The Union Government have asked all the States to open 1000 ITIs for skilled labours under Skill Development programme. I think the State Governments will cooperate because it is impossible to organise this programme without their cooperation.

[English]

As far as implementation of Central Labour laws is concerned, out of 50 labour laws, 21 labour laws are being implemented by States only. So, far all that, we need the support and cooperation of all the States and all the Members.

[Translation]

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has given good reply. He had organised a seminar also and I had received a letter from him. Details in this regard mentioned in his files and speeches leave good impression but I, myself work with the labourers. Organised labour are perplexed. In wake of globalisation, the Government have sold public sector undertakings. It is the policy of NDA Government which is wrong and industrialists pay no heed to labourers. The call of hon. Minister for increasing production is good but none cares for labourers. Where the question of unorganised labourers arise in this regard? Arawali hills in Rajasthan come under my constituency. Supreme Court has given a decision to stop illegal mining. If it is stopped, lakhs of labourers in Rajasthan will be rendered jobless. On one hand, the Government talk of providing employment to labourers whereas on other hand they will be stripped of their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask hon. Minister, whether, in view of Supreme Court's decision to stop legal and illegal mining going on in Arawali hills would the Govt. consider over the matter and give an assurance that the legal mining will not be stopped and labourers will not be rendered jobless.

MR. SPEAKER: Meenaji, your question should be to the point.

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the labour representatives be provided a copy of agreement entered with the undertakings on safety of labours.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first question of hon. Member has no direct relation with this question. But as far as specified question asked about Aravali hill that whether mining is being stopped there, is concerned, I will study this matter and would see what action the Ministry is taking on order of the Supreme Court.

As far as the copy of order of labour safety demanded by hon. Member is concerned, I would try, if it is possible. But it has no concern with this question.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, I do agree that labour laws should be applied in unorganised sector. But it does not mean let organised sector get victimised. He has told that he had discussion with all the organisations. But I would like to tell hon. Minister that a protest march under the initiative of Shiv Sena leader Udhbhav Thakre was organised in Mumbai against the Government policies wherein five lakh people took part. Their ire was against unjustified policy of the Government whereby a company with the work-force of upto

one thousand can be closed down without the permission. The Government are framing draconian law. I have forgotten that it is your birthday today. I would like to congratulate you and wish you to occupy a senior position.

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask as lengthy question as you wish.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Is he aware of sentiments of labourers expressed by them during protest march and what sort of talks he had with labour organisation since they are opposing the Government policies.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Labour Commission has studied this matter in detail and it has expressed its views on it in its report. As far as his statement that a rally of five lakh people was held is concerned, I have gone through the reporting and their feeling will be respected. But as he has told that labour organisations are not consulted, in this regard I would like to say that I am discussing it with all labour organisations. We have offered to hold talks with organisations affiliated to Shiv Sena. I have written letters to hon. Members and to him also to come and have talks. As I have stated, everything should be done with consensus. Hon. Prime Minister says that we will try to reach consensus on every issue. He has said that the Government should do nothing for unorganised sector at the cost of organised sector. There is no such proposal. Well, no doubt, I have said that actually it has become difficult for organised sector to sustain its present work force and labour laws are not the sole reason. There may be several other reasons too. But it is essential to take such steps whereby they can be sustained and crores of unemployed youth can be provided job.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sad to say that even today all the workers employed in organised sector are not covered under Social Security Net. As I have said, we do not implement the laws directly, they are implemented through State Governments.

I have come to know that large number of people who have been working in industries for many years have not been covered under Social Security Net. I have had talks with the unions to know the ground reality. I want to urge all labour unions to see the ground realities for which they have been agitating. How many people are fighting for and how many people working in organised sector are with them. I am quite sorry to say that the labour organisations, barring a few, are not at all concerned about the people working in organised sector. ...*(Interruptions)* NGOs are doing something. Otherwise, it is possible that there be a gate meeting, thousands come together and deliver speeches. It has become very difficult. ...*(Interruptions)* to contact and organise even very less number of workers. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: He has not replied to Rawale ji's question as to what steps the Government have taken with regard to companies with work-force of less than a thousand?

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Member raised the issue of companies with one thousand labourers. A discussion was held in this regard. In this regard the Labour Commission has recommended to reduce it to 300 workers.

The proposal which will we bring now, as I said that we would bring a proposal with the consent of all. No decision has been taken so far in this regard either on party level or on ministerial level. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister has delivered a speech like a trade union leader. His goal is to implement the scheme and not to deliver speech. I am of the view that he would implement it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You ask the question to the Hon. Minister.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, in the unorganised sectors, the largest single sector is 'agricultural labour'. About 12 crore to 13 crore agricultural labourers are there. For them, there is no Central law. In the last twenty years, about ten Labour Ministers came in this House and left, but nobody has succeeded to formulate a comprehensive Central legislation for agricultural labourers. These 13 crore people do not have 100 days' work in India. They are not getting wage. They are not getting pension. They are not getting any benefit. You cannot combine agricultural labour with unorganised sector in the towns. Agricultural labour sector is different. Agricultural labourers are living in different conditions. Their registration should be at the Block level or the panchayat level. It cannot be brought in the city. So, a separate law is required for agricultural labourers. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is going to bring a Central legislation for agricultural labourers separately in the next Session or not.

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very sad that not a single good law has been formulated for the unorganised sector despite the passage of 55 years of independence of our country. As I said that small laws have been framed for the Bidi workers or other labourers but no law has so far been enacted for the persons working in the unorganised sector or in agriculture sector. Unfortunate aspect

is that people sitting here belong to the political parties who at one point of time or the other in the past 55 years have been part of the Government. All parties have been part of the Government. Despite no such law has been formulated. The NDA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You listen to his reply.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: It has already been stated by the Hon. Minister that no law has been formulated, you tell as to what steps you intend to take. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Have patience to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: It is in your hands to provide this opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*

Will it be fully supported or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: You have stated that agriculture sector does not come under unorganised sector. In fact it comes under unorganised sector. It cannot come under any other sector. ...*(Interruptions)* It is different thing that we make law for a specific sector but it is in unorganised sector. Even the farmers have not organised so far. He is talking about labour. ...*(Interruptions)* You listen to it first. ...*(Interruptions)* I am submitting that for the first time we have started an agricultural labour Social Security scheme since 1.7.2001 in 50 selected districts. Under the scheme one rupee by the agricultural labour and two rupees by the Government would be contributed daily and it ensures that several benefits are given to them like pension or the provision of providing money in case of the sudden death of an agricultural labourer. This kind of scheme has been started by the NDA Government for the first time. It would have been appreciable, had the hon. Minister expressed his desire to know the time by when the Government propose to begin this scheme in the remaining districts. ...*(Interruptions)* I accept that you are concerned about them but perhaps you are not aware that we have formulated an Agricultural Labourer Social Security Scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I know about it but it is not being implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: He knows but does not want to expand it further. ...*(Interruptions)* No one is interested in the implementation of the scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I would like to know as to what criteria have been followed in selecting 50 districts out of the 550? How it is being implemented? As I am in trade union, I am saying that it is not being implemented in the entire country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You address the Chair while concluding your reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Minister reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I was submitting that the Agricultural Labourer Social Security Scheme formulated by us is very important for the agricultural labourers and it would be beneficial to them a lot. Similarly we have also formulated a Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana. Keeping in view the fact that the farmers have no work in most part of the year because they are required to do the agriculture work for a certain period of the year. We have also formulated Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana to provide them employment during the idle time so that they may earn something. We have also formulated Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana also. We are trying our best to bring a comprehensive legislation for the unorganised sector during the budget session and expect your co-operation in this regard.

Publicity on Indian Tourism

*183. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to publicise the positive features of Indian Tourism in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the countries identified for the purpose?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Promotion of various features of Indian Tourism is an on going process and is undertaken through the India tourism offices located in various countries. The marketing strategy is to promote the country's Tourism products in key markets through advertising in print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, dissemination of formation through brochures, CD Roms, inviting of media personalities under the hospitality programme, web marketing, organization of workshops and seminars etc. A plan Budget provision of Rs. 51 crores is

available for undertaking these activities during the year 2002-03.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Mr. Speaker Sir, through you I would like to submit that the hon. Minister has not given direct reply to the part (c) of my question. Instead, he has named various countries. I would like to know the names of those countries where the tourism offices are located and how much funds have been spent on the publicity in foreign countries during the last three years.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: Sir, we have 13 offices all over the world to promote tourism, and they cover practically all the countries. London is one office which covers U.K. There are four offices which cover all the West European countries. One is in Paris, the other is in Frankfurt, the third is in Milan, and the fourth is in Amsterdam. They cover the entire region. Similarly, in the East, we have got an office in Tokyo, an office in Sydney, and we have got also an office in Singapore. We have also got, in West Asia, offices at Dubai and Johannesburg. So, we have 13 offices in all, and we spend about Rs.51 crore in all. We also participated in various World Marts. For example, recently, a London, Mart was held in which 185 countries participated; 5,000 companies participated. We also participated. We take advantage of these Marts to propagate India's tourism products and to invite more and more tourists to come to India. That is our strategy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: My supplementary is as to how much foreign exchange has been earned through the foreign tourists visiting India during the last three years and also the names of the countries from which the maximum tourists came? I would further like to know whether number of tourists has declined due to the terrorist incidents in the current year? I would also like to ask one more supplementary what facilities have been provided by the tourist department for the foreign tourists visiting the famous sites of Ajanta-Elora and Sindhudurg?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: The total number of foreign tourists who come in a year, on an average, is 2.6 million. Due to the attack in September, and later on other activities, tourism did decline by four per cent. There was a decline in all over the world, and our decline was not to sharp as in other countries. However, you will be happy to know that in the month of October, we have turned around and there is an increase of 16.6 per cent in foreign tourists as compared to the corresponding month last year. There is an increase in terms of foreign exchange earnings to the extent of 24.4 per cent.

This is substantial. It was in the month of October. Similar trends are visible for the month of November as well.

Sir, so far as the adverse effects of terrorist activities are concerned, it is our constant endeavour to educate the people. We have taken a special drive in all those countries which have been issuing advisory notes not to do so because they were not having the correct perception of the ground reality. We have conducted surveys. Surveys have also been conducted by independent agencies. It has been found that not a single foreign tourist in India was threatened on account of safety or security. We have also been impressing upon those countries by telling them that if they were to issue these advisory notes, then they were really playing into the hands of the terrorists. It is because in such a case the terrorists would feel that if they were able to explode a bomb somewhere, then they would be able to undermine the economy of that country. In that case those countries would be serving the purpose of the terrorists. If they really wanted to discourage terrorism, then they should not do such activities. This has been our appeal to them.

We have also been educating the other countries on tourism in India. I had been to London. We had given them all the statistics and we also have given them the statements made by tourists who came here and who had unanimously said that they felt more secure in India than they feel on the Fifth Avenue of New York street. That is the actual position. *...(Interruptions)*

The other question was about wherefrom we get the largest number of tourists. We get the largest number of foreign tourists from UK. Sixteen per cent of our foreign tourists are from the United Kingdom and the rest are from the West European countries and the United States. We have now started a campaign, 'Look East' to attract tourists from countries like Japan, China, Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand. In pursuance of that policy, we have entered into an agreement with China. I myself have visited China and Japan. We had organised a big exhibition there on Mathura Arts and also on Ajanta and Ellora about which the hon. Member has asked a question. Those are very popular there. I gave a presentation on Ajanta and Ellora in Japan and also in London about the great works that have been done there recently. A large number of tourists are coming there.

Sir, here I would like to point out, as might have been

seen by the hon. Member, that we would like to show to the world, and the world also has accepted; the improvements that have already been done in Ajanta and Ellora. This was part of the first question asked by the hon. Member. Apart from that, we are setting up documentation-cum-information-cum-interpretation centres for explaining the march of Indian civilization from Dhola Vira right up to the present daytime. In all these centres we are creating hubs of culture, tourism and clean civic life. There would be at least one such centre in every State. A lot of work has been done in Kurukshetra in the State of Haryana; a lot of work has been done in Red Fort in Delhi. These are the hubs of culture and tourism and it would attract and would also help in giving a clean and an elevated image of India's way of life, India's heritage and power of the Indian minds that produced all these great things.

Sir, the other question was about the Sindhudurg fort. We have drawn up a scheme to take care of the forts that are on the coast. This great fort was built up by Chhatrapati Shivaji. This has been in a state of neglect in the last 50 years. I have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1 crore minimum for this year and we would give more, if necessary, to repair, renovate and restore this fort to its ancient glory. We would also ensure that there is an improvement in the passage to the fort as well. It would take care of other forts also that are there on the coastal areas. I am sure, this would act as a new incentive to tourism in the Western region of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, tourism industry is a very sensitive industry besides being a major source of earning foreign exchange. Unfortunately despite India being a vast country our share in total world tourism does not exceed two or three percent. 98 percent tourists prefer visiting other neighbouring countries and there are few reasons for it. I do not want to elaborate. Through you, I would like to know two things from the hon. Minister. Firstly whether any survey, assessment has been made for knowing the reasons for our very small share in world tourism despite India possessing such a vast natural wealth resources, culture and diverse wild life.

I have several of my acquaintances or friends in the tourism offices set up by the Government in foreign countries. I would like to inform you as you might not be having direct information that the work-culture in these offices is extremely pathetic. Most of the personnel lead their luxurious life there and render little time for the work for which they have been posted there. Moreover, most them are also incompetent. The people working there have been posted on the basis of recommendations, the professional and experts having basic knowledge of tourism are lacking. Due to which we are not getting the desired share in world tourism industry. I would like to know whether any review was conducted regarding the functioning of these offices as to how much manpower was needed and what had been their output, how much aid was provided to each of the offices and what was the output of the offices vis-a-vis the funds spent on publicity and advertisements and also how much was declined or increased in output each year. Whether any survey in this regard was conducted? If so, what are the results thereof and what strategy has been formulated to meet the challenge?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: Sir, the hon. Member asked a number of questions.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: All are vital questions.

SHRI JAG MOHAN: I will give equally vital responses.

The first question the hon. Member has asked is, 'Why is it that in spite of such great heritage that we have got, our tourism has not picked up during the last fifty years?' It is true. Our share of the world tourism is only 0.38 per cent. So far as the foreign exchange is concerned, we earn about Rs.14,000 crore. Now, why is this percentage so low?

The hon. Member comes from Khajuraho. I have already explained in my first reply that to make good the deficiency, I have adopted an integrated approach of synthesizing the elements of culture, tourism, clean civic life, and effective management on the site. Now, the greatest handicap with which we are faced is the cleanliness part of that. Even in Khajuraho, the most important monument is cluttered with shops all around in violation of civic laws. Even at Jama Masjid, thousands of people visit it, all is cluttered up. That is the handicap wherever you go.

This is what we have taken care of in Ajanta and Ellora. All those slums and stalls have been relocated. At beautiful places, new shops and other things have been built. A very clean environment has been created around Ajanta, as it existed in 2nd century BC. There are no motor vehicles nearby now within three and a half kilometres. Everything has been environmentally taken care of, including the public conveniences. Buses conforming to Euro standards are plying there, no other bus is going there now. No vehicle is going nearby. New arrangements for management of sites have been made. New ticketing system has been introduced. New landscaping is done. Tourist huts have been created. Now you can travel from what you call the T-point to the point of the caves only through environment-friendly buses

and vehicles, which are either battery-operated or which conform to Euro-II emission standards.

The other question which the hon. Member has asked is that the Foreign Tourist Offices are sometimes not working properly. I would accept this complaint. This is a general problem of governance with which not only our Tourist Offices but many other offices suffer. This is an issue where we are constantly on the job. We are reorganising this Department.

In this regard, I would like to inform the hon. Member that we have closed five such offices which were not functioning properly. So, we are taking care to re-organise and upgrade them wherever necessary. About opening of new offices, I would like to inform the House that we are proposing opening new offices at Beijing and Kuala Lumpur.

So, we are constantly reviewing this. It has been launched as a big programme to give a boost to tourism. Our hon. Prime Minister had already announced on the 15th August that Tourism would be our top priority because it is an employment generation programme. For every Rupee one million that we invest in tourism, we get 47 jobs as compared to 12 jobs for the corresponding money in the industry. That is why now we have increased our plan allocation. This year's Budget is one-and-a-half times more than what was last year. Our Tenth Plan allocation is five times more than what was in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Constituency is the home of Ajanta-Elora caves. When you were the Chief Minister, a second phase proposal for their development was submitted. Through you, I would thank the Hon. Minister that his department has formulated a good proposal and decided to implement it through NTPC. The Government of Japan has also approved it and it has been heard that MOU in this regard is scheduled to be signed in month of January. I would also like to thank the Hon. Minister that funds worth 430 crore rupees have been allocated for the upgradation of Chikalathona Airport keeping with a view to the arrival of foreign tourists. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should talk to the Hon. Prime Minister for arranging a grant function in the precincts of Elora Caves. The budget allocated for this work is very little but the assistance from the Japan Government is underway. If a date is fixed in this regard then a grand programme can be organised.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: Sir, the hon. Member had said about the work done by the Tourism Department. He had himself seen it because that work has been done in his Constituency. If any hon. Members are interested, I would like to show them a film on what has been done by the Tourism Department in Ajanta as a model and what is being done at other places as a model. That will give a very broad view of the work being done. All such questions, which the hon. Members are asking, will be answered by seeing that film. *...(Interruptions)*

There were other questions raised. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the second phase has already been approved in principle, and we are going to go in a big way in Elephanta and other areas. When I talk about Ajanta and Ellora, that does not mean only Ajanta and Ellora; it means the entire region around which the Ajanta and Ellora exist.

About Ajanta and Ellora, I had said that it is only a hub. It will cover Daulatabad; it will cover Bibi-ka-Maqbara, and some other places also. All these places are really covered. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Sir, this is a very important question. We should also be given a chance to ask supplementaries. *...(Interruptions)*

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, tourism is a very vital subject. We should be allowed to ask supplementaries. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you can ask for Half-an-hour discussion on this Question, and I shall allow that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If there are several hon. Members to speak on this issue, they can go in for some other discussion. This is only a Question Hour. They can ask for Half-an-hour discussion on this and I shall allow that.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the original question the Hon. Minister has stated that the development of the various aspects of Indian tourism is a sustainable process. A budgetary allocation of Rs.51 crore for completing various projects has been made in the year 2002-03. I welcome it and thank the Hon'ble Minister.

Through you, I would like to bring one thing, to the notice of the Hon. Minister that there is a need to pay attention towards developing infrastructure and transport facilities for the famous tourist places in the country so that the foreign tourists could visit the country in largest numbers. Sir, lakhs of foreign tourists visit Himachal Pradesh every year, hence three runways are available there. On our continuous

insistence and with the efforts of the Hon. Minister, the Ministry of Civil Aviation had started a flight of Indian Airlines to Kullu two years ago. Unfortunately, these were discontinued on the ground that the Dornier is out of order and it was grounded. The flights of Indian Airlines have been stopped permanently two days ago. Sir, through you I would like to urge upon the Hon. Minister to keep in touch with the Minister of Civil Aviation for immediately restoring the Indian Airlines flight for Kullu. We were rather hoping that ATR-50 flights would be started, whereas the flights have been stopped completely. It would adversely affect the number of foreign tourist. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister would talk to the Minister of Civil Aviation in this regard?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: There are two parts of the question which the hon. Member has raised. One is the general tourism development in Himachal Pradesh and the other is the civil aviation problem.

As far as the first part of the question is concerned, I would like to inform the hon. Member that a very important and a very significant scheme has been started in Himachal Pradesh. I am not going into the details of it State-wise, but I am going into it region-wise. From Upchi-Manali Road to Leh, a great project has been started which will cover all the Buddhist monasteries and also all the beautiful nature-sites. A few of us know that we have got 572 nature-sites in this area and all those areas will be covered. One can have adventure tourism and health tourism all along this area up to Leh.

For Leh itself, an amount of Rs.3 crore has been sanctioned; for the area of the hon. Member, an amount of Rs.4-5 crore has been sanctioned for this year. That will give a great fillip to tourism in Himachal Pradesh. Apart from Upchi-Manali Road to Leh, there is another road, Shimla- Leh Road.

So far as civil aviation problem is concerned, I would definitely take it up with the Civil Aviation Minister. We are continuously in touch with him to ensure that connectivity is there. Connectivity should also be improved with all the efforts that we are making. They will yield results fully, if there is connectivity.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to go to the next Question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am prepared to permit you to raise this under any other rule. Please sit down. Let me make it clear. The issue is important. If the hon. Members are interested in raising the issue under some other rule, I am prepared to admit that. We have taken 20 minutes to put supplementaries for this question, whereas there can be only two supplementaries.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go to the next Question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask for a discussion. I am prepared to permit it, if the BAC decides so. You can ask for Half-an-Hour discussion also. I will permit that.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Sir, will you permit an half-an-hour discussion on this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it can be permitted, provided a proper notice is given. Now, we go to Question No. 184. This Question is also important. Shri Chada Suresh Reddy.

...(Interruptions)

Release of Water by Karnataka to Andhra Pradesh

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*184. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:

SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the Government of Karnataka to release water from Almatti Dam to tide over water crisis faced by Andhra Pradesh on the agricultural front;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the assistance proposed for Andhra Pradesh for facing acute water shortage for irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Union Government has not received any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of water from Almatti Dam to tide over water crisis faced by Andhra Pradesh on the Agriculture front.

Irrigation being a State subject and as per present policy, irrigation projects are panned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. However, the Central Government is providing Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for such approved ongoing major/medium irrigation projects which are beyond the resource capability of States as also for completion of other projects which are in advanced stage of construction. Rs. 630.61 crore has been released to Andhra Pradesh since 1996-1997 for completion of ongoing major/medium irrigation projects.

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Sir, drought or floods is a regular phenomenon in one part of the country or the other. In view of this scenario, it is very important to link rivers of the country to meet this serious situation. This has also been demanded by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu. The Almatti Dam in Karnataka is almost full to the brim; it could easily supply water to the drought-hit districts of Andhra Pradesh, by releasing water to these districts. Will the Central Government use its good offices and make a permanent arrangement so that the water of the Almatti Dam is available for Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main Question is, whether the Central Government has directed the Government of Karnataka to release water from Almatti Dam. So far as Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal is concerned, there is no provision to direct the Karnataka Government to release water in case of scarcity of water in any of the basin States. As far as interlinking of rivers is concerned, hon. Prime Minister has already stated on the floor of the House that this project is being treated on priority basis. 'The hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has supported it and we are very much thankful to him. We will certainly give enough priority to make it materialise.

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Government offer liberal help to the drought affected farmers of Andhra Pradesh so that they are not perished under the fury of nature with extreme drought conditions during successive years?

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: We all know that this year the monsoon behaviour throughout the country is not at all good, especially, the State of Andhra Pradesh is suffering due to failure of monsoon. So far as release of water from Almatti Dam is concerned, I understand, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has already requested the Chief Minister of Karnataka in this regard. We have not received any request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. Whenever we receive any such communication, we will certainly request the Government of Karnataka to consider releasing water to the State of Andhra Pradesh which is affected due to scarcity of rainfall.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: What are the steps taken by the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, the second person has to ask his Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow him after Shri Palanimanickam.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, I would like to know what special steps have been taken by the Central Government to release water from the Karnataka State so as to save the standing crop in Cauvery delta, particularly in Thanjavur district.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Sir, this matter has been pending before the Supreme Court.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, both Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are in distress due to failure of monsoon. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete it. The State of Andhra Pradesh also is in distress. ...*(Interruptions)* Not only in these three States, in other States also because of failure of monsoon, scarcity condition is prevailing. This entire issue is being considered in the Court of Law. The matter is also being considered by CRA - Cauvery River Authority. Since the matter is *sub judice*, I should not talk about it here. We are certainly very much concerned about the distressed condition of these States. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The matter is *sub judice.*

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sukender Reddy, please ask your Supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Mr. Speaker Sir, the country is facing acute water crisis. The Karnataka Government is not implementing the judgements awarded by CRA despite Supreme Court thrice giving it direction to

do so. In regard to releasing the Krishna river water in Almatti dam reservoir for Andhra, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister that

[English]

whether the Government propose to establish a National Water Commission to inquire into the violations of water policy to establish some accountability of the Governments and the people to ensure that people of a State do not suffer on account of rigidity of a neighbouring State.

I would also like to know whether guidelines for sharing of river waters among the States will be reviewed to ensure that humanitarian considerations like drought or shortage of drinking water faced by neighbouring States are not ignored and such factors are taken into consideration for release of water from dams, water basins etc. as and when exigencies occur.

[Translation]

It does not seem that the Kashmir problem would resolve. However war among States is possible for water. Hence I would like to know whether or not the Government is trying to solve this problem by constituting a National Water Commission soon?

[English]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, so far as the problem of inter-State disputes regarding water sharing is concerned, as I have stated earlier, the proposal regarding inter-linking of rivers is being considered. If that is implemented, certainly, the whole problem will be over.

As far as the question regarding Cauvery is concerned, recently, we had convened the CRA meeting but due to want of quorum, it could not be held. Certainly, we would consider convening the meeting of CRA again when this matter can be considered in future days.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. colleague from Andhra Pradesh wanted immediate release of water, but the Minister is suggesting inter- linking of rivers which will take decades. The hon. Member wants to have an immediate solution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, can you give them immediate relief? That is the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Let the Minister reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Meeting of World Tourism Mart

*185. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

(a) whether the World Tourism Mart (WTM) was held recently in London;

(b) if so, the details of Indian delegates/officials who attended the meet;

(c) whether the Government have outlined several new policies at WTM;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps proposed by the Government to increase inflow of foreign tourists?

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

(b) The Indian Delegation was led by the Minister of Tourism and Culture and it comprised of representatives from the Department of Tourism, various State Governments and a cross section of the travel and tourism industry.

(c) and (d) During this Mart, the India's products were repositioned in various key markets under the brand name 'Incredible India'. This opportunity was also used to apprise the international tourism industry on the various initiatives undertaken to upgrade and promote India's tourism product.

(e) The marketing strategy for promotion of India in key markets includes advertising in print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, dissemination of information through brochures. CD Roms, inviting of media personalities under the hospitality programme, web marketing, organization of workshops and seminars etc.

[Translation]

Scheme to Increase Production of Crops in Eastern India

*186. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any new scheme to increase the production of various crops in the country particularly in Eastern India;

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

(c) the extent to which crop production is likely to be increased as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new centrally sponsored scheme of "On-Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" has been launched during March, 2002 for implementation in all the districts of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh besides Eastern Uttar Pradesh and parts of West Bengal. The scheme is to be continued in the X Five Year Plan also.

The components of the scheme are as follows:-

- Assistance for installation of Shallow Tube Wells with pump sets for individual/group of farmers.
- Assistance for community lift irrigation points (LIP) to groups of farmers.
- Assistance for electric/diesel water pumping sets to individual farmers and
- Assistance for dug wells in the plateau regions only.

The scheme is a back-ended credit linked scheme and is being implemented through NABARD in coordination with the State Governments of the ten eastern Indian States. The scheme has been launched during March, 2002 and will continue during the entire X Plan period.

The funding pattern of the scheme will be at 20:50:30 basis i.e. 20% of the average unit cost will be the contribution of the beneficiaries, 50% of the average unit cost as loan from commercial/cooperative/Regional Rural Banks and the remaining 30% being the assistance from Govt. of India as subsidy.

(c) With the implementation of the scheme and with the availability of assured irrigation at the command of the farmers, the additional productivity of mainly rabi/summer rice in these States is likely to be increased by 3 tonnes per hectare. Further, an additional yield of one tonne per hectatre is likely to be obtained during kharif season.

[English]

Tourist Air Taxi

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to start Tourist Air Taxi to develop and exploit the tourism potential in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Privatisation of Airports

*188. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has asked his Ministry to speed up privatisation process of Airports;

(b) if so, whether the Government have created Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) for airport privatisation;

(c) if so, the details of such SPVs.;

(d) whether the financial institutions have recommended such SPVs to route flow of funds from investors for the modernisation of airports;

(e) the details of airports that have been selected for this purpose;

(f) whether the officers and employees would be adversely affected by the said privatisation;

(g) the details of scheme formulated to rehabilitate the said employees;

(h) whether fresh recruitment is still continuing in AAi though nearly 30% staff have been identified as surplus; and

(i) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) A Task

Force on Infrastructure has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission which, *inter alia*, monitors the progress of restructuring of airports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata airports have been selected for this purpose.

(f) and (g) No, Sir. The legitimate concerns of the employees would be suitably addressed in the restructuring process.

(h) and (i) Fresh recruitment is being done only in the critical/ essential areas because of operational necessity. No surplus staff has been identified in the Airports Authority of India so far.

Violation of Environmental and Forestry Laws

*189. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the hon'ble Supreme Court has imposed any penalties on certain States as well as companies for violation of environmental and forestry laws during the last one year and thereafter;

(b) if so, whether any penalties have also been imposed against some companies for advertising on rocks etc. in the country particularly hilly areas;

(c) if so, the number of such cases detected during the said period alongwith the names of States and companies indicating the observations made by the Hon'ble Court against each of them;

(d) the follow up action taken by the Government alongwith the steps proposed for restoration of ecology;

(e) whether the Government have received the report of the committee set up to enquire into the whole episode; and

(f) if so, the details alongwith action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Supreme Court by their interim order dated 26-9-2002 in Interlocutory Application No.780 of 2002 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1995 has directed the payment of Rs. 1.00 crore by Government of Himachal Pradesh and Rs. 1.00 crore by the various companies involving Malhotra Book Depot (MBD), Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola, Grasim, Fena, SBI, Sleepwell and Amaron for advertising on rocks in Kullu-Manali-Rohtang region, for restoration of the area.

(d) to (f) The Supreme Court has directed the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) to take the responsibility of over-seeing repairing work of the damage which has been done.

Protected Monuments

*190. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:

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

(a) the details of ancient monuments declared centrally protected in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar during the last three years;

(b) the norms fixed for declaring a monument centrally protected;

(c) the steps taken for the proper conservation of those monuments; and

(d) the allocation of fund made during the last three years to the State particularly Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, monument-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There are already 3606 centrally protected monuments/sites in the country. Recently new initiatives have been taken to review the position. A number of notifications have been issued to commence the process of protection of more monuments/sites during the last 3 years. The details of monuments/sites where notifications have been completed are in the enclosed statement-I. The details of monuments/ sites where protection proposals have been initiated, and which are under consideration are in the enclosed statements II and II respectively.

(b) Under the provisions of section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, any structure, erection or monument, or any tumulus or place

of internment, or any cave, rock-sculpture, inscription or monolith, which is of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years, and includes (i) the remains of an ancient monument (ii) the site of an ancient monument are considered for declaring them as monuments/sites of national importance.

(c) To conserve and preserve the protected monuments/Sites during the last 3 years, adequate measures by way of day-to-day maintenance, structural repairs, chemical preservation and environmental development as per archaeological principles have been adopted.

(d) The State-wise details of allocation of funds made during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement-IV and in respect of monuments/sites protected during the last three years (monuments-wise) is given in the enclosed statement-V.

Statement-I

Details of Monuments / Sites where protection process is completed during 2000-2002

S.No.	Name of the Monument/site	Date of Notification	Process completed
1.	Tomb of Mohammad Khan Bangash Nawab, Farrukhabad, U.P.	26.2.2000	Completed
2.	Sri Apathsahayeswara Temple and Gateway with Horses, Senthamangalam, Tamil Nadu	26.2.2000	Completed
3.	Suvaraneswara Temple, Halsi, Karnataka	22.12.2000	Completed
4.	Ramalingeswara Temple, Halsi, Karnataka	22.12.2000	Completed
5.	Bhu-Varaha Temple, Halsi, Karnataka	22.12.2000	Completed
6.	Kalmeswara Temple, Halsi, Karnataka	22.12.2000	Completed
7.	Mazar of Shaikh Muhammad Ibrahim Zauq, Delhi	12.12.2000	Completed
8.	Fortification with monuments Red Fort, Delhi	31.7.2002	Completed
9.	Salim Garh Fort, Delhi	13.9.2002	Completed
10.	City wall of Shajanabad, Delhi	13.9.2002	Completed

Statement-II

Details of Monuments/ Sites where Protection process has been initiated during 2000-2002

S.No.	Name of the Monument/site	Date/process initiated
1	2	3
1.	Currency Building, Calcutta	3.7.2002
2.	Asiatic Society Building, Calcutta	3.7.2002
3.	Ancient Buddhist Stupa Site at Kanganhalli, Karnataka	14.9.2002
4.	Arunachaleswara Temple, Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu	21.9.2002
5.	Institute de Chandannagar	29.10.2002
6.	Gwalior Fort	29.10.2002
7.	Patal Bhubaneshwar, Uttaranchal	29.10.2002
8.	Nabha House Kurukshetra	29.10.2002
9.	Beth-el-Synagogue, Kolkotta, W.B.	9.11.2002
10.	Magen David, Kolkotta, W.B.	9.11.2002
11.	Bhimgarh Fort, Reasi, J&K	9.11.2002
12.	Tamluk Rajbati, Kolkotta, W.B.	20.11.2002

Statement-III

Details of Monuments / Sites where Protection process is under consideration during 2000-2002

Andaman and Nicobar Islands (U.T.)

1. Old Building, Ross Island

Assam

2. Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Silchar

Bihar

3. House of Rishi Rajnaraya Basu at Deoghar, Bihar
4. L.S. College, Muzaffarpur, Bihar
5. Bodhgaya Temple, Bihar

Delhi

6. Siri Fort Wall and its adjoining historical mound
7. Swami Shradanand Balidan Bhawan, Delhi
8. Building at Roshanara Road where Swami Vivekanand Stayed in Delhi
9. Quli Khan's Tomb, Mehrauli, New Delhi
10. Quila Rai Pithora and Siri Fort Wall, Delhi

Goa

11. Mahadev Temple, Tamdisurla, Goa

Gujarat

12. Bhau Tambekarwala, Vadodara

Haryana

13. Group of Tombs at Jhajjar
14. Ancient monument, Borsham Karnal
15. Neemrana Mahal of Prithvi Raj Chauhan, Haryana
16. Tombs of Taurru, Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana

Himachal Pradesh

17. Buddhist Monastry at Lahalung Distt. Lahul Spiti
18. Hiteshwari Devi Temple, Shiva Temple and four miniature temple at Hatkoti, Shimla, H.P.
19. Balakeshwar Mahadeva Temple, Shimla, H.P.
20. Bhuddhist temple at Nadang, Lahul and Spiti
21. Buddhist Monasteries at Naka Distt. Kinnaur, H.P.
22. Durga Temple, Distt. Kangra, H.P.
23. Shiva Temple, Jubbal, Shimla H.P.
24. Chandra Shekar Temple, Chamba,,H.P.
25. Khajji Naga Temple, Khajjiar Distt. Chamba, H.P.
26. Lakshmi Narayan Temple, Udaipur, Chamba, H.P.
27. Shiva Shakti Devi Temple, Chamba, H.P.
28. Thungyar Gumpha, Karla, Distt. Kinnaur H.P.
29. Shiva Temple, Mahakala Temple and Bhut Nath Temple, Mandi, H.P.
30. Monuments in Pangi Valley, Chamba, H.P.
31. Shiva Mandir, Joginder Nagar, Mandi, H.P.
32. Barsela Monument, Distt. Mandi, H.P.

Jammu and Kashmir

33. Ancient Nyarma Monastery in Laddakh, J&K
34. Hari Parbhat Sri Nagar Kashmir, J&K
35. Chiktan and other Gompas and Monasteries at Distt. Kargil, J&K

Karnataka

36. Memorial Tipu Sultan, Sringapatnam,
37. Anegundi Bridge and other related ancient monuments of Hampi
38. Mata Manikeshwari Hill Manikgiri, Distt. Gulbarga,Karnataka
39. Temple of Sri Someshwar and Chandershekar at Hassan, Karnataka
40. Monuments belonging to Chalukya Dynasty of Multagi village, Karnataka
41. Ramanatheswar and other temple situated in Chittur Village Distt. Shimoga, Karnataka
42. Ancient Chalukyan temple, Badami, Bagalkot Distt., Karnataka

43. Virupaksha temple, Karnataka

Kerala

44. Sri Thiruvankidam Maharishu temple Chodissary, Distt. Trichur, Kerala

45. Sri Vadakunnatha temple at Thumpomon Distt. Pathanamthitta, Kerala

46. Sri Rama Swarny Temple of Vallarkad, Thrissur

Madhya Pradesh

47. Pre-historic Rock Shelters, Bhimbetka, Distt. Raisen

48. Gohar Mahal, Bhopal, M.P.

49. Marshall's House at Sanchi, Raisen, M.P.

50. Town Hall Building, Shivpuri, M.P.

Maharashtra

51. Ambarnath Shiv Temple near Mumbai,

52. Harishewsra Temple,Kudal, Sangam, Distt. Solapur

53. Bodh Stup of Sapora Vill. Distt. Thane

54. Fort at Ahmadnagar

55. Gandhi Ashram, Solapur

56. Aga Khan Palace, Pune

Orissa

57. Ancient Caves at Khandgiri and Udaigiri near Cuttack

58. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Birth Palace i.e. Jankinath Bhawan of Cuttack

Punjab

59. Mata Jayanti Devi Temple, Ropar, Punjab

60. Ranjit Singh Fort, at Phillaur, Punjab

61. Durgiana Temple, Amritsar, Punjab

Rajasthan

62. Rock Remains Primondial Shrine at Alwar (Rajasthan)

63. Samadi of Maharana Pratap, Rajasthan

64. Ancient Site Ojiyana Distt. Bhilwara, Rajasthan

65. Rakta Talai, Chetak Samadhi, Haldi Ghati, Badshahi Gate, Rajasthan

66. Badshahi Bagh, Rajsamand, Rajasthan

67. Ranakpur Jain Temple Complex

Tamil Nadu

68. Thirumageshwara temple Devanur, Villupuram, Distt., Tamil Nadu

69. Kailashnath Temple, Tirupathur, Trichurapali Distt. Tamil Nadu

70. Excavated remains Buddhist Vihar and temple at Pallaveneshwaram, Distt., Tamil Nadu

71. Monuments in Kanyakumari Distt., Tamil Nadu

Uttar Pradesh

72. Areas of land around excavated remains and Chaukhandi Stupa at Sarnath, U.P.

73. Mounds of Urai, Sadar Basti, Distt. Basti, U.P.

74. Monuments at Kasna Distt., Gutam Budh Nagar, U.P.

75. Pant Sadan the House of the First Chief Minister of U.P.

76. Ashth Shakhi Kund, Radha Kund, Kishna Kund, Distt. Mathura, U.P.

West Bengal

77. Clive House at Dumdum

78. Shiva Temple Complex at Sribabatipara, Kolkatta

79. Main Gate Naubatkhana, Hangeshwari & Basudeva temple, Hoogli

80. Hasting House at Barasat

81. Khawaja Anwar Berth (Nawab Bari Palace) at Burdman

82. Imambara, Yellow Mosque, Tripaulia Gate, South Gate, Hazarduari Complex

83. Estate of Kavi Guru Ravindra Nath Tagore, Kolkotta

Statement-IV

Statement showing the Expenditure made to States including Madhya Pradesh and Bihar

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	123.40	136.29	141.39
2.	Assam	62.06	120.18	99.58
3.	Aruchachal Pradesh	0.75	05.00	01.80
4.	Bihar*	115.70	134.00	86.48
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	16.70
6.	Delhi	300.49	219.96	277.14
7.	Daman & Diu	20.25	15.00	23.61
8.	Goa	47.35	39.77	50.61
9.	Gujarat	79.63	100.67	99.59
10.	Haryana	63.22	60.00	91.85
11.	Himachal Pradesh	105.75	80.00	91.11
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	96.00	112.60	145.03
13.	Jharkhand	-	-	04.33
14.	Karnataka	252.12	248.13	476.19
15.	Kerala	50.68	79.50	75.12
16.	Madhya Pradesh*	189.00	01.64	250.51
17.	Maharashtra	139.00	153.00	828.49
18.	Manipur	03.94	0.50	01.42
19.	Meghalaya	-	02.00	04.94
20.	Nagaland	02.66	03.00	05.67
21.	Orissa	108.00	80.00	112.87
22.	Pondicherry (U. T.)	01.80	15.00	03.30
23.	Punjab	39.04	23.00	57.92
24.	Rajasthan	161.00	174.69	235.00

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Sikkim	30.20	20.00	27.60
26.	Tamil Nadu	110.57	110.80	187.79
27.	Tripura	21.21	05.00	17.05
28.	Uttar Pradesh	370.00	297.11	385.13
29.	Uttaranchal	-	-	36.52
30.	West Bengal	100.00	80.70	146.13
	Total	2593.82	2317.54	3980.87

Statement-V

The details of Allocation of Funds against the Monuments/ Sites Protected during the last three years

(In lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Monument/Site	Locality/District/State	Allocation of Funds during the last three years (1999-2001)
1.	Ancient Site at Lothal	District Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Rs.05.09
2.	Tomb of Mohammad Khan Bangash Nawab	District Farrukhabad, Uttar Pradesh	Nil
3.	Sri Apathsahayeswara Temple and Gateway with Horses	Senthamangalam, Ulundurpet Taluk, Villupuram District, Tamil Nadu	Rs.04.76
4.	Suvaraneswara Temple	Halshi, Khanapur Taluk, Belgaum Distt. Karnataka	Nil
5.	Ramalingeswara Temple	Halshi, Khanapur Taluk, Belgaum Distt. Karnataka	Nil
6.	Bhu-Varaha Temple	Halshi, Khanapur Taluk, Belgaum Distt. Karnataka	Rs.04.95
7.	Kalmeswara Temple	Halshi, Khanapur Taluk, Belgaum Distt. Karnataka	Nil
8.	Mazar of Shaikh Muhammad Ibrahim Zauq	Chinnord Basti (Kadam Sherif), Nabi Karim, Paharganj, Delhi.	Rs.03.31

Shrinking of Agricultural Land

*191. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cultivable area in the country is gradually shrinking due to exploitation of land for residential and industrial purposes;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering bringing any legislation to prevent conversion of agricultural land for any other purposes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The land-use statistics data indicates that the Net Sown Area has increased from 140.27 million hectare in 1980-81 to 142.60 million hectare in 1998-99. During the same period, the area under non-agricultural uses, including for residential and industrial purposes, has increased from 19.66 million hectare to 22.81 million hectare. This indicates that the Net Sown Area has not shrunk and rather it has increased by 2.33 million hectare in last two decades. During the same period, area under non-agricultural uses has also increased by 3.15 million hectare as per details enclosed as statement. Since, it implies that even if some agricultural land has been diverted to non-agricultural uses, a large area has also been brought under cultivation through reclamation of wastelands and other degraded lands, thereby, increasing the Net Sown Area.

Land is a State subject and, therefore, to bring legislation to prevent conversion of cultivable land for any other purpose falls under the purview of State Government. Some of the States, through their State Land Use Boards have issued instructions to Line Departments of their Governments to ensure that prime agricultural land is not diverted for non-agricultural uses and if it becomes necessary to do so, then efforts may be made to provide equivalent land in lieu of diverted land. The Government of India provides support to State Land Use Boards.

Statement

Distribution of Agricultural Land by Different uses in India for 1980-81 & 1998-99

(Area in Million hectares)

Sl.No.	Classification of area	1980-81	1998-99
1	2	3	4
1.	Geographical Area	328.73	328.73
2.	Reporting Area for Land Utilization	304.15	306.04
	Statistics (i) to (iv)		
(i)	Forests	67.47 (22.2)	68.87 (22.5)
(ii)	Not Available for Cultivation (a+b)		
	(a) Area under non-agricultural uses	19.66 (6.4)	22.81 (7.4)
	(b) Barren & un-culturable land	19.96 (6.6)	19.55 (6.4)
(iii)	Other Uncultivated land excluding Fallow Land (a+b+c)		
	(a) Permanent Pastures & other Grazing lands	11.97 (3.9)	11.10 (3.6)
	(b) Land under miscellaneous crops and groves not included in Net Sown Area	3.60 (1.2)	3.60 (1.2)
	(c) Culturable Waste Land	16.74 (5.5)	13.97 (4.6)
(iv)	Fallow Lands (a+b)		
	(a) Fallow Land other than Current Fallows	9.92 (3.3)	9.91 (3.2)
	(b) Current Fallows	14.83 (4.9)	13.53 (4.4)

1	2	3	4
(v)	Net Sown Area (vi - vii)	140.27 (46.0)	142.60 (46.6)
(vi)	Total cropped area (Gross cropped area)	172.63	192.62
(vii)	Area sown more than once	32.63	50.02
(viii)	Cropping Intensity*	123.3	135.10
3.	Not irrigate area	38.72	57.03
4.	Gross irrigated area	49.78	75.55

* Cropping intensity is percentage of the gross cropped area to the net area sown.

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to Reported Area.

[Translation]

Surplus Foodgrains

*192. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of surplus food-grains available for export during the last year;

(b) whether the quality of these foodgrains were below international level;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the measure taken by the Government to ensure the production of high quality foodgrains and availability of the relevant techniques to the farmers; and

(e) the efforts made to Maximise export of agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) A quantity of 50 lakh metric tonnes of wheat and 30 lakh metric tonnes of rice was offered from the Central Pool for export during 2001-02.

(b) and (c) The Government has allowed Food Corporation of India (FCI) to offer rice and wheat for export from the Central Pool to Public Sector Undertakings, State Agencies and Private Exporters. The exporters are allowed to identify/choose the export worthy stock before loading. The same quality of rice and wheat lifted from FCI is required to be exported.

(d) The Government has taken several measures to ensure the protection of high quality foodgrains and availability of the relevant techniques to the farmers. The measures taken by the Government include promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of horticulture in North-eastern States, market information network and National Agriculture Insurance scheme. The Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to States. The Macro-Management scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture. The Government encourages farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

(e) The steps taken to increase the export of agricultural products include the following:-

(i) Setting up of Agriculture Export Zones.

(ii) Providing assistance for raising small & large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical know-how of farmers through demonstrations, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old plantations, area expansion, improving productivity and training of farmers.

(iii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernization of processing units.

(iv) Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.

(v) Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.

(vi) Providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, eliminating contamination & ensuring freedom from fungi and bacteria.

(vii) Market Development Assistance for export related activities such as study tours, participation in fairs etc.

(viii) Reimbursement of certain WTO admissible costs on account of marketing and transport for export of wheat, wheat products and rice from FCI stocks.

Child Labour

*193. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any action against erring officers who have not initiated action against persons who are engaging child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (c) The Central Government is responsible for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in Railways, major ports, mines, oil fields and establishments under the control of the Central Government. In all other cases, State/UT Governments are responsible for enforcement of the Act. No such incidences have been brought to the notice of this ministry by the enforcement agencies.

[English]

Agricultural Labourers

*194. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the labourers earn their livelihood through agriculture;

(b) if so, the percentage of such labourers out of the total labourers in the nineties and at present;

(c) whether these labourers do not get employment throughout the year;

(d) if so, the average number of days in a year they get employment and the details of the proposed schemes so that they could get employment throughout the year; and

(e) the estimated annual income of such a labourer against average national income?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (e) Estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force are obtained from quinquennial National Sample Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. As per the surveys carried out by them during 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the percentage of workers engaged in agriculture was around 65% and 60% respectively. Out of the total of 397 million workers in the country in the year 1999-2000 the number of workers who worked less than 183 days in a year was around 31 million. The Government has launched various employment oriented schemes like Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana to provide wage employment whenever there is acute shortage of employment such as lean agriculture seasons or drought. Some of the other schemes include Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojiana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana etc. The annual average wage per worker engaged as casual labour was Rs. 7704 in rural areas and 11748 in urban areas during the year 1999-2000.

Rescue of Animals from Circuses

*195. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of circuses who have yet not surrendered the five species of animals which has been ordered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court not to be displayed for performance;

(b) the details of action taken by the Government to cancel their licences;

(c) the number of such species which are yet being used in these circuses at present;

(d) the number of such species which died during the last one year and thereafter; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for rescue of such species?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government of India, vide its notification G.S.R. 619 (E) dated 14.10.1998 banned the performance of five species of wild animals. The Supreme Court also upheld the decision of Central Government. The list of circuses who have not surrendered the five species is given in the statement enclosed.

(b), (c) and (e) The power to cancel ownership certificate vests with the State Chief Wild Life Wardens. The Government of India has, therefore, requested the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the State to cancel the ownership certificates issued to circuses with respect to the five species. 234 animals have so far been seized and rehabilitated at 5 rescue centres established by Government of India. About 337 more animals continue to be with the circuses.

(d) Out of 234 animals which were rehabilitated 7 have died during last one year (1.11.2001 to 30.10.2002).

Statement

Circuses, which have not surrendered their animals

S.No.	Name of the Circus	Animals in Possession				
		Tiger	Lion	Panther	Bear	Monkey
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Amar Circus	-	4	-	-	-
2	Royal Circus	-	8	-	-	-
3	Great Royal Circus	12	15	-	-	-
4	Apollo Circus	-	3	-	-	-
5	New Grand Circus	-	19	-	-	-
6	Aryan Circus	-	1	-	-	-
7	Prabhat Circus	-	6	-	-	-
8	New Sai Baba Circus	-	3	-	-	-
9	Arena Circus	1	3	-	-	-
10	Raj Laxmi Circus	2	16	-	-	-
11	Great Prabhat Circus	-	25	-	-	-
12	Golden Jubillee Circus	-	2	-	-	-
13	The Empire Circus	-	6	-	-	-
14	Mahida Circus	-	2	-	-	-
15	Gemini Circus	5	25	2	4	-
16	King Bharat Circus	-	4	-	-	-
17	Jumbo Circus	2	22	-	2	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	Natraj Circus	16	25	-	-	-
19	The Great Bombay Circus	-	4	-	-	-
20	New Kamala Circus	-	4	-	-	-
21	Moon Light Circus	-	17	-	1	-
22	Olympic Circus	15	6	-	2	1
23	Empire Circus	20	15	-	1	-
24	Samrat Circus	4	9	2	1	
	Total	77	244	4	11	1

Cauvery Water Dispute

*196. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of Cauvery River Authority held since its inception to resolve the dispute of sharing of water between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka;

(b) the details of contention of dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and the present status thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Union Government for finding a lasting solution to the Cauvery water dispute?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Cauvery River Authority (CRA) is charged only with giving effect to the implementation of interim order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) dated June 25, 1991 and related subsequent orders and not to resolve the dispute of sharing of water between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The CRA has held six meetings so far. The Central Government has constituted CWDT under the provisions of Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956 in June 1990 to adjudicate the Cauvery water dispute between the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Tribunal has passed and interim order on June 25, 1991 and has held regular hearings for adjudicating the Cauvery water dispute.

Infrastructural Support for Food Processing

*197. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of States, particularly Orissa produce a wide range of fruits, vegetables, medicinal plants and herbs, which are at present neglected and go waste due to absence of rural processing and marketing set ups;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give its full support through its infrastructure and bodies like NABARD, CAPART and Food Processing Services, Banks etc. for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) is encouraging people to set up industries in rural areas throughout the country including Orissa for promoting rural industries including agro based industries i.e. vegetable, fruit processing industries, herbal cosmetic, medicinal plants based industries, etc. Under this Scheme, 25% of the project cost is provided as margin money for the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakh. For project costs above Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 lakh, the rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakh plus 10% of the balance cost of the project. For weaker sections, the margin money

is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakh) it is 10%. This Scheme is being implemented through Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks etc.

The Government of India has also announced a package for the promotion of Khadi and Village Industries Sector on 14th May, 2001 the main features of the package inter-alia include rebate policy for Khadi for five years, option of Rebate or Market Development Assistance (MDA) to Khadi Institutions, Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement in quality of products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building etc.

In addition to this package, the National Programme on Rural Industrialisation (NPRI) Scheme of the Ministry provides financial assistance to rural industrial clusters towards diagnostic studies, skill upgradation and upgradation of common facilities. This scheme is being implemented in collaboration with NABARD, SIDBI, KVIC etc.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Airports

*198. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to upgrade and modernise the airports in the country particularly at Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to set up an Airports Development Centre for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Upgradation of airports in the country is a continuous process and is taken up based on operational requirements and availability of funds. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport at Kolkata is one of the major International Airports of the country. The expenditure incurred on capital works during the 9th Five Year Plan period at NSCBI Airport, Kolkata is Rs.74.29 crores. There is a provision of Rs.295.24 crores in the 10th Five Year Plan for infrastructural development works at NSCBI Airport, Kolkata. The Government has also decided to restructure the four metro airports, including Kolkata, with private sector participation to upgrade the airport to world class standards.

(c) and (d) No separate Airport Development Centre is being planned, but a Cell is being set up within Airports Authority of India for greater focus on planning and development of airports.

[English]

Ban on Use of Genetically Modified Seeds

*199. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN:

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

(a) the countries who have approved the commercial release of genetically modified seeds along with their experience;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the failure of genetically modified seeds in different parts of the country including Baba Amte's Anandwan;

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

(d) whether it is still proposed to permit the cultivation of such seeds despite their failure and if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any requests from certain Multi-National Companies including Aventis have been received regarding clearance for the release of genetically modified organisms and products;

(f) if so, the details indicating response of the Government thereto;

(g) whether study report of the Nonjing Institute of Environmental Sciences (NIES) in this regard has since been examined;

(h) if so, the extent of damage to be caused to environment; and

(i) the steps taken to ban the use of such seeds in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) USA, Canada, South Africa, Argentina, Mexico, China, Australia and India have approved the

commercial release of Genetically Modified Seeds. Globally area of transgenic crops increased more than thirty fold, from 1.7 million ha in 1996 to 52.6 million ha in 2001.

(b) to (d) Bt Cotton is the first and only transgenic crop approved by The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) for commercial cultivation in India. The three approved hybrid varieties (Bt MECH-162, Bt. MECH-184, Bt. MECH-12) are presently under cultivation only in six states namely Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Some of the fields where these hybrid varieties are being cultivated have recently been monitored by a Committee constituted by this Ministry. The Committee found the performance of Bt. Cotton satisfactory.

(e) and (f) M/s Proagro PGS India Ltd. Gurgaon wholly owned subsidiary of Bayer Crop Sciences, Germany (earlier part of Aventis Crop Science SA, France) requested approval of GEAC for commercial cultivation of transgenic mustard. The GEAC in the 34th Meeting held on 7th November, 2002 considered the proposal and deferred the decision for further examination of the data.

(g) to (i) The report has been published by Greenpeace, an international NGO. As per available information, the findings of this report are said to pave not been accepted by Chinese Scientists.

Indian Emigrants Settled Abroad

*200. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Emigrants settled in other countries, region-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange contributed by them annually;

(c) whether certain countries have turned hostile to the Indian Workforce and working conditions are becoming difficult for them; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) The country-wise break-up of Indian emigrants, requiring emigration check, granted clearance by the eight offices of the Protectors of Emigrants, to take up employment during 2001 and 2002 (upto 30th September, 2002) is given in statement enclosed.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange received from the Indian expatriates during 2001-2002 is 12125 US million Dollar, that is, Rs.57821 crore.

(c) No country has turned hostile to Indian workforce and the working conditions are, not becoming difficult for the Indian workers.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Country-wise Break up of Indian Emigrants Requiring Emigration Check, Granted Emigration Clearance by the Eight Office of the Protectors of Emigrants during 2001 and 2002 (upto 30th September, 2002)

Sl.No.	Country	No. of Emigrants granted clearance during 2001	No. of Emigrants granted clearance during 2002 (upto 30.9.2002 - Provisional)
1.	Bahrain	16382	15011
2.	Kuwait	39751	35184
3.	Oman	30985	32501
4.	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	78048	77233
5.	United Arab Emirates	53673	68849
6.	Singapore	27886	18602
7.	Malaysia	6131	7024
8.	Libya	334	464
9.	Qatar	13829	10141
10.	Others	11645	9628
	Total	278664	274637

Nationalisation of Rivers

*201. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Union Government for nationalization of all Inter-State rivers as a long term solution to resolve the disputes over sharing of rivers water;

(b) if so, whether the Government has been urged to ensure that awards given by various tribunals are honoured; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) However, the State of Tamil Nadu has filed an Original Suit No.3 of 2002 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in July, 2002 against the State of Karnataka and Union of India for declaring the notification of the Cauvery River Authority (CRA) ineffective and directing the Central Government to frame either a new scheme in substitution/ replacement of the existing CRA or an additional scheme making adequate provisions therein for all matters necessary to give effect to the interim order dated 25.6.91 passed by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT). Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been writing to the Prime Minister making requests on similar lines as the prayers made in the said suit. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed a series of Orders in the Applications filed in the said Suit from July, 2002 onwards for ensuring implementation of the interim order of the CWDT as also directing the State of Karnataka for releasing water from its reservoirs to ensure definite quantity of water in Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu. The CRA has held 3 meetings from July, 2002 onwards for ensuring implementation of interim order of the CWDT. The Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been amended on March 28, 2002 to provide for time-bound adjudication of disputes by the Tribunals. Also as per the amended Act, the decision of the Tribunal, after its publication in the Official Gazette, shall have the same force as an order or decree of the Supreme Court.

Status of Registration Application of NCLI

1983. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a Multi-State Cooperative Society must be registered within four months as per provision of Multi-State Cooperative Act, 2002 and the National Cooperative Life Insurance Limited (NCLI) applied for registration to Central Registrar on May 18, 2002;

(b) if so, the date of registration and registration number of NCLI;

(c) the current status of NCLI application; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The promoters of the National Cooperative Life Insurance Limited (NCLI) had submitted a proposal to this Department for registration of the same under the old Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 vide their letter dated 18.05.2002. On examination, the proposal was not found in conformity with the provisions of the Act and accordingly the proposal in original was returned to the promoters of the NCLI vide this Department's letter dated 27.08.2002. This was deemed appropriate in view that the new Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 was brought into force with effect from 19.08.2002. The promoters of NCLI have re-submitted the proposal vide their letter dated 07.09.2002, which was received in this Department on 21.10.2002. The proposal was again examined and found that the application for registration has not been signed by all the members as required under Section 6 of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002. Therefore it cannot be registered as per the provisions of the Act. However, the applicant has been given an opportunity of hearing on 10.12.2002 before the registration is finally rejected.

Appointment in Kendriya Bhandar

1984. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of Kendriya Bhandar has appointed some individuals on contract basis in Kolkata for the past two years without there being any branch of the Kendriya Bhandar; and

(b) if so, the action has been taken against the Chairman of Kendriya Bhandar in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Kendriya Bhandar has reported that consequent upon the registration of Kendriya Bhandar under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, and to explore the possibilities of opening a branch in eastern region, it was decided to engage an official on contract basis with specific assignment for arranging suitable accommodation for opening of a branch of Kendriya Bhandar and to liaise with the various departments for developing necessary infrastructure like installation of telephone connection, opening of bank account and commercial tax no. etc.

(b) No, Sir.

Excavation of Minerals by NMDC

1985. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the States where National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is excavating minerals at present;

(b) the details of minerals excavated by NMDC in those States, State-wise and mineral-wise;

(c) whether the corporation has signed any agreement with Central Government or any State Government for excavation of minerals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) NMDC is excavating minerals in Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh as under:

1.	Karnataka	Donimalai Iron Ore Mine, Bellary District	Iron Ore
2.	Karnataka	Kumarswamy Iron Ore Mines, Bellary District	Iron Ore
3.	Chhattisgarh	Bailadila Deposit 14, 11C & 5	Iron Ore
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Panna Diamond Mines, Panna District.	Diamond
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Lalapur Silica sand Project, Allahabad	Silica Sand

(c) NMDC has been executing lease deed agreements with resective State Governments for undertaking excavation of the mineral deposits.

(d) Details of the existing mining leases are as under:

S.No.	Name of the Mineral and location	Mining leases Area
1	2	3
Chhattisgarh		
1.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 14	322.368 HA
2.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 11C	506.742 HA
3.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 5	540.04 HA
4.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 10	309.34 HA
5.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 10 (float Ore)	142.59 HA
6.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 11	874.921 HA
7.	Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit 3	3308.40 HA
Karnataka		
8.	Donimalai (Iron Ore)	608 HA
9.	Kumarswamy B&C Block (Iron Ore)	647.50 HA
Himachal Pradesh		
10.	Limestone/Dolamite/ Magnesite Arki Lime Stone	232.68 HA
Rajasthan		
11.	Chawandia Limestone	3.353 SQKM
Jammu and Kashmir		
12.	Panthal Magnesite	4.853 SQKM
Uttar Pradesh		
13.	Lalapur Silica Sand	33.58 HA
Madhya Pradesh		
14.	Majhgawan Main lease (Diamond)	126.266 HA
	Supplementary lease	450.235 HA

Demand and Supply of Non Wheat Cereals

1986. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is considerable demand in cities/ towns for non-wheat cereals like maize, bajra, jawar etc. in the form of flour;

(b) if so, whether these products are not readily available at fair prices;

(c) whether the Government will ensure that these are made available in Government and semi-Government supported outlets in Delhi and elsewhere in order to encourage agro-rural industries of small-scale; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

Report of Task Force

1987. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of the report of task force on conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants submitted by Planning Commission in March, 2000;

(b) whether the Government have implemented the recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The summary details of the main recommendations of the Task Force on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) The recommendations are to be implemented over a period of time by various Organisations. A National Medicinal Plants Board has been constituted under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with the participation of the stake holders to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Main Recommendations of Task Force on Medicinal Plants

(i) For formalising and organising the marketing and trade of medicinal plants "A National Medicinal Plants Board" should be established. The Board should include representatives from the various stakeholders.

(ii) It will be necessary to establish 200 Medicinal Plants Conservation Areas (MPCA) covering all ecosystems, forest types and sub-types in the country.

(iii) About 100 medicinal plants classified as endangered or rare or threatened should be grown in well-established gardens of the country. Such Gardens are mainly managed by Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest Departments & Botanical Survey of India.

(iv) Three gene banks created through Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Lucknow, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources in New Delhi and Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute in Trivandrum should properly store germplasm of all medicinal plants.

(v) Attempt should be made to establish 200 "Vanaspati Van" in forest areas (each having an area of about 5000 hectares) for commercial supply of crude drugs to pharmacies and for exports.

(vi) Forest Departments should identify and stockmap areas rich in medicinal plants. A "Management Plan" should be formulated for such areas (MPDA).

(vii) Forest Departments should effectively regulate extraction and transport of medicinal plants from wild.

(viii) About 50 NGOs (including agricultural universities) technically qualified may be identified for improving awareness and availability of seeds and planting material of medicinal plants to people interested in their cultivation.

(ix) Twenty five species, which are in great demand, may be encouraged for cultivation. Contract and organic farming should be encouraged.

(x) Herbal gardens may be established in each "Development Bank" under Rural Development schemes.

(xi) All efforts to be coordinated to ensure export of herbal products to earn Rs.3000 crores by 2005 and Rs. 10000 crores by 2010 A.D besides meeting domestic needs.

Sheep and Goat Rearing in Rajasthan

1988. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Sheep and Goat rearing are the main source of livelihood of

economically backward people of Western Rajasthan, especially Barmer and Jaisalmer districts;

(b) whether the Government have drawn up any plan/strategy for development of this sector keeping in view prolonged spell of drought in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof including targets fixed for Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Ministry of Textiles is preparing Technology Mission on Wool for implementation during Tenth Five Year Plan. Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India is preparing a centrally sponsored scheme for conservation of threatened breeds of livestock including sheep and goat for implementation during Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur have sanctioned 29 projects for covering 16.50 lakhs sheep and an amount of Rs.574.25 lakhs has been released to State Government of Rajasthan. Under Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Programme in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts an amount of Rs.42.37 lakhs and Rs.41.51 lakhs respectively has been released to State Government of Rajasthan.

Government of Rajasthan have reduced the cost of vaccines in view of the drought situation during 2002-03. Financial outlay of Rs.325 lakhs has been made by Rajasthan Government for sheep breeders and extension programme, strengthening of sheep breeding farms, construction and repairs of equipments, sheep health and disease control and sheep breed improvement during Tenth Five Year Plan.

(d) Question does not arise.

Erosion by the Bhagirathi River

1989. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bandel-Katwa Railway Line in between Naloadwip and Kalna near Samudragarh in the Eastern Railways is facing danger by erosion of the Bhagirathi;

(b) if so, whether the Bhagirathi is now flowing 30 mtrs. away from the Railway line;

(c) if so, whether the Bhagirathi, after building of the Farakka Dam, has taken a new turn in its flow; and

(d) if so, whether the Government of West Bengal has shown their willingness to go in for a joint programme with the Government in resisting the river erosion?

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

(c) The Farakka Barrage was constructed during 1974 and the said erosion started in 1983. It is difficult to link this erosion with the construction of barrage 200 km. in the upstream.

(d) Flood Management being a State subject, the flood control schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Government themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The assistance rendered by Central Government are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

As informed by the Government of West Bengal, they had prepared a scheme amounting to Rs. 11.30 crore which is in correspondence with the Eastern Railways. Also, anti erosion measures in the form of construction of repelling spurs have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Railways during 2002-03 at a total cost of Rs. 3.26 crore.

Development of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Samarak

1990. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the proposal for beautification and development of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Samarak in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration of the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Lab for Quality Testing of Seafoods

1991. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to set up new labs. and also to upgrade the existing labs. for quality testing of seafoods;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the location of the existing labs. and the details of places proposed for the new labs;

(c) whether the Government have since received any proposal by State Governments for setting up of such labs;

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

(e) the estimated cost of the project with the proposed Central share?

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

(b) Besides the existing laboratories at various places set up by Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) for testing of seafood, Government of India in the Department of Commerce has decided to procure latest equipment to test the seafood for export to the international standards to be installed at seven existing laboratories of various Government agencies at Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Mangalore (Karnataka), Mumbai, Cochin and Veraval (Gujarat). The equipment will also be installed at two new places i.e. Bhimavaram and Nellore (Andhra Pradesh) where the laboratories will also be set up.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for Central assistance to set up antibiotic residue testing laboratories at Visakhapatnam, Bhimavaram, Nellore and Kakinada. As indicated in answer to (b) above, the laboratories at Bhimavaram and Nellore will be set up with Central assistance. No such communication has been received from any other State Governments.

(e) The entire proposal to upgrade the existing laboratories at seven places and two new laboratories will cost approximately Rs.18.50 crore. The Seafood Exporters Association of India has promised to contribute an amount of Rs.3.00 Clore in the project. The remaining expenditure will be met by the Department of Commerce, Government of India.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Cultural and Historical Places of Madhya Pradesh in Tourism List

1992. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cultural and historical places of Madhya Pradesh included in the Union Tourism List;

(b) whether the Government propose to include Chitrakoot, Bharut Gupt Godavari, Sari Annusuiya, Sarbhamgashran and Dharkudi Ashram in the said list; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There is no system of maintaining a Union Tourism List.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Non Functional Radar Screens at IGI

1993. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether three of the seven radar display screens at the Air Traffic Control of Indira Gandhi International Airport are out of order of several months;

(b) whether the authorities are finding it extremely difficult to manage the flights as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in taking the remedial measures for the repair / replacement of non functional screens; and

(d) the necessary steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. All operational positions in Air Traffic Control have serviceable radar display for control of air traffic over Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Tourist Centre at Hirani Waterfalls at Jharkhand

1994. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a tourist centre at Hirani Waterfalls of Hirani Block of Bandhigoan in the Singhbhum district in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration in the Department of Tourism.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Development of tourist centres is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Department of Tourism now provides financial assistance for projects for integrated development of tourism circuits and destinations only identified in consultation with the State/ UT Governments.

[English]

Facilities for FPI

1995. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Food Processing Industries came up during each of last three years ending March 31, 2002, State-wise;

(b) the facilities provided by the Government for installing such industries;

(c) the number of FPI units exporting their products, State-wise; and

(d) the number of Food Processing Industries referred to BIFR with reasons therefor and current status of each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Food processing industries operate both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Most of the processed food items have been exempted from the purview of licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. Given this position, information on the number of units is not maintained centrally. However, as per the Annual survey of Industries for 1998-99, the total number of factories in the Food and Beverage sector was 23,831.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, through its plan schemes, provides financial assistance for the development of processed food sector, including the setting up of food processing industries.

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

(d) As per information available with BIFR since its inception and upto 31st October, 2002, 174 food processing industries were registered with them under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

Out of these, 46 cases were dismissed as non-maintainable, 60 ordered for detailed enquiry, proceedings dropped in 12 cases after being declared non sick, and one case as net worth became positive. The rest have variously had revival scheme sanctioned, recommended for winding up, wound up, no longer sick, failed and reopened or with stayed proceedings.

Foreign Airlines on Domestic Sector

1996. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow foreign airlines to operate on domestic sector;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been finalised;

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

(d) whether the Indian Airlines and the private domestic airlines will be adversely affected with the entry of foreign airlines in the domestic sector; and

(e) if so, the safeguards if any provided for the domestic airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Recovery of Loans

1997. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister or AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is responsible for effective recovery of loans which were advanced to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) by the banks on its recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are giving further grants in aid to KVIC despite its dismal performance; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to effect recovery of loans advanced by banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) No, Sir. However, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is responsible for recovery of loans advanced by the KVIC.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government provides financial assistance in the form of loans and Grants to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the development and promotion of Khadi and Village Industries. The KVIC under Rural Employment Generation Programme has been able to create 14.42 lakh job opportunities by 31.03.2002.

(d) The KVIC is not perceived to be a financial institution. In order to improve the quality of proposals, the "Pattern approach" has been replaced by the "Project approach" under which the loan proposals are now appraised by the Banks who are responsible for the recovery of loans.

[Translation]

Employment Generation

1998. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of growth in population of the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the percentage of growth in labour force employment, employment generation and child labour against total labour force during the said plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) As per the census 2001 data, annual average growth rate of population in the country during the period 1991-2001 was of the order of 2.13%.

(b) Estimates of employment, unemployment and Labour Force are obtained through Labour Force Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation from time to time. Last such survey was carried out in 1999-2000. As per these surveys, estimated annual growth rates of Labour Force and Work Force during 1994 - 2000 were of the order of 1.03% and 0.98% respectively. Percentage of workers in the age-group 5-14 years in the year 1993-94 and 1999-2000 was as follows.

Sector	1993-94(%)		1999-2000(%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Rural	3.3	5.1	2.4	4.0
Urban	1.6	3.6	1.2	3.1

[English]

Availability of Pulses

1999. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of availability of pulses is not satisfactory and the research work is not being done as per targets for making the country self-sufficient in this field;

(b) the research carried on these items in the country, the number of the projects in progress and their location, agency-wise;

(c) the results of their evaluations; and

(d) the names of the newly developed varieties of wheat, maize and pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir. At present the production of pulses is not commensurate with the requirement. The production of pulses has been fluctuating from year to year as pulses are generally grown under rainfed conditions on marginal and poor lands with little inputs. The highest production of pulses to the tune of 14.81 mt was attained during 1998-99. In the current year it is estimated to be 13.5 mt.

As per target the research work is under progress for development of improved production technologies for increasing production of pulses for making the country self-sufficient. A number of improved varieties having multiple disease resistance and higher yield potential have been developed and recommended for cultivation. The effort is also on to develop cost effective hybrids in pigeonpea using the cytoplasmic male sterility system.

(b) The ICAR has established the Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR) at Kanpur (UP) for carrying out research on pulses on various aspects of production. In addition State Agricultural Universities of the country in close collaboration with IIPR, Kanpur are also carrying out research on pulses to raise the production.

The ICAR has sanctioned four All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) on Pulses. Three of these i.e. AICRP Chickpea, AICRP Pigeonpea, AICRP Mullarp (Mungbean, Urdbean, Lentil, Lathyrus, Rajmash, Peas) are located at Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur and the fourth AICRP Arid Legume is located at Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur. These All India Coordinated projects have the AICRP centres located in different States of the country. The AICRP centres have been given a mandate to develop location specific production technologies of pulses for different agro climatic conditions of the country.

(c) and (d) The production technologies developed by AICRP on different pulse crops are demonstrated on farmers' fields. The results of front line demonstrations have indicated that production of pulses can be increased by more than 20% if the improved package of production is adopted by the farmers.

The names of newly developed varieties of wheat, maize, pulses are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Newly Released Varieties of Wheat, Maize and Pulses

Crops	Varieties
1	2
Wheat	PBW 396, PBW 443, Malav Ratna, K 9644, Malviya wheat 510, HD-2733, Kaushambi (HW2045), Aditya, GW 322, VL-804
Maize	Amar (D-941), Pusa Early Hybrid Makka-3, Vivek Hybrid-9, JKMH-175, Kohinoor, JH 3459, Aravali Makka-1, Seedtee-740, Narmada Moti
Chickpea	GCP 101 (Gujarat Gram-I), Pusa 1003 (Kabuli), BDG- 72 (Pusa Pragati), BG 1053 (Pusa Chamatkar), JG-1, KAK 2, GCP 105, SAKI 9516
Pigeonpea	MA-3 (Malviya Vikalp)
Mungbean	HUM-I, PBM 2, Pusa 9531, Pusa Bold -1 (Vishal), Ganga-8
Urdbean	TU94-2, IPU94-1(Uttara), KU 92-1 (Azad Urd-I), RBU 38 (Barkha), WBG 26, Shekhar-2 (KU-300)
Lentil	JL 3, IPL 81 (Noori)
Fieldpea	HUDP 15 (Malviya Matar 15), DDR 23, Pusa Panna (DDR-27)
Mothbean	RMO-225, RMO-96, CAZRI Moth-1
Horsegram	AK-21, Paiyur-2
Guar	RGC-I 002, RGC-986

Bio-Fertilizer

2000. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any norms or standards with regard to the content in Bio-fertilizer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress of use of bio-fertilizers and its publicity to farmers being undertaken;

(d) the status of micronutrient fertilizers in the soil;

(e) the steps taken to prevent micronutrient depletion in the soil; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure quality products to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BJS) has notified specifications of 4 important biofertilizers, namely:-

Rhizobium	-	IS 8268:2000
Azotobacter	-	IS 9138:2000
Phosphate Solubilising Bacterial Inoculant	-	IS 14807:2000
Azospirillum	-	IS 14806:2000

(c) The Government has implemented a National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilizers under which funds have been provided for setting up of biofertilizer production units. Also extension and promotion of biofertilizers and organizing of field demonstrations on farmers fields are being undertaken by National Biofertilizer Development Centre and its Regional Centres.

(d) and (e) Government is promoting the soil test based judicious application of chemical fertilizers including micro-

nutrient fertilizers, organic manures and biofertilizers for maintaining soil fertility. It ensures adequate availability of plant nutrients including micronutrients in the soil for use by crops.

(f) The quality of fertilizers are being ensured through Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the quality of biofertilizers is being regularly monitored by State Governments through Central and State Biofertilizer Testing Laboratories and the State Governments take necessary action against the offenders.

[Translation]

Sale Outlets of KVIC

2001. SHRI RAM RATI BIND: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sale outlets of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in Delhi;

(b) the total value of goods sold by these outlets during the last two months; and

(c) the financial condition of KVIC of Delhi at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) There are two main sales outlets of the KVIC in Delhi i.e. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan and Gramshilpa. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan is also operating its sales through other three branch outlets located in Delhi.

(b) The value of Goods sold during September, 2002 to October, 2002 is given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sales outlets	September	October
Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan	63.90	293.94
Gramshilpa	10.99	31.70

(c) As per the trading result reported for 2001-02 financial year, the Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi has generated a surplus of Rs. 30.05 lakhs whereas Gramshilpa has incurred a loss of Rs. 7.55 lakhs.

[English]

Beach Tourism

2002. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a draft proposal on beach tourism which will stretch along the Konkan Coast-Goa through Mangalore has been submitted by the State Government to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, whether this proposal was in response to a request by the Union Government;

(c) if so, whether the package would integrate with existing eco-tour projects from the Mangalore stretch onwards; and

(d) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/spots is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned. Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides financial assistance for the identified tourism projects in consultation with them.

Department of Tourism, Government of India has decided that during the 10th Five Year Plan it will identify six travel circuits in the country on an annual basis and develop them. These circuits will be finalised and developed in close coordination and partnership with the State/UT Governments and the concerned Government of India Departments. In addition to this it is proposed to identify one major destination in each State/Union Territory for overall development each year.

During the year 2002-2003, the Department of Tourism has identified Goa for Destination Development. The Western Circuit (Konkan Riviera circuit) identified for development of Travel Circuit during 2002-2003 also covers Goa-Coastal Karnataka-Bekal. State Governments have been requested to send detail project report in this regard.

Purchase Manual

2003. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scientific Advisory Committee recommended the preparation of Purchase Manual in 1989 for the purchase of typewriters, duplicating machines, air-conditioners, furniture, computers, stationery and other items of common nature etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Manual has been prepared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the purchases exceeding Rs. 50,000/-

are to be made through open tenders failing which it is mandatory to record the reasons in writing; and

(e) if so, the details of such purchases made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) On the recommendations of Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet, the Government of India in their Department of Science & Technology O.M. No. DST/17/3/1/83 dated 28.12.1983 conveyed enhanced Delegation of Powers to the Scientific Departments and have exempted them from the purview of DGS&D subject to the condition that the organisation concerned would evolve suitable procedure for the exercise of enhanced powers in the matter of purchase and disposal of stores directly. So far as the Council is concerned a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. A.M. Michael, Director, IARI was constituted in 1986 to evolve suitable revised store purchase procedure and to look into the existing purchase procedure and identify and specify the bottlenecks if any. The Committee submitted its report during 1989. The major recommendations of the Committee were accepted and adopted with the approval of the Governing Body of the Council in its meeting held in March, 1989. These recommendations were conveyed to all the Constituent Units of ICAR during June 1989 (statement enclosed).

(b) and (c) So far as the preparation of Purchase Manual is concerned a consultancy has been awarded to National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM), Faridabad for this purpose in 2001. The National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM) had submitted the draft Purchase Manual which was examined in the Council and some suggestion were made. The final report on the Purchase Manual is awaited from the NIFM.

(d) Purchases exceeding Rs. 50,000/- were required to be made through invitation of open tender upto 27th May, 1999 except in special circumstances which are required to be recorded in writing. These limits have been revised by the Govt. of India from 28th May, 1999. According to revised guidelines incorporated in GFR limited tender system should ordinarily be adopted in the case of all order the estimated value of which is less than Rs. 2 lakhs. For purchases of value of Rs. 2 lakhs and above but less than Rs. 5 lakh tender enquiries may be issued in the form of classified advertisement in the local newspapers. For the purchases of value of Rs. 5 lakhs and above, open tender may be advertised in the National Daily in addition to Indian Trade Journal.

(e) All the constituent units of the Council which are more 100 in number are required to be follow the guidelines of the GFR. As regards the details of purchases over Rs. 50,000/- made in the last three years without open tender, if any, can only be given after collecting information from all the constituent units.

Statement

Annexure 9 to Schedule III
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

No.F.18(2)/85-Cdn (A&A) Dated the 14th June, 1989.

To

The Directors of All Research Institutes/Directorates/ National Research Centres etc.

Subject : Review of existing system of Store Purchase and Inventory Control at ICAR Headquarters and its Research Institutes.

Sir,

On the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet, the Government of India in their Department of Science and Technology O.M.No.DST/17/3/ 1/83 dated 28.12.1983 conveyed enhanced delegation of powers to the Scientific Departments and have exempted them from the purview of DGS&D subject to the condition that the organizations concerned would evolve suitable procedures for the exercise of enhanced powers in the matter of purchase and disposal of stores directly.

2. In this background and with a view to evolve suitable revised store purchase procedure, a Committee had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. A.M. Michael Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute to look into the existing purchase procedure to identify and specify bottlenecks, if any, in terms of delays and cost over-runs under the present system of procurement of store through DGS&D and to suggest alternative methods of store purchase and inventory control including drafting of stores and purchase manual so that it may be followed by the Council and its Institutes. The said Committee has since submitted its report and the same has been discussed and approved by the Governing Body of the Council in its meeting held during March 1989.

3. The major recommendations of the committee as approved by the Governing Body of the Council are attached as Annexure for information, guidance and compliance by the Council and its research Institutes subject to the following conditions:

(a) Principles laid down in General Financial Rules are followed.

(b) Detailed specifications are prescribed for all items including sophisticated items of Stores/ equipments etc. at the time of calling tenders.

(c) Complete measures are taken for carrying out inspection of stores.

4. The detailed procedure for procurement and custody of stores based on the approval of the Governing Body will be laid down in the Stores and Purchase Manual.

5. The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(G.S. Srivastava)
Secretary

1. The Institutes will continue operating DGS&D rate contract for procurement of their supplies relating to typewriters, Duplicating machines, air conditioners and furniture. For other items of stores the Institute will be free to procure on DGS&D rate running contracts directly from the contractual firms at their discretion without going for the observance of codal purchase procedure provided this is considered advisable in the larger interest of economy subject to the following conditions:

(i) The supplies are procured on the same rates terms and conditions as are prescribed by the DGS&D for its Direct Officers except that with regard to the requirement of pre-delivery inspections, the Institute concerned will take necessary arrangements and assume full responsibilities to ensure supplies according to the prescribed specifications. For ensuring this inspection they may utilise the services of their staff holding the requisite expertise or may obtain assistance from outside sources (other Institutes, State Government departments, Universities or other Government undertakings etc.) as may be locally available.

(ii) The supplying agency undertake to make the supply on our order form on the same rates terms and conditions as applicable to DGS&D and proper contract is entered into by the concerned Institute with the supplying agency to ensure full safeguard.

(iii) The payment is made on receipt of material or on proof of despatch or otherwise in accordance with normal financial rules.

(iv) The expenditure so incurred on the purchase does not exceed the amount which would have been incurred in case the purchase would have been effected through DGS&D.

2. The Institute should conclude rate/running contracts with the leading suppliers/manufacturers themselves for items of common nature. The period of currency of such rate/ running contracts should normally be for one year which can be extended for another one year by mutual agreement provided it is considered in the interest of the Council. Adequate safeguard should also be taken while finalising rate contracts to ensure timely supplies, quality material, pre-delivery inspection and also post purchase maintenance wherever required.

3. Single tender system may be adopted in the case of articles which are specifically certified as of proprietory nature by the intending authorities or when it is to the knowledge of the procuring agency that only a particular firm is the manufacturer of the store demanded. Purchases by Brand Name can not be termed as items of proprietory nature.

4. The system of ab-initio negotiation should be adopted in exceptional circumstances only e.g.

(i) Where there is no competition.

(ii) Where the tenderd rates are apparently higher as compared to the known market price.

(iii) Where it is apprehended that the suppliers have formed a pool before quoting the rates and the negotiations are likely to bring down the prices.

Negotiations should not be made one or two firms but should be made with all the firms who have tendered their rates.

5. Purchase of stationery items may be effected either from the Central Government Employees Cooperative Store or from Super Bazars or otherwise after following the normal purchase procedures if it is considered economical in the interest of the Council.

6. All stores and equipments before acceptance should be arranged to be inspected on receipt by an appropriate officer designated for the purpose, normally 24 hours of the receipt of the stores. Stores such as electrical goods, mechanical instrument, refrigeration material should be inspected/functionally tested by persons of technical competence. Inspection/functional tests of sophisticated instruments should be carried out by the indentor himself with the assistance of the experts concerned. The stores of

general use and repetitive nature such as vim, dusters, glasswares and stationery items should be inspected by the Store Officer with the assistance of the Officers having expertise in the field. The Officers charged with the responsibility of inspection of goods should invariably record and certify all inspections and inspection reports should be countersigned by the Head of Division/Project concerned after making random checks.

7. Detailed specifications of the items required to be procured should clearly be indicated at the time of calling tenders/quotations and the lowest quoter should be accepted according to those specifications only.

8. The functions of the stores relating (i) Purchase and (ii) Custody, accounting and distribution should be dealt with by separate units/officers except in case where it is not possible due to limited manpowers.

9. The above procedure is subject to the following conditions:

(a) Principles laid down in General Financial Rules are followed.

(b) Detailed specifications are prescribed for all items including sophisticated item at Stores/ Equipments etc. at the time of calling tenders.

(c) Complete measures are taken for carrying out inspection of Stores.

[Translation]

Sidhmukh Irrigation Project

2004. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sidhmukh Irrigation Project has been pending with the Government for the last many years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of villages affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be approved and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The revised Project Report of Sidhmukh Irrigation Project received in Central Water Commission in December 1999, after its techno-economical appraisal was considered by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in its 77th meeting held on 3rd August 2001. The Project Report was found acceptable for Rs. 220.86 crores (January 2000 price level) subject to compliance of observations like concurrence of the State Finance Department, restoration of Bhakra Main Line to the original capacity of 12500 cusecs, close monitoring of ground water table, environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, etc. Compliance on the observations of TAC/Planning Commission has not been received from the State Government. The Project scheduled to be completed in 2003-04 envisages to benefit 38 villages of Hanumangarh and Churu districts of Rajasthan.

Eco Sensitive Zone in Mumbai

2005. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish Matheran Eco Sensitive Zone (MESZ) in Navi Mumbai:

(b) if so, the details of progress made in this regard so far;

(c) the details of suggestions given by Peoples' Representatives, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and the common people along with their reaction to the notification issued by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have studied the suggestions in depth;

(e) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to make certain changes in the said project keeping in view the aforesaid suggestions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government had issued a draft notification vide S.O.167 (E) dated 6th February, 2002 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of declaring Matheran and surrounding areas as an Eco-Sensitive Zone.

(c) and (d) A large number of suggestions and objections have been received from the public, peoples representatives, NGOs, Maharashtra Government and other

stakeholders. These objections and suggestions covered a wide spectrum of issues relating to, inter-alia, geographical area to be notified as eco-sensitive zone, zonation and type of activities to be permitted and regulated within each zone, etc. The Government, after a preliminary examination of the suggestions and objections, referred the matter to the Expert Committee constituted for the purpose to further examine the issues and make recommendations. The Expert Committee examined the suggestions and objections received and held discussions with the representatives of the Maharashtra Government, NGOs and peoples representatives. The Committee also visited Matheran and its surroundings on 11th & 12th November 2002.

(e) and (f) Based on the suggestions and objections received on the draft notification and the recommendations of the Expert Committee, a view would be taken by the Government on finalising the notification.

[English]

Fall in Sugarcane Production

2006. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of agriculture increased to 6.11 percent during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, whether the sugarcane production has fallen by over 2 percent during this period;

(c) if so, the reasons for the decline in sugarcane production;

(d) whether the Government propose to rectify and policy lapses responsible for this decline in sugarcane production; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to protect the sugarcane farmer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. According to the revised estimates of GDP (at 1993-94 prices) for the year 2001-02 released by the Central Statistical Organisation in June, 2002, the growth rate of the sector consisting of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing, was 5.7 percent in the year 2001-02 as compared to the previous year.

(b) Yes, Sir. According to the estimates of crop production made in June, 2002, the sugarcane production for the year 2001-02 was 2922 Lakh Tonnes as compared to 2992 Lakh Tonnes in the previous year recording a fall of (-)2.3 percent in the growth in the year 2001-02.

(c) to (e) Though the production of sugarcane maintains increasing trend over the years, the marginal decline in production in 2000-01 is due to fluctuations in the natural agro climatic factors that affect the production. For improving the productivity of sugarcane a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems Areas (SUBACS) was initiated in 1995-96 in 21 States/Union Territories, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry. The main thrust of the scheme is on the transfer of improved technology to farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing seed production and pest management measures etc. The above mentioned scheme has been subsumed under macro-management mode of agriculture to give more flexibility to State Governments to implement the desired components as per the location specific requirements.

Development of Khadi

2007. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent for the development of Khadi in the last financial year and thereafter, State-wise; and

(b) the total rebate given for Khadi industries during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) Funds disbursed by the Government to KVIC in the last financial year (2001-2002) and BE of current financial year i.e. 2002-2003 under Plan Head are Rs. 182.18 crores and Rs. 392.00 crores respectively. The State-wise funds disbursement made by the KVIC for the development of Khadi in the last financial year and current financial (upto 31.10.2002) is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The State-wise rebate given for Khadi industries during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 (upto October, 2002) is given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Statewise disbursement made by KVIC for the development of Khadi

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UTs	2001-2002		2002-2003 (upto 31.10.2002)	
		Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan
1	2	3	4	5	6
I North Zone					
1	Chandigarh (UT)	0.00	0.00		00
2	Delhi	259.35	0.00	271.78	0
3	Haryana	500.55	0.00	278.06	0
4	Himachal Pradesh	346.91	5.00	100.19	0
5	Jammu and Kashmir	81.13	41.56	84.50	0
6	Punjab	359.75	9.62	166.94	18.64
7	Rajasthan	607.89	20.09	455.11	108.96
II Eastern Zone					
8	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	0.00	0.00	0	0
9	Bihar	338.27	91.16	195.80	0
10	Jharkhand	110.91	5.00	147.29	0
11	Orissa	43.68	0.00	28.80	0
12	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	4.01	0
13	West Bengal	304.54	52.34	279.37	2.42
III North Eastern Zone					
14	Arunachal Pradesh	10.94	0.00	9.93	0
15	Assam	76.08	67.42	48.95	29.18
16	Manipur	16.39	3.95	16.49	0
17	Meghalaya	0.61	1.35	6.72	0
18	Mizoram	1.15	0.00	3.80	0
19	Nagaland	8.24	18.52	12.66	0
20	Tripura	3.47	0.00	18.85	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
IV South Zone					
21	Andhra Pradesh	176.78	0.00	155.62	0
22	Karnataka	296.26	294.03	332.59	28.49
23	Kerala	390.94	26.78	427.36	0
24	Lakshadweep (UT)	0.00	0.00	0	0
25	Pondicherry	6.68	0.00	0.23	0
26	Tamil Nadu	1877.19	31.54	887.01	8.68
V Western Zone					
27	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)	0.18	0.00	0.42	0
28	Daman & Diu (UT)	0.00	0.00	0	0
29	Goa	0.00	0.00	15.63	0
30	Gujarat	1202.51	0.00	773.77	26.98
31	Maharashtra	351.89	0.00	299.18	18.69
VI Central Zone					
32	Chhattisgarh	17.55	5.00	14.90	0
33	Madhya Pradesh	228.24	0.00	88.85	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	2836.86	80.35	2102.81	6.21
35	Uttaranchal	789.28	0.00	201.34	0
	Departmental	1037.94	0.00	233.88	0
	Grand Total	12282.16	753.71	7662.84	248.25

Statement-II

Statewise disbursement made under Khadi sales rebate

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/ Union Territories	2001-2002	2002-2003 (upto 31.10.2002)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	136.76	120.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.12
3.	Assam	54.16	40.88
4.	Bihar	260.60	124.07
5.	Goa	0	3.60
6.	Gujarat	537.02	715.35
7.	Haryana	371.44	294.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	217.67	132.67
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	56.49	74.36

1	2	3	4
10.	Karnataka	231.24	395.89
11.	Kerala	260.85	317.37
12.	Madhya Pradesh	164.08	105.43
13.	Maharashtra	65.71	174.64
14.	Manipur	3.86	5.18
15.	Meghalaya	0.61	0.32
16.	Mizoram	0.10	0
17.	Nagaland	5.54	7.97
18.	Orissa	32.41	5.12
19.	Punjab	179.33	111.19
20.	Rajasthan	494.13	519.36
21.	Sikkim	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	777.32	1070.69
23.	Tripura	1.67	2.62
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1837.03	2410.60
25.	West Bengal	193.88	210.81
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
27.	Chandigarh	0	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0
29.	Delhi	216.65	239.58
30.	Lakshadweep	0	0
31.	Pondicherry	2.52	0
32.	Chhattisgarh	15.21	19.40
33.	Jharkhand	110.27	143.73
34.	Uttaranchal	776.57	265.74
	Total	7003.82	7511.70

Corpus Fund for Crop Insurance Scheme

2008. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Corpus Fund has been created to meet the catastrophic losses under Crop Insurance Scheme with the contributions of the Union Government and State/ Union Territories Government on a 50:50 basis;

(b) if so, the details of the utilisation of the same since 2000-01 onwards, year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of the organisation/institution assigned to function as the 'Implementing Agency' of the Corpus Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Year-wise amount utilized out of the Corpus Fund is given as under:-

Year	Amount Utilised (Rs. in lakhs)
2000-01	Nil
2001-02	5142.92
2002-03 (as on date)	1680.14

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The General Insurance Corporation of India, being the Implementing Agency of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is maintaining and operating the Corpus Fund.

Abolition of Post of Director General of Tourism

2009. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have abolished the Post of Director General of Tourism recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) In order to rationalise the functions, activities and structure of the Department of Tourism, the Expenditure Reforms Commission in its report bad recommended that the Department of Tourism being a small Department, there was no need for a post of a Secretary as well as that of Director General of Tourism. The Commission had also recommended that the post be combined with the Secretary and the post of Director General (Tourism) be abolished. The

Department of Tourism agreed with the recommendation of the Expenditure Reforms Commission and accordingly, the post of Director General (Tourism) has been abolished w.e.f. 5.11.2002 (Afternoon).

[Translation]

C and D Group Appointments

2010. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed on temporary basis against Group C and D posts in the Airport Authority of India during the last three years;

(b) the total length of service of each of these employees without or with break indicating the monthly salary paid to each of them; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up the above posts on permanent basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) 242 number of persons in Group 'C' and none in Group 'D' have been employed on temporary basis. 86 persons in Group 'C' and 28 in Group 'D' have been employed on adhoc basis.

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

(c) As per Recruitment and Promotion rules, the temporary appointees and considered for permanent appointment on successful completion of probation period of two years. As regards adhoc appointments, these are made due to exigencies of work necessitated by additional construction activities, and are dispensed with on completion of the activities.

Pending Punishment Cases

2011. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of major punishments are pending against some of the senior officers of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken against such officers;

(c) whether the officers who were ought to be punished have been promoted by the Commission and thus rewarded: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Disciplinary proceedings for major punishment have been initiated in 17 cases involving 13 officers. Out of them, 7 cases have been completed by imposing punishment and in the remaining 10 cases Departmental proceedings are in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited

2012. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL);

(b) whether 5000 employees have opted for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in HSCL;

(c) if so, whether the rest employees of different units of HSCL are getting their salary regularly;

(d) if not, from which month their salaries are due;

(e) whether all statutory dues of VRS optees of HSCL till March, 2002 have been cleared; and

(f) if not, time frame for clearing the statutory dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The financial position of Hindustan Steelworks, Construction Limited (HSCL) continues to be precarious and it is still incurring losses.

(b) Against the plan for separating 5000 employees on VRS during 2002-03, only 3154 employees have opted for VRS, of which 808 employees have been separated till date.

(c) and (d) Employees of HSCL are not getting their salary regularly. The outstanding salaries and wages at different units range from 1 month to 37 months.

(e) Payment of ex-gratia and gratuity have been made to all the employees separated on VRS till March, 2002. Payment of PF to 30 separated employees is yet to be made

and 880 employees have been partly paid. The payment of Family Pension is regulated by Regional Provident Fund Commissioner (RPFC). As on date 2850 applications for settlement of family pension are pending to be sent to RPFC, which are being expedited.

(f) It is expected that the payment of PF dues will be made by December, 2002.

[Translation]

Pollution in Delhi

2013. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi is the most polluted among the four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether more pollution is generated in Delhi every year on Deepawali in comparison to other metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the pollution generated in Delhi on Deepawali this year in comparison to other days and other metropolitan cities; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Based on the ambient air quality assessment carried out by the Pollution Control Boards in the metropolitan cities, it has been observed that the levels of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) are higher in Delhi. It is on account of natural dusty conditions as well as vehicular pollution.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During Deepawali, the SPM levels increased to 1030 micro grams per cubic metre as compared to 769 micro grams per cubic metre on normal days in Delhi. In case of Kolkata, during Deepawali, SPM levels increased to 296 micro grams per cubic metre as compared to 216 micro grams per cubic metre on normal days.

(e) Steps taken to check the pollution include the following:

A multi modal public transport system has been planned and works on modified phase-I of Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System is being executed by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation with effect from 2.10.1998.

- Plying of 8 year old stage carriage buses and contract carriage buses in National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi has been banned except on CNG (Compressed Natural Gas).
- Plying of pre-90 autos and taxis have been banned with effect from 1.4.2000 which are being replaced with new vehicles on clean fuel.
- Registration of only those private and commercial vehicles that are complying from time to time with the directions given by the Supreme Court.
- From 1.4.2000 onward, only those private non-commercial vehicles (cars) which confirm to EURO-II/Bharat Stage-II emission norms, are being registered.
- Regular checks against polluting vehicles through mobile enforcement teams are being conducted by the Transport Department, Government of Delhi.
- Construction of fly overs at the busy road junctions for smooth running of traffic.
- Standards for crackers and loud speakers have been notified.

[English]

Narmada Dam Project

2014. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether continuing protests and agitations against construction and raising of the height of Narmada Dam project has given rise to manifold cost over runs;

(b) if so, how far the cost of completion of the project has shot up as a result thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed to its contemplated height?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. The construction of the Sardar Sarovar dam was affected due to the Writ Petition filed by the Narmada Bachao Andolan in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the year 1994 {Writ Petition (Civil) No. 319 of 1994, the Judgment of which was delivered in October, 2000 only}.

(b) The original cost of construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project as approved by the Planning Commission in 1987 (at 1986-87 price level) was Rs. 6406.04 crore. The estimated cost of the Project at 1991-92 price level was Rs. 13,180.62 crore. Further revision of estimate of the Project at 1996-97/ current price level by the Government of Gujarat is under progress.

(c) After the Judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in October, 2000, the Narmada Control Authority finalized an Action Plan in November, 2000 to raise the height of the Sardar Sarovar dam up to + 110 metre by June, 2003 and up to 138.68 metre (Full Reservoir Level) by June, 2005. The present height of the dam (Blocks 30-46) is EL + 95.0 metre. Other blocks of the dam are at various higher levels. Further raising of the dam is in progress pari-passu with completion of the environmental safe guard measures and resettlement & rehabilitation of the project affected persons at various levels of the dam height.

Irrigation Potential

2015. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total irrigation potential likely to be created by the end of 2002-03; and

(b) the share of major and minor irrigation projects therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The targets for creation of irrigation potential for the year 2002-03 has not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Animal Husbandry and Horticulture Development in Bihar

2016. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals relating to Animal Husbandry and Horticulture Development in Bihar for financial assistance pending with the Union Government;

(b) the time since when these proposals are pending and the reasons for their pendency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) There is no proposal pending in respect of Animal Husbandry and Horticulture Development in Bihar State for financial assistance with the Union Government.

[English]

Ferrying of Haj Pilgrims

2017. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims expected to undertake Haj Pilgrimage this year;

(b) the date by which the flights for ferrying Haj Pilgrims are expected to start;

(c) the places from where these Haj flights will originate; and

(d) other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Approximately 72,000 pilgrims are expected to undertake Haj Pilgrimage in 2003.

(b) Haj flights are scheduled to start from 4th January, 2003.

(c) and (d) Haj flights will be operated from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Kozhikode, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Nagpur, Gaya (to connect over Kolkata) and Srinagar. Air India, Indian Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines will ferry haj pilgrims from India to Jeddah and back from 4.1.2003.

Failure of BT Technology

2018. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a failure of the BT Technology used in the genetically modified cotton planted on a commercial scale for the first time this Kharif season;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the areas in acres where the BT cotton has been planted during this Kharif season, State-wise; and

(d) the production of BT Cotton during this Kharif season, State-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State-wise area under BT cotton during Kharif, 2002 is estimated as:

(Area in acres)

Gujarat	22918
Madhya Pradesh	3676
Maharashtra	30227
Andhra Pradesh	9192
Karnataka	5463
Tamil Nadu	1485

(d) The crop of BT cotton during Kharif 2002 has not been fully harvested.

Corruption in Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF

2019. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF instead of procuring stationery, consumer and grocery items from the manufacturers are purchasing them from other agencies at a higher cost;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies have failed to check the irregularities and corruption in these societies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF have informed that as per their purchase policy, they are procuring stationery, consumer and grocery items directly from the manufacturers. Only where manufacturers decline to deal directly, the same are procured through their authorized distributors.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of the answer to (c).

Bio-Diversity in North Eastern Region

2020. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the steps being taken for commercially exploiting the rich bio-diversity and to avert destruction of bio-diversity in the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Commercial exploitation of biodiversity is prohibited under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. The steps being taken for conservation of biodiversity in the North Eastern Region include:

- Setting up of protected area network consisting of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Biosphere Reserves, for in-situ conservation.
- Identification of wetlands for intensive conservation and management.
- Establishing Botanical Gardens, Zoological Parks, Gene Banks for ex-situ conservation.
- Financial and technical help under various centrally sponsored schemes namely Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Wetlands, Biosphere Reserves, development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and eco-development around Protected Areas.
- Setting up of Regional and Sub-regional offices for Wildlife Preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- Supporting research projects to understand ecosystem functioning and scientific management of protected areas, wetlands etc.

Assistance to Agricultural Labourers

2021. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to severe drought this year in several States the worst sufferers were the Agricultural labourers; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to provide relief to said labourers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) It is estimated that the loss of production in kharif food-grains will be of the order of 18.72%. The primary responsibility for taking necessary measures is that of the State Governments concerned, Central Government supplements the efforts of the States. In addition to release in advance of second instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2002-03, total assistance amounting to Rs. 1999.14 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was approved by the High Level Committee for the drought affected States, subject to adjustment of available balances in the CRF of respective States (Statement-I). In addition, 19.25 lakh MTs of foodgrains have been allocated to the drought affected States under the "Special Component" of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), for relief employment (Statement-II).

Statement-I

State-wise Details of Demand and Amount Approved by High Level Committee (HLC) for Drought Affected States

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No.	State	Demand by State	Amount approved by HLC, subject to deductions of balance in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1210.90	174.61
2.	Chhattisgarh	880.66	92.73
3.	Haryana	1895.98	109.65
4.	Himachal Pradesh	155.86	39.45
5.	Jharkhand	1467.25	42.06
6.	Karnataka	1562.85	221.46
7.	Madhya Pradesh	790.38	125.89
8.	Maharashtra	1730.61	20.00
9.	Orissa	871.40	120.18
10.	Punjab	3529.44	125.41
11.	Rajasthan	7519.76	207.68
12.	Tamil Nadu	1545.76	228.30
13.	Uttaranchal	401.81	10.62
14.	Uttar Pradesh	7539.79	481.10
	Total	31102.45	1999.14

Statement-II

Quantity of foodgrains approved under "Special Component" of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) to drought affected States

(Lakh MTs)

State	Quantity approved (Special Component of SGRY)
Andhra Pradesh	3.00
Chhattisgarh	0.50
Haryana	0.25
Himachal Pradesh	0.10
Jharkhand	0.40
Karnataka	2.00
Madhya Pradesh	1.00
Orissa	2.00
Rajasthan	7.00
Tamil Nadu	0.50
Uttaranchal	0.50
Uttar Pradesh	2.00
Total	19.25

[Translation]

Theft at I.G. Airport

2022. YOGI ADITYA NATH:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govern'nent are aware that equipments worth lakhs of rupees have been stolen from the Indira Gandhi Airport recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the responsibility have since been fixed; and

(d) if so, the number of persons arrested and the action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No such incident has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Policy for Boosting Aquaculture

2023. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive policy/strategy for boosting aquaculture processing and production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether aquaculture industry in several States particularly in Andhra Pradesh has been facing crisis due to fall in export demand for their products; and

(d) the measures taken to alleviate the problems faced by the aquaculture food industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government have evolved suitable strategy for boosting aquaculture production and processing of aquaculture products in the country. For the development of aquaculture in the country, main thrust has been given on freshwater and brackishwater aquaculture programmes through centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the States and Union Territories by providing technical and financial assistance. A number of initiatives have been taken by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce to improve the processing technology for these products.

(c) Shrimp is a high value commodity sold in the international market particularly in the developed countries, like Japan, USA and the European Union. Aquaculture industry especially in Andhra Pradesh has faced some problems due to fall in prices for shrimps during 2001-02; however the position has improved this year. The recession in Japanese market during the last few years was one of the main reasons for the crisis. In the European Union the exporters are facing problem due to anti-biotic residue issues. Export of shrimps to USA has increased and India has become the second largest supplier of shrimps to USA during the current year.

(d) The measures taken to alleviate the problems faced by the aquaculture food industry in the country include: improving the hygienic conditions in the fish landing centers and fishing harbours, establishment of anti-biotic testing laboratories, mobile laboratories and pathological laboratories, establishment of cluster development zones for Aqua exports and awareness creation camps for the aqua farmers on the aspects of eco-friendly and sustainable farming practices.

[Translation]

Direct Flight Service between Delhi and Gorakhpur

2024. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to start a direct flight between Delhi and Gorakhpur; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said service is likely to be started alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Emigration Law

2025. DR. (SHRIMATI) CH. SUGUNA KUMARI:

SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the emigration laws existing in the country at present;

(b) the details of various categories who are exempted from emigration check;

(c) whether smuggling of human beings is taking place due to faulty emigration checks; and

(d) if so, the preventive steps proposed by the Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) There are two emigration laws at present, namely the Foreign Recruiting Act, 1874 and the Emigration Act, 1983. The Commission on Review of Administrative Laws has recommended for repeal of the Foreign Recruiting Act, 1874.

(b) There are seventeen categories of persons (statement), who are exempted from emigration checks.

(c) and (d) The faulty emigration check is not the reason for smuggling of human beings. However, the Central Government has written to the Governments of States and Union Territories to issue guidelines right down to the police station level to maintain strict vigil on the activities of unscrupulous elements who instigate illegal emigration.

Statement

List of Persons/Categories of Workers in whose case Emigration Check in Not Required

1. Persons going in managerial capacity in Hotels, Restaurants, Tea Houses or other places of public resort etc., possessing specialized degree in these fields.
2. All gazetted government servants.
3. All Income-tax payers (including Agricultural Income-tax payers.) In respect their individual assessment to Income-tax and actual payment of Income tax for last three years to be insisted upon, and not merely payment of advance tax.
4. All professional degree holders, such as Doctors holding M.B.B.S. degree or Degree in Ayurved or Homoeopathy; Accredited Journalisits; Engineers; Chartered Accountants; Lecturers; Teachers; Scientists; Advocates etc.
5. Spouses and Depadent Children of category of persons, listed from (2) to (4).
6. All persons who have been staying abroad for more than three years (the period of three years could be either in one stretch or broken) and spouses, and children of such persons.
7. All Indian Seafarers who hold Indian or Foreign CDCs and are in possession of an offer of employment from shipping companies in India or abroad and Sea-Cadets.
8. All holders of Diplomatic/Official Passports.
9. Dependent children of parents whose passport are classified as ECNR. In the case of such children, ECNR classification to be restricted till they attain 24 years of age.
10. Persons holding permanent immigration visas, such as in UK, USA and Australia.
11. Persons holding diplomas or higher Degrees.
12. Persons holding diplomas from recognised Institutions like Polytechnics.
13. Nurses possessing qualification recognized under the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.
14. All persons above the age of 60 years.
15. All visitors to Pakistan and Bangladesh.
16. All persons going to any country in Europe (Excluding CIS countries North America, Australia, New Zealand or Japan).
17. Persons possessing certificates of vocational training from Government / Government recognized institutions.

Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

2026. SHRI G. PUTTASWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) can continue mining operations only for another two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide alternative jobs/rehabilitation to,the workers of KIOCL in the near future; and

(d) the number of employees of the company who have already taken VRS for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 30.10.2002

has permitted KIOCL to continue mining at Kudremukh till 31st December, 2005.

(c) Various options will be considered by the company at the appropriate time about the future course of action in regard to operations of the company including jobs/ rehabilitation of the workers of KIOCL.

(d) The number of employees of the Company who have taken VRS during the last three years is as under:

No. of Employees opted for VRS during	Executives	Supervisors	Non-Executives	Total
1999-2000	5	-	18	23
2000-2001	18	8	48	74
2001-2002	-	-	-	-
2002-2003 (upto 30.9.2002)	24	7	43	74
Total	47	15	109	171

Link Canal Project

2027. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geotechnical Report based on laboratory investigation has been prepared for the Link Canal Project to link proposed Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Gaya to increase the flow of water to save Calcutta Port in lean months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this report has not favoured this project due to environmental reasons;

(d) if so, whether any Techno Economic Survey has been conducted for this Link Canal;

(e) if so, the estimated cost of Project; and

(f) by when the work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Geotechnical investigations of Manas-Sankosh- Teesta-Ganga Link Canal Project has not been completed so far.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) National Water Development Agency has prepared the pre-feasibility report of Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga Link Canal Project. The field survey and investigations for techno economic evaluation of the project are under progress. However, the survey and investigations in the 114 km. reach of the link canal from Manas to Sankosh falling under Manas Tiger Reserve and 24 km from Sankosh to Tista falling under Raidak reserve Forest, Buxa Tiger Reserve & Goburbasra Reserve Forest, could not be taken up due to denial of permission by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India.

(e) As per the prefeasibility report, the tentative estimated cost of link canal project is Rs. 11,670.00 crore at 1994-95 price level.

(f) The whole programme of implementation depends on the cooperation extended by the State Governments and negotiations/inter-state agreements which are pre requisite for taking up the work of Detailed Project Report.

[Translation]

Saraswati River and Indus Civilisation

2028. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sindhu Sabhyata ko Saraswati se jodane ki muhim ko jhatka" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated July 31, 2002; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on the facts published in the newspaper?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI

JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the Government does not subscribe to the speculative reporting made in the media

[English]

Inter-State Rivers Tribunal

2029. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to constitute any Inter-State Rivers Tribunal to solve river disputes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) As per the amended Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 Section 4(1) "When any request under section 3 is received from any State Government in respect of any water dispute and the Central Government is of opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations, the Central Government shall, within a period not exceeding one year from the date of receipt of such request, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of the water disputes". Accordingly, the Central Government constitutes tribunal for specific disputes for adjudication.

The Central Government has received requests under section 3 of the said Act from the States of Goa and Karnataka for referring to the tribunals the disputes relating to sharing of Mahadayi/Mandovi river water and sharing of surplus water of Krishna river for adjudication and decision in July 2002 and September 2002 respectively. Central Government has initiated steps for finding a negotiated settlement of the disputes failing which Water Disputes Tribunals shall be constituted for their adjudication.

Increase in Emigration Fee

2030. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to increase the Emigration Fee; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government has already increased the emigration fee from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 200/- with effect from 1st November, 2002, vide Notification No. 713(E) dated 18th October, 2002.

Modernisation of Fishing Harbour in Kerala

2031. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for modernisation of its fishing harbours and fish landing centres;

(b) whether fishing harbours at Koilandi, Thacai, Thottappally are being considered in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala has proposed for repair and renovation of the fishing harbours at Neendakara, Puthiyappa, Chombal, Moplabay, Azheekkal and Munambam and fish landing centres at Munakkakadavu, Chettuvai, Dharmadom, Cheruvathoor, Vallayil, Thottappally, Neeleswaram and New Mahe.

(b) and (c) Only the fish landing centre at Thottapally at a total cost of Rs.20.00 lakhs has been proposed by the State Government for repair and renovation. The proposals are at very preliminary stage and the State Government has not confirmed the availability existence of adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget.

Research on Medical Qualities of Marijuana

2032. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any research on the medicinal qualities of the weed "Marijuana" which has the quality to cure diabetes and other diseases; and

(b) if not, whether any research is proposed to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. ICAR has done no research on this plant.

(b) At present there is no such proposal by ICAR.

Airlines Booking Office at Railway Stations

2033. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether permission has been granted to Indian Airlines and other Private Airlines to set up booking offices at major railway stations of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pending Hydro Electric Projects

2034. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some power projects particularly hydro-electric projects in the country are pending for clearance;

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

(c) the steps taken to accord early clearance to the above said pending projects?

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

(b) List of projects pending for clearance is at the statement enclosed.

(c) Decision on project is usually taken within 90 days of receipt of complete information.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Projects	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh/ Assam		
1.	Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Project, District Lower Subansiri by National Hydro Power Corporation Ltd.	2000
Jammu & Kashmir		
2.	Sewa Hydro Electric Project, Stage-II, District Kathua by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd.	120
Maharashtra		
3.	Nira Deoghar Irrigation Project, District Pune by Department of Irrigation, Govt. of Maharshtra	7

[Translation]

Implementation of Ceiling Act

2035. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement Ceiling Act in view of the globalisation of agriculture in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when the Act is likely to be made effective and the help likely to be provided to the farmers by such Act; and

(c) the names of the States in the country where the Ceiling Act has been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Land is State Subject and, therefore, the Implementation of Ceiling Act is governed by Land Ceiling Act applicable in their respective States including Uttar Pradesh. In Uttar Pradesh, the Land Ceiling is governed by Uttar Pradesh Land Ceiling Act, 1960 amended from time to time.

(c) The Acts relating to ceiling on agricultural holdings are being implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, West Bengal, Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry.

Setting Up an Exclusive Zone for Cooperatives

2036. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an exclusive zone is being set up to revive the cooperatives;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a Meeting of Cooperative Ministers of all the States was also convened in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) There is no such proposal under the consideration of this Department.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Provident Fund not Deposited by Companies

2037. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the action being taken by the Government against the private companies which do not deposit the amount of Provident Fund of the employees in the Government exchequer;

(b) the number of cases that have come to the notice of the Government during in the last three years;

(c) the number of companies against which action has been taken so far;

(d) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kai saal se PF ki rakam jama nahin karai" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated July 30, 2002;

(e) if so, the facts thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Action is taken against defaulters under the provisions of the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and cases are filed with police authorities under section 406/409 of Indian Penal Code against the employers for non-remittance of employees' share of Provident Fund contribution deducted from the wages of the workers.

The details of enquiries initiated during the last three years are given as under:

Year	Workload	Disposed
1999-2000	25551	16874
2000-01	33210	21925
2001-02*provisional	44549	28721*

Actions taken against the defaulters as on 31.3.2002 are as under:

1.	Prosecution launched U/s 14 during the year 2001-02	6712
2.	Complaints U/s 406/409 IPC	487
3.	Action U/s 8F (Attachment of Bank A/c and third party dues)	8301
4.	Action U/s 8B to 8G	
	(a) Attachment of movable and immovable properties	775
	(b) Arrest and detention	145

(d) to (f) An enquiry under section 7A of the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 has been initiated against M/s Precision Gauge and Tools, Noida UP. The establishment had approached The Hon'ble Allahabad High Court to stay the proceedings under section 7 A. The Hon'ble High Court has dismissed the petition and hence the EPFO is going ahead with the enquiry. Directions have also been issued to file FIR against the employers.

Private and Foreign Sector Banks

2038. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private and foreign sector banks

are extracting more work in terms of number of hours per day than prescribed in the law without paying any compensation to the workers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Working hours of the Banks are governed by the Shops and Establishments Act which is enforced by the respective State Governments. However, as and when an Industrial Dispute is raised, it is conciliated upon by the Conciliation Officers of the Central Government under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. In case the parties hold divergent views, a report is submitted by these Officers to the Government along with their recommendations to refer the dispute for adjudication or otherwise.

Acquisition of Temple

2039. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

DR. V. SAROJA:

SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal for taking over the management of some ancient temples in the country including Arunalachaeswarar at Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu by ASI for better conservation and development of tourism potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware about strong protest from the public and certain States against the proposed move; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Archaeological Survey of India does not intend to interfere with the management of religious activities of ancient temples which are under worship in the country. Only, preliminary notification has been issued on 21.9.2002 under section 4(1) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 by the Central Government expressing its intention to protect the Arunachaleshwarar temple to take care of the structural repairs, chemical preservation environmental development and objections have been invited from the public.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The representations received from the public and the State Government are being examined by the Central Government.

Irregularities in Appointment

2040. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item caption "Daily wagers run apex airport body" appearing in Indian Express dated October 11, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of employees were permitted to continue in the office without completing the required official formalities;

(d) if so, whether certain irregularities such as appointing some employees by revising the date of appointment by issuing an office order although they were interviewed only later etc. came to their notice; and

(e) if so, response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) The post of the Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI) is lying vacant with effect from 1st January 2002. The process for selection and appointment to the post of Chairman, AAI was started in time, but has been delayed on account of certain requirements for compliance of orders of Delhi High Court in the Letters Patent Appeal No. 234/2001. The post of Member (Operations) is lying vacant from October 2001. A panel of names has been received from Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). A reference will be made to the competent authority as soon as the formalities are completed. As regards the posts of Member (Personnel and Administration), Member (Finance) and Member (Planning), extension of tenures of the present incumbents has been considered by this Ministry in consultation with the PESB. The extension of tenure of present incumbent of Member (P&A) has been referred, and action is at hand to refer the rest, to the competent authority.

[Translation]

Reconstruction of Public Sector Steel Plants

2041. SHRI CHADRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reconstruct the steel plants of public sector to make their product profitable in the global market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets set for the purpose and the amount likely to be spent on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government, at present.

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

[English]

Level of Reservoirs

2042. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Water levels of 70 major reservoirs dip" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated September 29, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the latest status report of Central Water Commission has revealed decline of water level in 70 reservoirs; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to maintain water level in the reservoirs with the Cooperation of State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring storage position of 70 important reservoirs spread all over the country. The overall storage in these reservoirs as on 22.11.2002 was 58.04 billion cubic metre being less than the last year status of 80.32 billion cubic metre and the average storage status of last 10 years viz: 92.98 billion cubic metre. The State Governments have been advised to judiciously utilize the available water and also do water budgeting so as to maintain optimal water level in the reservoirs.

[Translation]

Safety of Dams

2043. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of dams which are dangerous from safety point of view, till date; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Government to the State Governments for the maintenance and renovation of those dams during each of the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) There are no Dams which are dangerous from safety point of view. However, 14 State Governments have submitted details of 183 dams which are under some distress for which permanent remedial measures are proposed by them for taking up under World Bank Aided 'Dam Safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Project'. Under this Project, four States namely, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have been provided an assistance of Rs. 422.95 crore for renovation and Rehabilitation of dams during the period 1991-1999.

Old Planes

2044. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of Air Crashes taken place during the last three years till October, 2002;

(b) whether investigations have been conducted into the crashes;

(c) if so, the results thereof;

(d) whether a number of crashes were caused due to ageing Aircraft;

(e) if so, whether most of the Aircraft with the Government Airlines are overaged thereby jeopardising the safety of passengers;

(f) whether any scheme have been formulated to check this problem;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the rules if any about the retention of old planes in service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) A total of 15 Indian civil registered aircraft were involved in aircrashes during the last three years (November, 1999 to October, 2002). The details of the aircrashes and investigations conducted thereon are given at the statement.

(d) No, Sir. The Investigations conducted into these accidents have not determined ageing of the aircraft as the causative factor.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

(h) The aircraft can be operated till these are maintained in accordance with the maintenance specifications prescribed by their manufacturers and Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

Statement

Accidents of Indian Civil Registered Aircraft Occurred from November, 1999 to October, 2002

Sl.No.	Date/Location	Aircraft	Operator	Fatalities	Damage to Aircraft	Result of the Investigation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	17.04.2000 Mainpuri (Uttar Pradesh)	Bell-206B Jet Ranger VT-ETM	Indian Int. Airways	Nil	Destroyed	The accident was caused when helicopter hit raised embankment before coming to halt after autorotative landing, which was forced due to engine failure. Vane of stage 3 broke/librated probably due erosion and caused engine failure.
2.	17.07.2000 Patna (Bihar)	B-737-200 VT-EGD	Alliance Air	60	Destroyed	The accident was caused due to loss of control of the aircraft by the aircrew. The crew did not follow the correct approach procedure thereby resulting in the aircraft being high on approach. They had kept the engines at idle thrust and allowed the air speed to reduce to a lower than normally permissible value on approach. The aircrew then maneuvered the aircraft with high pitch altitude and executed rapid roll reversals. This resulted in actuation of the stick shaker stall warning indicating an approaching stall. At this stage, the crew initiated a Go Around procedure instead of approach to Stall Recovery procedure resulting in an actual stall of the aircraft, loss of control and subsequent impact with the ground.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	29.07.2000 near Mandi (Himachal Pradesh)	Super King Air B200 VT-EIE	Aerial Services Pvt. Ltd	05	Destroyed.	The accident was caused as the pilot descended below minimum sector altitude in Instrument Meteorological Condition (IMC) in hilly area. Air Traffic Controller, Chandigarh contributed to the accident by permitting Instrument Flying Rules (IFR) flight to descend below minimum sector altitude.
4	21.11.2000 near Pune	Microlight aircraft VT-UNC	Golden Glados Country Club Kamshet Distt. Pune	01	Destroyed	Microlight was engaged in taking photographs and was flying low over the lake water of Wadivali dam across Indari river in Pune District. The left wheel of the microlight contacted water and fell into the lake. The pilot died in the accident due to drowning while a passenger on board was rescued.
5.	02.01.2001 near Mussorie (Uttar Pradesh)	Bell-206 L4 VT-SPA	Span-Air	05	Destroyed	The helicopter entered into a valley and crashed in a hilly terrain at Hatthipau enroute Dehradoon.
6.	26.03.2001 near Ojhar, Distt Nasik	Piper Aztec VT-AAI	Ahmedabad Aviation Academy	Nil	Substantial	The accident is attributed to aircraft impacting the field during force landing as both engines shut down in flight because of fuel starvation which occurred due to depletion of fuel in the inboard tanks.
7.	08.05.2001 Sessa near Rupa (Arunachal Pradesh)	Dauphin Helicopter VT-ELA	Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited	07	Destroyed	The pilots while flying in hilly terrain and on entering between high hills during adverse weather conditions lost visual contact with the surrounding terrain and collided with a slope.
8.	13.5.2001 Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Piper Aerostar aircraft VT-AKS	Karson Aviation	Nil	Substantial	The cause of the accident was due to non-compliance of approved emergency procedures of section 4 of the Flight Manual by the flight crew resulting in fuel starvation of both the engines.
9	07.07.2001 Amarnath (Jammu & Kashmir)	Chetah Helicopter VT-EUY	Government of Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Destroyed	The helicopter crashed probably due to the down draft experienced while in final approach for landing.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	30.9.2001 Mainpuri (Uttar Pradesh)	King Air C90 VT-EEF	Jindal Strips Limited	08	Destroyed	The pilot while flying through active thunder storm at cruise altitude encountered severe updraft in intense and mature cloud formation possibly underwent an abnormal and abrupt maneuver, most probably a steep spiral dive, resulting in inflight breakage of the aircraft structure on account of aerodynamic overload leading to total loss of controls followed with heavy impact with the ground causing fatal injuries to all the occupants.
11.	29.11.2001 Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)	Swati VT-STO	Kerala Aviation Training Centre	Nil	Destroyed	The preliminary information on the accident indicates that the aircraft while carrying out circuit and landing at Thiruvananthapuram crashed after hitting coconut tree. The Inspector of Accident has not yet submitted the Report on Accident.
12.	20.01.2002 near Manali (Himachal Pradesh)	Lama SA Helicopter VT-HHS	Himalayan Heli-Services (P) Limited	Nil	Destroyed	The helicopter was on helisking flight. While aborting landing on a hill top, the helicopter sank and its tail guard impacted ground. Thereafter, its nosed over.
13.	21.02.2002 near Indore (Madhya Pradesh)	Bell 430 VT-MPS	Madhya Pradesh Government	Nil	Substantial	The pilot of the helicopter is reported to be carrying out auto rotative landing after one of the engine had failed inflight and the second was not developing adequate power. During the process, the helicopter toppled over and sustained substantial damage.
14.	03.03.2002 Kaikalur near Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)	Bell 206 Helicopter VT-DAP	Deccan Aviation	03	Destroyed	The Report of the Committee of Inquiry has not yet been accepted by the Government.
15.	22.09.2002 near Lonawala, Pune (Maharashtra)	Ecquriel Helicopter VT-RLA	Million Air	05	Destroyed	The helicopter was operating private flight from Amby Valley (near Lonawala) to Juhu. The helicopter crashed soon after taking off and all the five occupants received fatal injuries. There was no fire. The Inspector of Accidents has not yet submitted the Report.

[English]

Production of Steel in Public Sector Steel Plant

2045. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the target set by each public sector steel plant for the production of saleable steel during the last three years; and

(b) the achievement made during the said period, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Details of the targets and achievements in regard to production of saleable steel by the public sector steel plants during the last three years are given below:

(in thousand tonnes)

Steel Plant	1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Bhilai Steel Plant	3270	3411	3500	3307	3450	3383
Durgapur Steel Plant	1532	1402	1520	1496	1510	1527
Rourkela Steel Plant	1238	1170	1490	1294	1450	1354
Bokaro Steel Plant	3210	3246	3430	3313	3310	3200
SAIL - 4 Plants	9250	9229	9940	9410	9720	9464
Alloy Steels Plant	70	83	90	79	85	84
Salem Steel Plant	120	148	120	129	105	63
Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant	60	69	65	85	90	87
SAIL	9500	9530	10215	9703	10000	9697
IISCO	242	250	305	277	297	302
Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.	2305	2382	2217	2507	2411	2757

Items banned on Aircraft

2046. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has issued a list of banned items that are being denied access to aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 16, 2002 under the caption "List of banned items stumps airport staff";

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

(e) the corrective measures taken to ensure that the names of banned items included in the list are easily understood by the securitymen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security had issued in July, 2002 a list of 84 banned items for carriage by a passenger in his/her hand baggage on board the flights operating from civil Indian airports and Indian civil registered aircraft operating from foreign airports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The list of banned items was reviewed and their number has been reduced to 64 as per the revised order issued in September, 2002. To facilitate a better understanding of nature of banned items, a detailed note in

this regard has been circulated to Airport Security Units (APSU).

[Translation]

Deep Sea Fishing Policy

2047. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deep sea fishing policy of the Government;

(b) the number of the trawlers made available by the Government in this regard alongwith the number of trawlers available at present; and

(c) the facilities provided to the fishermen involved in fishing in deep sea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The declaration of EEZ in 1976 facilitates Exploration, Exploitation and utilization of Marine living resources in the sea around India extending to 200 nautical miles, thereby giving the nation immense opportunities and challenges to harvest the resources and to manage thereon sound scientific basis.

(b) the number of deep sea fishing vessels permitted for operation and operating at present under wholly Indian owned companies is 85. The total number of vessels including tuna long liners permitted under joint venture are 42.

(c) The Government have provided soft term loan for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels by import or by indigenous construction through Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC). In addition to this, the deep sea fishing vessels have also been permitted for mid-sea bunkering for taking their fuel while operating in the sea. The deep sea fishing sector have also been provided with import facilities such as spares and gears against their exports of their value added fish catches. Deep Sea vessels are provided with infrastructure support in terms of landing and berthing facilities.

Investment by Foreign Companies in Tourism Sector

2048. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies which have applied to the Union Government for investment in the Hotel and Tourism Industry;

(b) the details of investment likely to be made; and

(c) the places identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) As per the extant policy, FDI up to 100% is permitted on the automatic route in Hotel and Tourism Sector. During January 1999 to August 2002, 181 financial proposals were approved by the Government involving foreign direct investment of Rs.1402.48 crores. A statement indicating State-wise break- up of FDI approved during this period is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise Break-up for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
Approved by Government during January 1999 to August 2002
Sector - Hotel and Tourism

(Amount in crores)

Sr. No.	Name of the State	No. of Approvals Financial	Amount of Foreign Direct Investment Approved (in Rs.)	% to Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	0.30	0.02
2	Gujarat	2	0.25	0.02

1	2	3	4	5
3	Himachal Pradesh	2	0.35	0.02
4	Karnataka	6	10.83	0.77
5	Kerala	16	137.55	9.81
6	Maharashtra	41	328.06	23.39
7	Orissa	1	84.40	6.02
8	Rajasthan	2	23.59	1.68
9	Tamil Nadu	30	388.94	27.73
10	Uttar Pradesh	1	0.80	0.06
11	West Bengal	3	30.85	2.20
12	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0.00	0.00
13	Chandigarh	1	0.16	0.01
14	Delhi	45	383.09	27.31
15	Goa	14	6.97	0.50
16	Mizoram	1	1.52	0.11
17	Pondicherry	2	0.16	0.01
18	State Not Indicated	12	4.66	0.33
	Grand Total	181	1,402.48	

Production of Mangoes

2049. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the leading mangoes producing States in the country;

(b) the details of production of mangoes in the country during each of the last three years; and

(c) the facilities provided by the Government to mango producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The leading mango producing States in the country are Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar and Tamil Nadu, which contribute about 76 per cent of the total production.

(b) The details of production of mangoes in the country during the last three years is as given below:

Year	Production (000'MT)
1998-99	9781.8
1999-2000	10503.5
2000-01	10237.0

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/ Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan assistance is being extended to the farmers for development of fruits including mango. This scheme provides flexibility to the State Governments to prioritise their activities as per their felt needs. Assistance is provided for activities like supply of good quality planting material through nurseries, coverage of area with improved varieties, technology dissemination

through training of farmers, creation of infrastructural facilities like disease forecasting units, plant health clinics, leaf/tissue analysis labs, on farm handling of produce and mechanization.

[English]

Amendment in Child Labour Act

2050. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Child Labour Act to extend the age limit from 14 to 15 years so as to educate the children upto secondary level under the compulsory education system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to eliminate child labour and ensure their compulsory education upto SSC level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

(c) The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for the benefit of child labour withdrawn from work, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations. Under these schemes, Special schools/Centres have, been set up with provision for non-formal/formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care etc. So far, NCLPs have been sanctioned in 100 districts in 13 child labour endemic states for coverage of 2.11 lakh children. As per the information available, 1.45 lakh children (approx.) have already been mainstreamed into formal education school system.

[Translation]

Research Centres/Projects under ICAR in Tribal Areas

2051. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of research centres and projects running under the auspices of Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Maharashtra and other States particularly in the tribal dominated areas location-wise;

(b) the details of amount allocated by the Union Government alongwith the details of amount spent by them during the past three years centre-wise and project-wise;

(c) the details of achievements made by these centres, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which these centres influenced agricultural production in the country during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details are given in statement-I.

(c) The details are given in statement-II.

(d) The details are given in statement-III.

Statement-I

The details of Research Centres and Projects running under the auspices of ICAR particularly in tribal dominated areas along with the amount allocated and spent during the last three years

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name & Address of Research Centres/KVKs	Amount Allocated				Amount Spent			
		1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	Total	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Behind M.R.O. Office, Kotha, Madanpur Mahboobnagar (AP)	7.33	10.55	18.10	35.98	7.33	10.55	18.10	35.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadipalli-508201, Nalgonda (AP)	9.09	31.37	34.35	74.81	9.09	31.37	34.35	74.81
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam-531005 (AP)	32.60	14.80	33.55	80.95	32.60	14.80	33.55	80.95
4.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malyal Farm, Village Malyal, Warangal-506101 (AP)	17.29	15.17	16.35	48.81	17.29	15.17	16.35	48.81
	Total	66.31	71.89	102.35	240.55	66.31	71.89	102.35	240.55
Chhattisgarh									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sarguja	20.23	14.95	26.55	61.73	20.23	14.95	26.55	61.73
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Animal Husbandry Science, Gokulan, G.E. Road, Anjora, Durg-491001	15.41	18.45	24.55	58.41	15.41	18.45	24.55	58.41
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Via. Dimrapal, Jagdalpur, Bastar-494001	0	10.00	14.55	24.55	0	10.00	14.55	24.55
	Total	35.64	43.40	65.65	144.69	35.64	43.40	65.65	144.69
Gujarat									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Hill Millet Research Station, Waghai, Dangs (Guj.)	27.10	19.05	34.50	80.65	27.10	19.05	34.50	80.65
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Ambeti Ashram, Valsad (Guj.)	6.77	11.80	17.90	36.47	6.77	11.80	17.90	36.47
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bharauch	7.60	9.50	10.40	27.50	7.60	9.50	10.40	27.50
4.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti, Golagamadi, Golag Mandi, Vadodara	6.07	9.30	10.50	25.87	6.07	9.30	10.50	25.87
	Total	47.54	49.65	73.30	170.49	47.54	49.65	73.30	170.49
Himachal Pradesh									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendras, P.O. Sultanpur, Baloo, Chamba-176314	58.67	34.34	27.75	120.76	58.67	34.34	27.75	120.76
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharbo at Rekong Peo, Kinnaur	25.49	27.83	28.30	81.62	25.49	27.83	28.30	81.62
	Total	84.16	62.17	56.05	202.38	84.16	62.17	56.05	202.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jharkhand									
1.	Indiain Lac Research Institute, Ranchi	120.00	115.00	105.00	340.00	82.92	85.19	105.00	273.11
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Jaganathpur, West Singhbhum-833203	15.39	19.10	16.45	50.94	15.39	19.10	16.45	50.94
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Morabadi, Ranchi-834008	8.75	7.05	11.85	27.65	8.75	7.05	11.85	27.65
	Total	144.14	141.15	133.30	418.59	144.140	141.15	133.30	418.59
Madhya Pradesh									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Agril. Res., St., Chandagaon, Chhindwara-480001	19.96	20.45	24.82	65.23	19.96	20.45	24.82	65.23
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JNKVV Farm, Jhabua-457661	17.04	12.49	18.88	48.41	17.04	12.49	18.88	48.41
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Goviana Site, Post Box-7, Sidhi-486661	17.17	19.45	23.07	59.69	17.17	19.45	23.07	59.69
4.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, College of Agril, Warwadi Farm, East Nimar (Khandawa)	13.48	18.45	18.81	50.74	13.48	18.45	18.81	50.74
5.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kathi Bagh, Rajgarh	0	13.45	15.18	28.63	0	13.45	15.18	28.63
6.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badagaon Block, Komapur, P.O. Pala Balghat-481115	33.84	19.05	7.41	60.30	33.84	19.05	7.41	60.30
7.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Joara, Kalukeda, Ratlam-457340	8.64	17.62	26.05	52.31	8.64	17.62	26.05	52.31
	Total	110.13	120.96	134.22	365.31	110.13	120.96	134.22	365.31
Maharashtra									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Satpura Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon-425508	17.19	20.55	24.55	62.29	17.19	20.55	24.55	62.29
	Total	17.19	20.55	24.55	62.29	17.19	20.55	24.55	62.29
Meghalaya									
1.	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	302.09	319.82	553.93	1175.84	302.09	319.82	553.93	1175.84
	Total	302.09	319.82	553.93	1175.84	302.09	319.82	553.93	1175.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Orissa									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Res. Station, Semiliguda, P.Box 10, Sunabeda-763002, Koraput	18.17	17.73	25.55	61.45	18.17	17.73	25.55	61.45
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, Judia Farm P.O. Keonjhar	17.73	16.99	24.55	59.27	17.73	16.99	24.55	59.27
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Devog via Singlia, Baliapal, Balasore-756026	22.07	19.675	25.55	67.295	22.07	19.675	25.55	67.295
4.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, NARP Campus, Bhowani Patana, Kalahandi	18.96	18.45	31.55	68.96	18.96	18.45	31.55	68.96
	Total	76.93	72.845	107.20	256.975	76.93	72.845	107.20	256.975
Rajasthan									
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Badal Mal, Sastri Colony, Dungarpur-314001	22.22	36.15	25.40	83.77	22.22	36.15	25.40	83.77
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borwat Agril. Research Station, Banswara-327001	25.07	19.90	25.30	70.27	25.07	19.90	25.30	70.27
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001	22.06	21.80	27.40	71.26	22.06	21.80	27.40	71.26
	Total	69.35	77.85	78.10	225.30	69.35	77.85	78.10	225.30

Statement-II

The details of achievements

The consolidated achievements made by these Centres are as under:

Agricultural Research Centres

These centres have greatly helped in efficient utilization and conservation of the natural resources for improving agricultural productivity in Maharashtra as well as in other States and tribal areas of the country. The input-use efficiency of water, fertilizers, tillage and other agricultural inputs have been greatly improved and the cost of cultivation per unit of the produce has been reduced. The activities have helped in efficient utilization of the rain, surface and ground water resources as well as recharge of the ground water. Drip and micro sprinkler technology in Maharashtra have greatly helped in improving the productivity of horticulture and other vegetable crops. Similarly, the alternate farming systems in the North East Hill Region has helped in conservation of the natural resource and biodiversity, improving agricultural productivity and providing enhanced opportunities for supporting livelihood systems of tribals in the North East Hill Regions.

More than three hundred fish farmers were imparted training in small scale fishculture technology. Yield from their ponds increased from 200 to 1000 Kg per hectare.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

During the last three years a total of 43 thousand courses were organized for the benefit of 10.36 lakh farmers and farm women, 9 thousand courses were organized for the benefit of 1.7 lakh rural youths, and 4.4 thousand courses were organized for the benefit of 1.05 lakh in-service personnel. Frontline Demonstrations were organized benefiting 61833 farmers. 4613.7 tonnes of cereals, 474.2

tonnes of oilseeds, 958.7 tonnes of pulses, 218 tonnes of vegetable seeds were produced, besides 1.54 lakhs of saplings/seedlings of fruit/vegetable/ornamental plants/ forest species.

ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region

- Soil and water conservation practices in mountainous watersheds reduced runoff from 42 to 14% and the soil loss from 1 to 2 t/ha.

- Alternate farming systems to shifting cultivation were developed in northeast region resulting into higher production per unit area and conservation of soil and water resources. These technologies help in moderation of floods in the plains and increase cropping intensity and productivity in the hills.

- Floriculture, organic farming, rabbit and pig rearing and other commercial agriculture activities have been provided with a scientific back up.

- Methods have been devised for control of diseases and insect pests of the crops and animal population of the NEH Region.

- Different agro-forestry systems such as agri-silviculture, agri-silvi-horticulture, agri-horticulture, silvi-pasture systems have been developed and evaluated for NEH Region

Indian Lac Research Institute (ILRI), Ranchi

- Studies on lac cultivation under intercrop system were carried out at ILRI, Ranchi. Technology developed for integration of different agricultural crops with lac culture on *palas* trees occurring scattered on sloppy degraded upland in Chhotanagpur plateau has successfully been tested in the Institute farm and found to increase the productivity of land approximately to the tune of 8, 10 and 5 q/ha in case of ragi, upland paddy and soyabean, respectively grown as intercrops under rain-fed conditions in addition to the normal sticklac yield of 4-5 q. The technology has been found not only suitable for increasing the productivity but also in improving the soil fertility and protecting the soil from erosion.

- Utilization of inter-spaces between the host plants in the mixed plantation of *bhalia* and *galwang* by growing turmeric, has successfully been tested and has been found to generate an additional revenue of approximately Rs.6,000-7,000/ha to the normal 20,000- 25,000/ha/year from lac.

- An efficient and indigenous device for lac-insect pest management has been developed at ILRI, Ranchi. Exploiting the size gradient and phototactic nature of adult insects, a simple device has been developed to separate predators, beneficial and inimical parasitoids of lac insect *kerria lacca* (kerr). The used up broodlac is kept inside a container and a unit fitted on this is able to sort out beneficial parasitoids namely, *Bracon greeni*, *Apanteles tachardiae*, *Prislomerus sulci* and Brachymeria tachardiae automatically into a single chamber from mixed population of predators, inimical and beneficial parasitoids associated with lac to the extent of 69, 60, 100 and 100%, respectively. These insects can be released to augment the natural population of useful parasitoids (biological control agent) and check lac associated predators. The device uses locally available materials and is very cheap and easy to assemble. It does not require any skill to operate. The farmers themselves can participate in programme of natural pest control. More than one unit can be fitted into a very large container.

- A trivoltine quick growing lac insect species has been discovered from Sarat (Distt. Mayurbhanj, Orissa) growing wildly on *(Schleichera oleosa) kusum*. This insect completes three generations in 350 to 355 days at its native place and 370 to 380 days in Ranchi conditions, as against only two generations recorded so far, in existing lac insect on this host in Bihar, M.P. and W.B. Studies have revealed that new insect differs morphologically, ecologically and biologically from trivoltine insects, reported earlier on *jalary* and Raintree from Mysore (Karnataka) and *Amarsi* (W.B.), respectively. Thus, it is a first record of trivoltine lac insect from conventional lac host. Owing to its high multiplicity per year (9 times higher than the conventional lac insect on this host), the insect not only holds promise for quick production of lac but also competes well against most of the inimical insects and escapes damage done by them.

- An economical varnish based on dewaxed lac in spiritless solvents along with an accelerator has been developed for wood. The resulting film is heat resistant and water resistant. It could be applied either by brush or spray. Metal lacquer based on modified lac with 10-15 percent synthetic in spiritless solvent has also been developed for coating tin metal surfaces.

Statement-III

The details of the Centres Influenced Agricultural Production in the Country during the said period

Crop Science

Research efforts in the region have led to development of improved varieties and technologies for increasing production and productivity in the region and also benefit the farmers by increasing their income. Breeder seed is produced to make available quality seed to the farmers. Farmers also benefit from the training programmes on disease and pest control, bee keeping and enhanced awareness on pesticide residues.

Natural Resource Management

The technologies have helped in popularizing cultivation of groundnut and pigeonpea. Agroforestry systems developed have helped to increase productivity of sloppy lands by replacing shifting cultivation. Rejuvenated old orange orchards are becoming more profitable. Technology for piggery, rabbit and paddy-cum-fish culture technology have helped in employment generation and more income.

Animal Science

- The population of Yak & Mithun the two rare species of livestock are constantly declining. The study conducted on NRC (Yak), NRC (Mithun) and NRC (Pig) will help in checking this decline.
- NRC (Pig) in Guwahati is the headquarter of pig research in the country. NE Region will have the benefit of research data of the whole country for improving the present pig rearing practices of local farmers.
- The research conducted so far helped in improving technology of Mithun & Yak farming by improved feed, reproduction & health management practices.
- Besides direct benefit through improved production practices of Yak, Mithun & Pig, farmers are also trained in other allied activities. These are by integrating piggery & poultry production with Yak & Mithun farming.

Engineering

- The benefits being made available to the local population through all the centres of AICRPs located in the NEH Region include development of appropriate designs of improved agricultural tools and implements, post harvest equipment, renewable energy gadgets, which are efficient and economical and use of plastics in agriculture to mechanize various crops production activities in the region. Their large scale use will help the farmers to increase their production and reduce cost of production. Need based farm tools and implements, post harvest equipment, solar gadgets, biogas digesters, green houses etc. developed/ identified by the centre were manufactured and supplied to the farmers to mechanize their farm operations. This has generated good awareness about improved implements amongst the farmers and demand of such machinery is increasing.
- Demonstration of use of clarificants in making jaggery has shown that the quality of jaggery was improved and the farmers are now adopting the use of clarificants in jaggery making.

Fisheries

- Due to technology demonstration, HRD programmes and monetary assistance, the aqua farmers in the region have been able to enhance fish production.
- With the establishment of the hatchery the seed of Chocolate mahseer, can be made available to the local fish farmers and also used for ranching in the local water bodies for conservation.

Education

- AICRP has successfully developed a nutritional guide as a powerful tool for dietary counseling among rural families and also has provided interventions in the form of food products rich in Vitamin A and Iron.
- Child Care and Growth Norms of Rural Children and development of cost effective farm creches for rural children.
- Drudgery Reducing women friendly and cost-effective technologies of farm and Home activities developed.
- Agro & Animal based natural dyes and fibres identified for economic activities.

Extension

- During the year 2000-01, 375 training courses were organized benefiting 8869 farmers, 224 training courses were organized for 4931 rural youths, and 24 programmes were conducted to train 728 in service personnel. During the year 606 oilseed and 581 pulse

crops front line demonstrations were conducted covering 108 ha and 104 ha respectively.

- The ICAR have also established one Trainers Training Centre (TTC) and a total of 48 inservice extension personnel were trained.

Wheat for Eastern Regions

2052. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of four varieties of wheat developed for eastern regions by the Government;

(b) the details of developed varieties of wheat which are giving high yield in the States of eastern regions, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether the yield of this developed wheat is more than other varieties of wheat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the per acre yield of this wheat in terms of quintal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The names of four wheat varieties released recently by Central Variety Release Committee for cultivation in the Eastern Region of India are HD 2733, HUW 468, PBW 443 and PBW 343. The details of these varieties are given in enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) These varieties are better in yield as compared to other varieties/check. Details are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

The details of four wheat varieties released recently by Central Variety Release Committee (CVRC) for Eastern Region comprising the States of Uttar Pradesh (Eastern parts), Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Assam, Jharkhand and plain areas of North Eastern States.

Sl.No.	Variety	Year of release	Production condition	Average yield (q/acre)	Salient features
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. Four Recently Released Varieties:					
1.	HUW 468	1999	Irrigated timely sown	18.0	Resistant to rust diseases and leaf blight. Tolerant to Karnal Bunt and loose smut.
2.	PBW 443	1999	Irrigated timely sown	18.0	Highly resistant to rust diseases and tolerant to foliar blight. Amber grains suitable for Chapati making.
3.	HD 2733	2001	Irrigated timely sown	19.2	Highly resistant to brown rust and leaf blight. Amber, medium bold and hard grains suitable for Chapati and bread making.
4.	PBW 343	2001	Irrigated timely sown	17.6	Highly resistant to rust diseases widely adopted variety. Tolerant to late heat stress.
B. Other Varieties/Check(s) :					
1.	HP1731	1995	Irrigated timely sown	14.4	Resistant to brown rust, lustrous amber grains.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	K 9107 (Deva)	1996	Irrigated timely sown	16.8	Resistant to rust and tolerant to leaf blight.
2.	HP 1761 (Jagdish)	1997	Irrigated timely sown	14.0	Highly resistant to leaf rust & tolerant to leaf blight, Amber hard grains
3.	NW1012	1998	Irrigated timely sown	17.2	Resistant to leaf rust and foliar blight and tolerant to Karnal bunt and loose smut.

[English]

World Bank Assistance to Improve Agriculture Marketing

2053. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States who have sought World Bank assistance to improve the agriculture marketing by establishing cold storages, grading centres and agriculture export zones; and

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has also sent any proposal for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A Feasibility Report on 'Maharashtra Horticultural Produce Marketing Infrastructure Project' has been received from Government of Maharashtra for seeking financial assistance from the World Bank. The project components include Farmers Market, Collection Centres, Terminal Markets, Cargo Handling Centres, Market Information Network, Rural Roads, Cold Chain and Floriculture Project.

(b) No proposal has been received from Government of Karnataka for this purpose.

[Translation]

Verification of Labour Unions

2054. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give recognition to various Trade Unions in the country;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted for providing recognition to the said Unions;

(c) whether regular verification is conducted from time to time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Government of India does not give recognition to Trade Unions. However, on the request of the parties, Ministry of Labour conducts verification of membership of unions operating in the establishment in Central Sphere under Code of Discipline.

(b) The criteria for recognition of trade unions laid down in the Code of Discipline in Industry. The text of which is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) There is no law in the central sphere regarding verification of membership of Trade Unions except in case of Nationalised Banks and State Banks. However, as per the Code of Discipline, the term of recognized union operating in establishments other than Nationalised Banks and State Banks, is 2 years.

Statement

Criteria for Recognition of Unions

1. Where there is more than one union, a union claiming recognition should have been functioning for at least one year after registration. Where there is only one union, this condition would not apply.

2. The membership of the union should cover at least 15% of the workers in the establishment concerned. Membership would be counted only of those who had paid their subscription for at least three months during the period of six months immediately preceding the reckoning.

3. A union may claim to be recognized as a representative union for an industry in a local area if it has a membership of at least 25% of the workers of that industry in that area.

4. When a union has been recognized, there should be

no change in its position for a period of two years.

5. Where there are several unions in an industry or establishment, the one with the largest membership should be recognized.

6. A representative union for an industry in an area should have the right to represent the workers in all the establishments in the industry, but if a union of workers in a particular establishment has a membership of 50% or more of the workers of that establishment it should have the right to deal with matters of purely local interest such as, for instance the handling of grievances pertaining to its own membership. All other workers who are not members of that union might either operate through the representative union for the industry or seek redress directly.

7. In the case of trade union federations which are not affiliated to any of the four central organization of labour, the question of recognition would have to be dealt with separately.

8. Only unions which observed the Code of Discipline would be entitled to recognition.

[English]

Loss due to Non-Raising of Bills

2055. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to Non-raising of Bills of Druk Air for overflying Indian air-space Government suffered a loss of Rs.54.14 lakhs during 1996-2000;

(b) if so, steps taken to prevent such recurrence in future;

(c) whether responsibilities have since been fixed; and

(d) the action taken against those responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir. The Authority had raised bills towards overflying charges in respect of Druk Air pertaining to the period 1996 to 2000.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

State Tourism Ministers Conference

2056. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

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

(a) whether the State Tourism Ministers Conference was held in Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether certain State Governments have opposed, several proposals of the union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) State Tourism Ministers Conference was held on 5th September, 2002 in Delhi to discuss various issues relating to policy initiatives for infrastructure development, promotion and marketing and implementation of the National Tourism Policy-2002.

(c) and (d) Eight States have not supported the proposal suggesting inclusion of Tourism in the Concurrent List of the Constitution.

Free Tickets to Air India Employees

2057. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discourage its policy of giving free tickets to its employees and their families;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the financial loss incurred by Air India and Indian Airlines annually in giving its employees and their families free tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) There is no policy of giving free tickets to Government employees and their families. However, the employees of Air India and Indian Airlines are extended free/concessional passage benefits under their passage regulations. There is no financial loss incurred as this facility is extended as a welfare measure, strictly on "Subject to Load" basis as per passage regulations.

Strike by Tea Garden Workers

2058. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of tea garden workers are on strike due to non-payment of adequate bonus in the current festival season; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Development of Vegetable and Herbal Plants

2059. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes implemented by his ministry for the development and cultivation of herbal plants and development of vegetable under Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(b) the criteria laid down for providing financial assistance/loans to the States under the scheme;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last four years i.e. since April 1,1998 till date, State-wise; and

(d) the names of the schemes under the programme which are being run directly by his Ministry/ State Governments particularly Rajasthan/Voluntary Organisations during the said period, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Agriculture has implemented the schemes on (i) Integrated Development of Vegetables and (ii) Integrated Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants during the Ninth Plan. With effect from October 2000 these schemes were subsumed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/ Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans.

(b) Under the Macro Management Scheme Central assistance of 90% is provided to the State Governments out of which 80% is Grant-in-Aid and 20% is loan.

(c) The State-wise details of funds allocated for the purpose since 1998-99 is given in the enclosed statement-I

(d) The list of programmes for the development of vegetable and Medicinal & Aromatic plants along with the agencies involved for implementation under the Macro Management Scheme is given in enclosed statement-II. In Rajasthan, the Rajasthan State Agriculture University, Bikaner is involved in the developmental programmes.

Statement-I

State-wise Details of Funds Allocated Under Different Scheme

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01			2001-02
		M & A Plants	Veg.	M & A Plants	Veg.	M & A Plants	Veg.	Macro Management	Macro Management
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.50	6.00	4.50	18.00	0.28	0.00	4500.00	4500.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	700.00	700.00
3.	Assam	4.50	3.00	4.50	12.00	0.28	0.00	1160.00	1200.00
4.	Bihar	3.00	12.00	3.00	30.00	0.28	0.00	1319.00	4000.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	900.00	1500.00
6.	Goa	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	180.00	200.00
7.	Gujarat	4.50	4.50	4.50	18.00	0.28	0.00	3000.00	4000.00
8.	Haryana	6.00	6.00	3.00	18.00	0.28	0.00	1500.00	1800.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4.50	3.00	1.50	13.50	0.35	0.00	1500.00	1800.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	1500.00	1800.00
11.	Karnataka	9.00	6.00	12.00	27.00	0.35	0.00	6500.00	6500.00
12.	Kerala	9.00	4.50	12.00	49.50	0.35	0.00	4000.00	4000.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6.00	12.00	6.00	36.00	0.32	0.00	4442.00	5000.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1558.00	1700.00
15.	Maharashtra	7.50	4.50	7.50	18.00	0.35	0.00	10000.00	10000.00
16.	Manipur	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	1000.00	1000.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	950.00	1000.00
18.	Mizoram	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	645.00	900.00
19.	Nagaland	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	1200.00	1200.00
20.	Orissa	3.00	9.00	3.00	36.00	0.31	0.00	3500.00	3300.00
21.	Punjab	4.50	6.00	4.50	18.00	0.31	0.00	2500.00	2300.00
22.	Rajasthan	7.50	6.00	7.50	18.00	0.35	0.00	7000.00	8000.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	6.00	6.00	9.00	18.00	0.32	0.00	5000.00	5000.00
24.	Tripura	0.00	4.50	0.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	3.00	15.00	4.50	30.00	0.28	0.00	7580.00	7600.00
26.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	920.00	1400.00
27.	West Bengal	4.50	7.50	3.00	22.50	0.35	0.00	1200.00	2500.00
28.	Sikkim	0.00	3.00	0.00	13.50	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	1.50	0.00	4.50	0.00	0.00	180.00	200.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	1.50	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	80.00	100.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	1.50	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	300.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	1.50	0.00	4.50	0.00	0.00	80.00	100.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33.	Delhi	0.00	3.00	0.00	14.50	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	200.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	1.50	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	300.00
	Total	90.00	150.00	90.00	550.00	5.04	0.00	77064.00	86000.00

Statement-II

List of Programmes for Development of Vegetable and Medicinal & Aromatic Plants with Agencies involved
Para (C) of Lok Sabha Question No. 2059 for 2.12.2002)

	Name of Programmes	Agency Involved
A. Vegetable		
1.	Production of Planting Material and Seed	National Horticulture Research Development Foundation (NHRDF), State Seeds Corporation (SSC), National Seeds Corporation (NSC), State Farming Corporation of India (SFCI), SAUs.
2.	Seed Village Concept	NHRDF
3.	Improvement of Production and Productivity	NHRDF
4.	Technology Transfer	NHRDF
5.	On Farm Post Harvest Handling	NHRDF
6.	Development of Information System	NHRDF
B. Medicinal & Aromatic Plants		
1.	Development of Quality Planting Material for Aromatic Plants	State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), ICAR Institutes, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research CSIR Institutes.
2.	Distillation Units	
3.	Establishment of Herbal Garden	SAUs
4.	Establishment of Nursery attached to Herbal Garden	SAUs
5.	Establishment of Demonstration-cum-Seed Production Centres in Farmer's field	State Governments
6.	Regional Analytical labs	SAUs
7.	Area Expansion	State Governments

Airports not Modernised

2060. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several airports of the country are not equipped with state of art equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the schemes and projects undertaken by the Government to update and equip them with the latest modern infrastructure;

(d) by when they are likely to be completed; and

(e) the names of the airports equipped with state of the art technology equipments during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) All the operational airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) are equipped with appropriate equipment, depending upon their operational requirements.

(c) and (d) Installation/replacement of following equipments have been undertaken for modernisation of airports which are to be completed in between December 2002 to October 2004.

Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Agartala, Bhavnagar, Bhubaneshwar, Baroda, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Jammu, Lilabari, Madurai, Silchar and Varanasi; Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range (DVOR) at Ahmedabad, Agatti, Barapani, Bellary, Baroda, Chennai, Dehradun, Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jamshedpur, Katihar, Kanchipuram, Kolkata, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Moga, Mumbai, Port Blair, Raipur, Trichy, Udaipur, Vijayawada and Vishakhapatnam; Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) at Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bangalore, Patna, Trivandrum and Varanasi; Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at Belgaum, Bhubneshwar, Chennai, Dimapur, Lucknow, Patna, Raipur and Varanasi and Flight Data Processing System (FDPS) at Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Nagpur, Trivandrum and Varanasi.

(e) The installation/replacement work of various equipments completed during last two years i.e. 2000-01 and 2001-02 are ILS at Imphal, Kolkata, Guwahati, Amritsar, Bhopal, Lucknow, Udaipur; AMSS at Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, Varanasi; DVOR at Jammu, Jamnagar, Pune; DME at Aurangabad, Jamnagar, Pune, Udaipur; MSSR at Mangalore, Varanasi; commissioning of Automatic Dependent Surveillance at Kolkata etc. Besides, Latest Metal Detectors and X-ray machines have also been provided at a number of airports during last two years.

Booking of Air Tickets through Internet

2061. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passengers desirous of travelling by Indian Airlines will be able to book their tickets through Internet from anywhere in the World; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the bookings made through Internet are:

- Bookings through Internet permitted between D-4 (four days before departure date) 1:0 0-90 (Ninety days before departure) and will be on time limit basis only.
- All bookings are on full fare basis, and for confirmed space only.
- Concessional/promotional fares are not permitted.
- Bookings on all domestic sectors are permitted except Dornier flights and flights to Leh, Port Blair & Agartala.
- A maximum of four passengers can be booked at a time.

[English]

Work Force Engaged in Public Sector

2062. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Employment and Training has conducted any survey in regard to total work force engaged in public sector including telecom industries as on October, 2002;

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

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be increased/decreased as compared to October, 1996;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to minimize unemployment in the country; and

(e) the manner in which the disinvestment has been responsible for increasing the unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Directorate General of Employment and Training collects information on the employment in the organised sector (both public and private) on a quarterly basis as part of its Employment Market Information (EMI) Programme. EMI data covers only those establishments which have a fixed location. As per the available information, the estimated employment in the public sector as on June, 1996 and June, 2000 (latest available) was of the order of 193.9 lakh and 192.3 lakh respectively.

(d) The approach to Tenth Plan focuses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy

of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.

(e) All decisions of the Government relating to disinvestments do not automatically have a direct impact on the jobs of the employees of the concerned Public Sector company. When the decision involves a strategic sale with the transfer of management and control of the company, the issues relating to employees assume importance and the concerns are appropriately addressed in the terms and conditions of sale.

[Translation]

Scheme for Expansion of Agricultural Based Industries

2063. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to formulate a special scheme for expansion of the agricultural based industries in order to tide over the problem of unemployment in the country is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) In order to generate more employment the Government through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is already implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme throughout the country, wherein Margin Money is provided for setting up agro and rural industries. Under this scheme the KVIC provides margin money assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs.10 lakhs and for the project above Rs.10 lakhs and upto, Rs.25 lakhs rate of margin money is 25% of Rs.10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project.

In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women/Physically Handicapped/Ex-Servicemen and Minority Community beneficiary/institution and for hill border and tribal areas, North East Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs.10 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs.25 lakhs it is 10% of the remaining cost of the project.

It has been decided to continue the programme during the 10th Plan period i.e. upto 31.3.2007, as well. The target set for the 10th Plan is to generate an additional employment opportunities for 2.0 million persons with a proposed investment of Rs.1250 crores.

A special package for strengthening the Khadi and Village Industries sector was announced by the Government in the year 2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package inter-alia provides for Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, option between rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building and cluster development, technology upgradation, quality control, marketing through publicity and advertisement etc. so that the sector may fulfil the objectives of generating rural employment and improving the quality of life of the rural people.

The agro based industry include both food and non-food items. The Government under its plan schemes provides financial assistance for the development including setting up/expansion/modernization of the processed food sector.

[English]

Fixation of M.S.P. for Fruits

2064. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the middlemen system has created hurdles for the fruit growers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) for specific fruits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The various State Governments have enacted Agricultural Produce Market Acts to curb the role of middlemen. However, the regulated markets have served the limited purpose. The Government of India has suggested to States various reform measures in the agricultural marketing sector including amendment to the State Agricultural Produce Market Acts for promotion of direct marketing, contract farming etc. for the benefit of the farmers.

(b) and (c) For commodities not covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme, already there is a scheme viz., Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under which horticultural and other agricultural crops, which are perishable

in nature are covered. In order to protect the growers of horticultural and agricultural commodities from distress sales in the event of bumper crop during the peak arrival periods when price fall below the economic level, MIS scheme is implemented for a particular commodity on the requests of the State Governments which are ready to bear 50% of losses (25% in the case of north eastern States) if any, in its implementation. The crops covered under the MIS include onion, potato, malta, kinno, galgal, chillies, ginger, apple, oilpalm, arecanut etc.

Cultural Fairs and Festivals

2065. SHRI J.S. BRAR:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI S.D.N.R WADIYAR:

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

(a) whether cultural fairs and festivals are held in India and abroad to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details of such fairs and festivals held during the last two years alongwith expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the financial assistance/grants given to the State Governments for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which they have increased tourist inflow to places of interests in India and earned foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism gives financial assistance to the States and Union Territories of India for holding fairs and festivals in their respective States/Union Territories. The details of fairs and festivals to which financial assistance has been given in the last two years is enclosed as statement I & II. Cultural fairs & festivals are held abroad but are not organised by Department of Tourism. These Offices only participate in them.

(d) The fairs and festivals are held in various States/Union Territories of India for promoting tourism in the country. The increase or decrease in tourists inflow and foreign exchange earnings to these places cannot be directly attributed to the holding of fairs and festivals as tourism is influenced by various other factors like safety and security, international scenario etc.

Statement-I

Financial Assistance given during the year 2000-01

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of fairs & festival	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Bihar	Bauddha Mahotsava	7.50
		Rajgir Festival	0.77
		Sonepur Fair	1.25
2.	Chandigarh	Festival of Gardens	1.78
		Chandigarh Carnival	1.50
3.	Delhi	Qutab Festival	1.42
4.	Haryana	Surajkund Craft Mela	25.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu Dussehra	5.00
6.	Uttarachal	International Yoga Week	0.61
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Bauddha Mahotsava	5.00
8.	Rajasthan	Pushkar Festival	3.45
		Desert Festival	3.45
9.	Andaman & Nicobar	Island Festival	1.78
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Lumbini Festival	3.20
11.	Goa	Shigmo Festival	5.50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Orcha Festival	5.00
13.	Maharashtra	Ellora Festival	2.40
14.	Pondicherry	Yoga Festival	1.36
15.	Meghalaya	Wangla Drum Festival	0.57
16.	Tripura	Festivals (2)	5.4
17.	Sikkim	Festival	3.00
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	Sindhu Darshan Festival	25.00
	Total		109.94

Statement-II

Financial Assistance given during the year 2001-02

S. No.	Name of the State	Name of fairs & festival	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	Bauddha Mahotsava 1999	1.35
2.	Chandigarh	Carnival Festival	3.50
		Garden Festival at Rose Garden	4.50
3.	Delhi	Qutab Festival	1.42
		Garden Festival	4.13
		Chaudvi ka Chand Festival	1.02
4.	Haryana	Surajkund Craft Mela	25.00
		Kurukshetra Festival	2.50
		Mango Festival	1.32
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Summer Festival	3.00
		Kullu Dussehra	4.55
6.	Orissa	Beach Festival	3.40
		Konark Festival	3.40
7.	Punjab	Food Festival	4.25
		Craft Mela	4.25
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Ayurveda Festival	2.25
		Ganga Water Rally at Varanasi and Allahabad	1.50
9.	Rajasthan	Handicraft & Food Festival at Mumbai	2.50
		Handicraft and Food Festival at Baroda	2.50
10.	West Bengal	Teesta Tea and Tourism Festival by DGHC	3.75
		Teesta Tea and Tourism Festival by West Govt.	4.18
		Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Festival	2.50
11.	Chhattisgarh	Rajim & Dussehra Festival	10.00
12.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Tarpa & Kite Festival	3.70
13.	Goa	Shigmo & Carnival Festival	4.75
14.	Kerala	Elephant & Malabar Festival	5.12
15.	Maharashtra	Ellora Festival	2.60
		Elephanta Festival	3.62
16.	Madhya Pradesh	National Folk Festival	10.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	Dance Festival Mamallapuram & Natyanjali Festival	3.74
18.	Tripura	Oranga and Tourism Festival	5.00
		Pilak Festival	3.9
19.	Assam	Rangoli Festival	2.25
		Tea Festival	2.25
20.	Mizoram	Kut Festival, 2001	3.4
		Kut Festival, 2002	5.00
21.	Nagaland	Hornibill Festival	2.81
		Monya Festival, 2002	5.00
		Total	159.91

Maintenance of Monuments in Orissa

2066. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor maintenance of world famous Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri, Sun Temple at Konark and Lord Lingaraj Temple at Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the steps taken for the proper preservation of these World famous monuments; and

(c) the fund allocation made for the purpose during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The centrally protected monuments Jagannath temple pun, Sun temple Konark and Lord Lingaraj temple Bhubaneswar are in a good state of preservation.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance & conservation of these temples during the last three years are as under.

Year	Jagannath Temple Puri	Sun Temple Konark	Lingaraj Temple Bhubaneswar
1999-2000	11,51,709	13,59,241	4,78,048
2000-2001	11,12,087	28,02,581	2,11,367
2001-2002	23,27,210	23,03,832	11,63,440

Restructuring the Investment of EPF

2067. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering restructuring the investment of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) to optimise its earnings;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the subscribers continue to get higher returns on their savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Modification of investment pattern/guidelines is a continuous process. Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund as a custodian to the funds belonging to workers constantly strives to achieve best possible returns while assuring maximum safety.

[Translation]

Bungling in Tourism Offices in Frankfurt

2068. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI AKHILESH YADAV:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Frankfurt Mein Bhartiya Paryatan Karyalya Ne Farji Niyaktiyaon Par Karoroan Foonke" appearing in Rashtriya Sahara dated September 30, 2002;

(b) if so, the objections raised by the Comptroller and Auditor General in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the persons found guilty and the action taken against them; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

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

(b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has not raised any audit para on the subject so far.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Disproportionate Assets of IFS Officers

2069. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any public complaints have been made against some very senior I.F.S. Officers of the Sikkim Forest Department for having amassed huge assets disproportionate to known sources of income;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have since enquired into the matter; and

(d) if so, the findings indicating the further action taken against the guilties, if any?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) A complaint was received against certain Indian Forest Service Officers of Sikkim cadre, which was subsequently forwarded to the State Government for investigation/report. After inquiry, Government of Sikkim

informed that these officers do not possess assets disproportionate to known sources of their income.

[Translation]

Promotion of Dairy Industry

2070. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme especially for women to promote dairy industry and other agro products in tribal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the agriculture sector schemes are not accruing any benefits to the tribal farmers; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying does not have any specific scheme for women. However the Department is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas (IDDP)' in various states and Union Territories including tribal areas. The scheme envisages implementation of dairy projects through the cooperatives where in women are also eligible to be members. The Ministry of Human Resources Development, Department of Women and Child Development is implementing women Dairy and other projects to benefit poor, assetless and marginalized women in all areas, including tribal areas. Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries is implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme throughout the country including the tribal areas, wherein margin money is provided for setting up agro & rural industries. Women entrepreneurs from Tribal areas are provided 30% margin money for projects upto Rs.10.00 lacs and 10% of the project costing over and above Rs.10 lakhs upto Rs.25 lakhs. Ministry of Tribal Affairs also provides grants to various states under Special Central assistance to Tribal Sub Plan and Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India. The Special Central Assistance is basically meant for family-oriented income generating schemes in sectors of agriculture, horticulture, minor irrigation, soil conservation, animal husbandry etc. All these schemes benefit Women and also the tribal farmers.

[English]

Nomination in Government Institutions

2071. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Government institutions/ undertakings functioning under the Ministry in which non-Governmental persons are nominated;

(b) the details of persons nominated in these institutions and criteria adopted therefor;

(c) whether any persons from Gujarat has ever been nominated in such institutions/undertakings; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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.

Supply of Steel by SAIL

2072. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private steel industries which obtained steel under the Unsecured Limit facility from the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to meet the supply and demand for steel pipes of several States during the last three years;

(b) the total quantity of steel supplied by the SAIL to these private steel industries under that facility during the said period;

(c) the details of private steel industries which have to pay the dues to SAIL alongwith the amounts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) Consequent upon deregulation of distribution and pricing of steel materials w.e.f. 17.1.92, the customers are not required to submit "End Use Declaration". As such, it is not possible to determine the end use of materials procured by the customers.

It is not in commercial interest of the company to provide details of transactions with customers.

[Translation]

New Air Services since 1998

2073. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Air Services introduced since 1998;

(b) the places where new Haj Terminals have been established during the said period;

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) the number of proposals for Haj Terminals still pending with the Ministry; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) A total of 57 new air services have been introduced by Indian Airlines Ltd., Alliance Air and Air India Ltd. since 1998 on both domestic and international sectors.

(b) and (c) A new Haj Terminal has been established at IGI Airport, Delhi in 1999 at a cost of Rs.6.50 crores exclusively for Haj operations.

(d) and (e) At present, no proposal is pending with the Government to establish another such exclusive Haj Terminal.

Poor Standard of Air Services

2074. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air Services in India do not conform to the international standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any scheme is to be formulated by the Government to bring the standard of our air services at par with International Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Air Services in India are at par with international standards.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reclamation of Encroached Forest Land

2075. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to ensure participation of the Scheduled Tribes in the reclamation of encroached forests land on sharing basis has been implemented in Karnataka by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the number of Scheduled Tribes who have been provided employment during the last two years; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in Raichur district of the State who have benefited under the scheme?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up a New Competitive Market

2076. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to set up a new competitive market and formulate a scheme for providing loan for the modernization of existing agricultural marketing premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) An inter-Ministerial Task Force set up by the Ministry of Agriculture has in its Report of 28th June, 2002, suggested reforms in the State Act dealing with agricultural marketing for promotion of direct marketing and contract farming programmes and development of agricultural markets in private and cooperative sector. Recommendations of the Task Force were discussed with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations at a National Conference held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 27.09.02. With a view to work out an action plan for the implementation of the reforms a Standing Committee of State Ministers is set up on 13.11.2002 under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of State (Agriculture).

A Central Sector Scheme for the Development/ Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure has been formulated to attract investment from private and cooperative sectors in market infrastructure development projects and for the modernization of existing markets. Planning Commission has given 'in principle' approval to the scheme for implementation during Xth Plan period.

[English]

Irrigation Projects of Orissa

2077. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Irrigation Projects, Water-shed Projects being run/proposed to be run in the KBK districts of Orissa, till-date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The details of irrigation projects in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK districts) of Orissa are given in the Statement enclosed. Information in respect of Water-shed projects is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(Rs. in crores/ Potential in Th.H)

Sl.No.	Name of the Projects	Started in Plan	Approved Status	Latest Estimated Cost	Expenditure upto 3/2002	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto 3/2002
Kalahandi District							
1.	Upper Indravati Irrigation (Major)	AP 1978-80	P.C.	718.800	406.440	218.60	78.11
2.	Upper Jonk (Medium)	AP 1978-80	P.C.	91.45	97.10	16.40	9.46
3.	Lower Indra (Major)	IX	P.C.	211.700	37.990	38.87	0.00
Bolangir District							
1.	Hariharjore (Medium)	AP 1978-80	P.C.	65.47	77.54	13.70	9.95
2.	Titlagarh-II (Medium)	VII	P.C.	26.700	7.470	2.60	0.60
3.	Lower Suktel (Major)	IX	P.C.	217.130	16.220	29.84	0.00
Koraput District							
1.	Upper Kolab Irrigation (Major)	1975	P.C.	304.660	298.240	88.76	84.44
2.	Badanala (Medium)	VI	P.C.	105.88	109.31	13.74	8.80
3.	Telengiri (Medium)	IX	TAC	88.61	11.65	13.78	0.00

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to M.P.

2078. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided adequate financial assistance for water harvesting and converting fallow areas into fertile land in Bhanpura and Garoth Tehsils of Mandsaur district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to misuse of said financial assistance;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to

constitute a committee for monitoring of allocation of funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. No direct funding by Union Government for financial assistance has been provided for water harvesting and converting fallow areas into fertile land of Garoth and Bhanpura Tehsils of Mandsaur district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Impact of Asian Brown Haze

2079. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether impact of Asian Brown haze as reported by UNEP has been exaggerated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scientists of Indian Institute of Sciences have examined and assessed the impact of this brown haze on Indian environment;

(d) if so, the details of their findings; and

(e) the suggestions made by them to create awareness among people about pollution and harmful emission in the cities?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) An international collaborative study "Indian Ocean Research Experiment (INDOEX)" has indicated haze over the Indian Ocean. The haze is not a permanent feature of the atmosphere over the Asian region and the surrounding seas. It occurs only during January-March, the season in which INDOEX observations were made in 1999. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has, this year, brought out a report entitled "The Asian Brown Cloud: Climate and other Environmental Impacts" based on INDOEX. The press release of the UNEP launching the said report paints an alarming picture of the impacts of this haze on both regional and global scales. However, most of the concerns expressed therein are not well substantiated by reliable modelling studies or experimental observations.

(c) to (e) Prof. J. Srinivasan and Sulochana Gadgil of Centre for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore have analysed the UNEP report and its press release in their article entitled "Asian Brown Cloud - fact and fantasy" published in Current Science, Volume 83, Number 5, dated 10th September, 2002. Both the scientists find that the UNEP press release is a blend of observations and scientifically sound deductions on the one hand and sensational statements with little scientific basis on the other and advocate caution accordingly. The existing legal and policy framework, supported by several initiatives to protect and improve the environment including raising awareness among people, addresses the concerns of pollution in India.

Haze Pollution Across South Asia

2080. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vast blanket of haze pollution stretching across South Asia is cutting down sunlight over India by 10 per cent;

(b) if so, whether this haze is having adverse effect on crops in the area;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of action plan prepared by the Government to meet the situation/consequences of this phenomenon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) An international collaborative study "Indian Ocean Research Experiment (INDOEX)" has indicated haze over the Indian Ocean. The haze is not a permanent feature of the atmosphere over the Asian region and the surrounding seas. It occurs only during January-March, the season in which INDOEX observations were made in 1999. Conclusive data are not available to co-relate the impact of haze on the monsoon and/or agriculture of our country. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has, this year, brought out a report entitled "The Asian Brown Cloud: Climate and other Environmental Impacts" based on INDOEX. The press release of the UNEP launching the said report paints an alarming picture of the impacts of this haze on both regional and global scales. However, most of the concerns expressed therein are not well substantiated by reliable modelling studies or experimental observations. The existing legal and policy framework, supported by several initiatives to protect and improve the environment, addresses the concerns of air pollution in the country.

[Translation]

Sugar Industry in U.P.

2081. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive sugar industry in Uttar Pradesh which are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In order to help the sick sugar mills for revival, the Government has taken the following measures:

(i) Extends loans at concessional rate of interest to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for cane development, modernization and expansion in the exiting capacity;

(ii) A Committee has been constituted to examine the cases of sick cooperative sugar mills and to recommend revival package for potentially viable units.

(iii) The Sugar Development Fund Rules 1983 have been amended to provide financial assistance at concessional rate of interest, to potentially viable sick sugar mills, of cooperative sector.

Furthermore, loans have been granted to the sugar mills of U.P. for various purposes from SDF as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Scheme	No. of sugar mills	Amount sanctioned	Amount disbursed
Modernization/ Rehabilitation	91	502.39	445.98
Cane Development	164	165.58	93.48

[English]

Rain Forest

2082. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the existence of rain forest in Dibrugarh, Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government are planning for any project for the preservation and protection of this rain forest and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The forest in Dibrugarh, Assam falls under the category of 'Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests'. These forests are being conserved by scientific management methods prescribed in the working plans. Central assistance is also being provided for strengthening the forest protection machinery of Assam.

Development of Vishakhapatnam Airport

2083. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop Vishakhapatnam Airport;

(b) if so, the allocation made therefor; and

(c) by when the runway is likely to be extended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has approved the proposal for development of Vishakhapatnam airport jointly by the Ministry of Defence, Airports Authority of India and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 191.52 crores. Action for development work has already been initiated and is expected to be completed within three years from the date of award of work.

[Translation]

Rest Houses Along National Highways

2084. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct rest houses along National Highways;

(b) if so, whether the Government are also considering to construct rest houses along the highways of Valsad district of Gujarat; and

(c) if so, by when these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has a scheme to provide facilities like Passenger Oriented

Wayside Amenities including rest houses along National Highways at every 50 kilometer interval. Department of Tourism also grants financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations for construction of wayside amenities under the schemes of Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of FPIs by NGOs

2085. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any schemes for funding/setting up of Food Processing Industries by NGOs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the selection norms of NGOs for the grant of assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The plan schemes operated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries provide financial assistance in the form of grant to Cooperatives, NGOs, Public Sector Undertakings and private industries for the development of the food processing industries including for setting up/modernization and expansion of food processing industries. No separate scheme for NGOs is operated.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Financial assistance is granted if the proposal is found technically feasible and financially viable.

Construction of Dam Across Therkumalai

2086. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has received any representation for construction of a dam across 'Therkumalai' in Courtallam hills in Tamil Nadu in order to preserve rain water and ensure perennial supply of water in the State; and

(b) if so, the details and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Member vide his letter dated 09.05.02 requested for financial assistance for construction of dam at Courtallam in Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu.

Irrigation being a State subject and as per present policy, irrigation projects are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities.

Maintenance of Dwarkaji Temple

2087. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dwarkaji Temple in Gujarat is in poor condition due to neglect by the trustees;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Central Government for maintenance of this historical temple during the last three years;

(c) whether any schemes have been drawn for upkeep of the temple and its surroundings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Dwarkadish Temple, Dwarka, which is centrally protected monument, maintained by the ASI, is in a good condition.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance & conservation of Dwarkadish temple, Dwarka, during the last three years is as below:

Year	Rs. (in Lakhs)
1999-2000	1.70
2000-2001	3.97
2001-2002	3.90

(c) and (d) The maintenance & conservation of the Dwarkadish Temple, Dwarka, is a continuous process.

Creation of Jobs in Organised and Unorganised Sector

2088. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs lost in the organised sector due to the process of globalisation during the last three years;

(b) the number of jobs created in the unorganised sector as a result thereof during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create more jobs in the said sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Due to globalization and economic liberalization some employment opportunities in the older types of enterprises might have been reduced, but at the same time, new employment opportunities are created in a number of new areas. On the whole, estimated employment in the organized sector in the country as on March 1998 and March 2000 (latest available) was 281.66 lakh and 279.60 lakh respectively.

(b) As per the sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, estimated employment in the unorganized sector which was of the order of 34.71 crore in 1993-94 has gone up to approximately 36.90 crore in 1999-2000.

(c) The approach to Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities, which have a large employment potential.

[Translation]

Protection of E & F in Haryana

2089. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether destruction of Aravali hilly forest area is continuing and illegal pumping of ground water is going on in ridge area of Haryana despite Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders in this regard;

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

(c) whether mining and other activities in the periphery of five kilometre from Delhi-Haryana border is taking place particularly in Surajkund and Barkhal Lake area by way of levelling the land by blasting with gunpowder despite ban;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the same and implement the Hon'ble court's orders in letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) State Government has banned mining activities and pumping of water on Haryana side of ridge falling within five kilometers of Delhi-Haryana border in compliance with Supreme Court's order dated 6.5.2002 in Civil Writ Petition no.4677/85 in IA no.1785. However, as per the reports dated 9th August 2002 and 21st October 2002 prepared by Environment Pollution (prevention & Control) Authority for the National Capital Region, in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 4677 of 1985; M.C. Mehta V/s Union of India and others, in areas adjoining Surajkund and Badkal Lake certain activities including mining have been done which are not in conformity with the orders of the Supreme Court. No specific information about illegal pumping of ground water is available with the Ministry of Environment and Forest. The State Government is concerned about the ecology of the area and is taking measures for the restoration of the entire Aravali hills within the State of Haryana. Plantation work in the green belt around Surajkund and Barhkal area was done in 1996-97 and 1997-98. This has yielded significant results. The State of Forest Report 1999 published by the Forest Survey of India has indicated that the total green cover in Haryana has increased by 360 sq.km as compared to the report of 1997 assessment. By its order dated 25.11.2002, Supreme Court has directed the State Government officials concerned to ensure compliance of the orders.

[English]

Dimapur-Guwahati Regular Air Service

2090. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the introduction of 50 seater ATR 42-320 Aircraft service between Dimapur and Guwahati by January, 2003 on daily basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Alliance Air has signed a letter of intent for dry-leasing of four ATR-42-320 aircraft from December/January onwards. Schedule of operations has not yet been finalised. However,

the preliminary operational plans of the four aircraft envisage services between Dimapur and Guwahati.

Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres

2091. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sanction more Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres throughout the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned any new scheme for maintenance of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including funds allotted for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government propose to assist the maritime State Governments, Union Territories and Port Trusts under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of more fishing harbours and fish landing centres throughout the country. State-wise locations for development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres as indicated by the concerned State Governments is enclosed as statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Proposed site for construction of Fishing Harbours	Proposed site for construction of Fish Landing Centres
1	2	3	4
1.	Gujarat	1. Okha, 2. Dholai, 3. Umergaon	-
2.	Orissa	1. Chandipur, 2. Bahabalpur	1. Barakudi, 2. Chandrapur, 3. Balugaon
3.	Tamil Nadu	1. Rameshwaram, 2. Poompuhar, 3. Pazahayar, 4. Mallipatnam	-
4.	Kerala	1. Thalai, 2. Thottappally, 3. Koyilandi, 4. Kasaragode, 5. Arthungal, 6. Chettuvai, 7. Cheruvathur-Neelshwaram, 8. Varkala, 9. Chethi, 10. Andhakaranazhi, 11. Chellanam, 12. Parappangadi, 13. Vatkara, 14. Korappuzha, 15. Thanoor, 16. Manjeswaram, 17. Beypore Stage-II	1. Chempu, 2. Kazhibram, 3. Vettoor, 4. Puthenthura, 5. Paravoor, 6. Pathiyamkara, 7. Vadakal, 8. Edakkazhiyoor, 9. Muzhippilangad, 11. Mattool, 12. Palakodi
5.	Maharashtra	1. Agardanda, 2. Deogad, 3. Jeewana, 4. Karanja, 5. Dabhol, 6. Jaigad, 7. Borya, 8. Arnala, 9. Vijaydurg	1. Versova, 2. Gorai, 3. Madh, 4. Manori, 5. Erangal Bhati, 6. Khardanda, 7. Worli Koliwada, 8. Dahanu & Dhakti Dhanau, 9. Vasai, 10. Uttan, 11. Zai, 12. Kelwa, 13. Dighode, 14. Kelwane, 15. Varsoli, 16. Tulsunde, 17. Waroda, 18. Navanagar, 19. Ranpur Pawas, 20. Burondi, 21. Jakimirya, 22. Navabag, 23. Niwati Kochara, 24. Shiroda, 25. Mithabav, 26. Dandi Malwan
6.	Karnataka	1. Alvekodi	1. Hungarakatta
7.	Goa	1. Vasco Bay (Mormugoa Port Trust)	-

1	2	3	4
8.	Daman & Diu	1. Vanakabara, 2. Nani Daman	1. Ghoghla
9.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Nizamapatnam Stage-II, Biyyaputhippa/Anthervedipalem	1. Baruva Kothuru, 2. Mypadu, 3. Manchineelapeta/ Nuvvularevu, 4. Chintapali, 5. Mukkam, 6. Pudimadaka, 7. Perupalem, 8. Gondisamudram, 9. Isukapallipattapupalem, 10. Thadicherlapalem, 11. Etimoga, 12. Myanvani Lanka, 13. Vodarevu, 14. Kothapatnam, 15. Lakshmipuram Pallepalem, 16. Gundayyapalem, 17 Bandaruvanipeta/ Kalingapatnam, 18. Vodalarevu
10.	Pondicherry	1. Karaikal, 2. Mahe	-
11.	West Bengal	-	1. Maya Goalini Ghat, 2. Jalda Kuthi
12.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	1. Dairy Farm (Junglighat)
13.	Lakshadweep	-	Kavarathi

[Translation]

Clearance to Water Projects

2092. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item caption "pending 30 water projects" appearing in Rashtriya Sahara, dated August 24, 2002;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There are 33 multi-purpose/Hydro Electric Projects with installed capacity of 6085 MW sanctioned / cleared / returned by Central Electricity Authority involving inter-state aspects. Clearance of these projects will depend upon the promptness at which the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies are compiled with.

[English]

Hampi as Heritage Site

2093. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee has listed Hampi as world heritage site being in danger;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government has submitted a report to the committee on the steps taken to protect and conserve heritage sites including Hampi?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Hampi has been declared as a site in danger by the World Heritage Committee because of the construction of two bridges at the site, which was perceived as a potential danger threatening the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage Site.

(c) The World Heritage Committee has been informed about the corrective measures being implemented by the State Government of Karnataka at Hampi.

Objectives of Directorate of Maize Research, Pusa

2094. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind setting up of Directorate of Maize Research, Pusa, under ICAR alongwith the date of its inception;

(b) whether the investment made in the DMR commensurate with the achievements made by it;

(c) if so, its performance in physical and financial terms year-wise, since its inception;

(d) whether the Government propose to wind up this Directorate in view of its failure in achieving the targets; and

(e) if so, the steps initiated in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Directorate of Maize Research (DMR) was established in January 1994. The brief objectives for setting up DMR are:

i. To collect, acquire, evaluate, catalogue, maintain and share working germplasm of maize and maize relatives with focused attention on identifying suitable donors for yield components, biotic and abiotic stresses and quality traits. Mobilize genetic diversity from national and international sources for developing new genetic Stocks for distribution to the cooperating centres in different zones.

ii. To undertake basic, strategic and applied research on germplasm enhancement, development and identification of superior cultivars for quality improvement, tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses, specialized end-uses, management of post-harvest losses and value addition.

iii. To coordinate National Maize Research Programme, impart training on maize production and protection technologies and conduct on farm demonstrations through various centres of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Maize.

iv. To serve as a core facility for data analysis, documentation and information.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The investments made in the DMR were commensurate with the achievements made since its inception.

During IX Plan the expenditure under plan in AICRP was 1153.00 lakhs and in DMR was 916.00 lakhs. Detailed year-wise expenditure is given in enclosed statement-I.

The activities of Directorate of Maize Research and All India Coordinated Research Project on maize during the IX plan period have resulted in increase in production of maize from 10.82 million tonnes at the beginning of the IX plan i.e. 1997-98 to 13.50 million tonnes in 2001-02.

During the period a number of maize cultivars were released for different agroclimatic zones of the country including Quality Protein Maize (OPM), baby corn, sweet corn and pop corn cultivars. Some of important cultivars/hybrids are given in enclosed statement-II.

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

Statement-I

Budget Allocation/Expenditure during 9th Plan Directorate of Maize Research (DMR)

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Financial Year	Budget allocation (Revised Estimates)	Expenditure
1.	1997-98	2.40	1.57
2.	1998-99	1.07	1.06
3.	1999-2000	1.20	1.22
4.	2000-01	1.66	1.26
5.	2001-02	4.06	4.05
	Total	10.39	9.16

ACRIP on Maize

(Rs in crores)

S.No.	Financial Year	Budget allocation (Revised Estimates)	Expenditure
1	2	3	4
1.	1997-98	-*	1.41
2.	1998-99	2.30	2.30
3.	1999-2000	2.30	2.33
4.	2000-01	2.45	2.87
5.	2001-02	2.62	2.62
	Total	9.67	11.53

* Budget included under DMR's Budget

Statement-II

Important Maize cultivars released and notified during IX Plan through All India Coordinated Research Project

Name of the variety/hybrid	Year of release	Maturity duration	Recommended area of adaptation
1	2	3	4
Public Sectors:			
Shakti-1 (composite)	1997	Medium	Across the country with high lysine and tryptophan maize having hard endosperm with a normal look will help in providing nutritional diet to infants tribals etc. as well as to make industrial products like Balahar
Prakash	1997	Early	Recommended across the country under rainfed condition suitable for baby corn
Pusa Early Hybrid Makka-1	1997	Early	A.P., Maharastra, Karntaka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, M.P., Gujarat, performs well at low fertilizer levels
Pusa Early Hybrid Makka-2	1997	Early	A.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, M.P., Gujarat, performs well at low fertilizer levels
Him 129	1997	Early (85-90 days)	H.P., J&K and hills U.P., & N.E.
Vivek Hybrid 4	1999	Early	Rajasthan, Gujarat, M.P.
Amar (D 941) Composite	2000	Early	Released for Maharashtra, A.P., Karnataka, T.N., Rajasthan, M.P., and Gujarat for kharif season
JH 3459	2000	Early single cross	Released for Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, U.P.
Pusa Early Hybrid Makka-3 (AH-58)	2000	Early single cross	Released for A.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka, T.N
Vivek Maize Hybrid-9	2000	Early single cross	Released for J&K, H.P., Hills of U.P. Hills of WB, NEH region, A.P., Karnataka, T.N. and Maharastra
Pusa Early Hybrid Makka-3	2001	Early (80-85 days)	Single cross hybrid released for Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
Shaktiman-1	2001	Full season	Quality Protein Maize, released for Uttar Pradesh & Bihar
Shaktiman-2	2001	Full season	Bihar
		State Releases	
Jawahar 12 Composite	1999	Full season	Rajasthan
HHM 1	2000	Full season (100-110)	Haryana
HHM-2	2000	Full season	Haryana

1	2	3	4
Vivek-5	2000	Early	U.P.
Arvalli Makka-1 (Composite)	2001	Full season	Rajasthan, Gujarat, MP., Punjab Haryana and Western UP
Vivek Hybrid-5	2001	Early	UP
Gujarat Makka-4 (Composite)	2001	Early	Gujarat,
NAC 6004 (Composite)	2001	Full season	Karnataka
		Baby corn	
Co-BC 1	1999	Baby Corn	Tamil Nadu
Private Sector:			
3058 (Y I402K)	1997	Full season (100-110 days)	AP, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
Pro 311 (4640)	1997	Full-season	Across the zones except J&K, U.P., H.P & NEH region under rainfed conditions
Bio 9681	1997	Full-season	Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Central U.P., M.P., Bihar, Assam, Orissa, Rajasthan, Gujarat
X 1382 (3054)	1997	Full-season	Across the country except J&K. U.P., H.P. (Bajaura, Kangra, Dhaulakuan) & NEH region
Pro 312 (4682)	1999	Full-season	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
MMH 69	1997	Medium (90-100 days)	A.P., Haryana, T.N., Karnataka, Punjab, U.P., Delhi, Maharashtra
KH 9451	1997	Medium	A.P., Haryana, U.P.,T.N., Maharashtra, Karnataka, Punjab, Delhi
MMH 133	1997	Early	J&K, U.P., H.P., NEH Region, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Central U.P., A.P., Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
X 1123 G (3342)	1999	Early	Across the country
X 1174 WV (32A09)	1999	Early	Across the country
JKMH 175 (4)	2000	Early	Released for Rajasthan, Gujarat, M.P. for kharif season
Kohinoor	2000	Early	Released for A.P. Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu., Rajasthan, Gujarat, M.P. for kharif season
Seed tech 2324	2001	Full season	Full season released for across the country.

Coal Mines under IISCO

2095. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) is maintaining three captive Coal mines;

(b) if so, whether workers of these coalmines are being governed under the National Coal Wage (NCW) Board or not;

(c) whether NCW VI has been implemented for the workers of the coalmines of Chasuala, Jitpur and Ramnagar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Workers of these coalmines are governed by National Coal Wage (NCW) Board and are currently enjoying the benefits of NCW Agreement-5.

(c) and (d) Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) is a sick company and is under Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) since June 1994. As per the extant instructions of the Government, wage revision for the employees of the companies under BIFR is not permissible and as such, National Coal Wage agreernent-6 is not under implementation in the coalmines of IISCO.

Airport at Kannur and Kushinagar

2096. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are considering a proposal to set up an Airport at Kannur in Kerala and International Airport at Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) reasons for delay in undertakings these projects;

(d) whether the AAI have approached the Government of Kerala for acquiring land for proposed Airport at Kannur; and

(e) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (e) The State Government of Kerala had proposed construction of a new airport of international standards at Kannur in Kerala. The proposal has been examined by the Government of India. An Expert Committee consisting of representatives of Director General of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India and State Government of Kerala has been constituted to have a more detailed study in regard to economic feasibility, and its effect on the neighbouring airports. There is no proposal, at present, for construction of an international airport at Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh.

Sale of Hijacked Airbus

2097. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airbus 300 belonging to Indian Airlines which was hijacked to Kandhar in December, 1999 has been stationed at a hanger in Mumbai;

(b) whether global tenders were floated for sale of this aircraft;

(c) if so, the details of the bids received by the Government; and

(d) the reasons for delay in disposal of this aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Airbus A-300 hijacked to Kandhar in December 1999, is presently parked in a hanger at Mumbai.

(b) Yes, Sir. First tender was released on 27th March, 2000. The tender was re-floated with last date of submission as 30th May, 2000.

(c) M/s Aviation Systems, USA was the only bidder offering $ 23,75,000.00.

(d) The reasons for delay in the disposal of the aircraft are as under:-

- The aircraft was impounded by the CBI on 5th February, 2000 and released on Superdari (undertaking) and was to be kept in safe custody, and to be produced for investigation as and when required. The Superdari was vacated by the High Court of Punjab and Haryana on 31st January, 2001.
- On 25th April, 2001 M/s Aviation Systems, USA declined to purchase the aircraft.

- The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its meeting held on 5th December, 2001 decided that:

- the aircraft be cannibalized.

- the hull may be offered for sale through the Metal Scrap Trading Corporation.

Flood Control in Bihar

2098. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land in Bihar which gets inundated due to floods every year;

(b) whether the State Government has sent any proposal to the Union Government for flood control; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Flood prone area in undivided Bihar was assessed as 4.26 m.ha. by Rashtriya Barh Ayog in 1980. The Government of Bihar has reported 6.88 m.ha. as the revised flood prone area in the State to the Working Group for Flood Control for 10th Plan set up by Planning Commission. The average flood affected area in the State during 1953-2002 is about 1.35 m.ha. with a maximum of 4.26 m.ha. in 1971.

(b) and (c) No comprehensive proposal for flood control in Bihar has been received from the State Government. However out of 10 schemes received in Ganga Flood Control Commission from the Government of Bihar, 2 schemes have been returned to the State Government for which State Government themselves is competent. In respect of other schemes the comments have been communicated to the State Government, the replies of which except one are awaited.

Employment Opportunities

2099. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate any specific strategy/scheme to generate more jobs as assurance given in the Independence day speech; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The approach to Tenth Plan focuses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment, Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.

In addition to this, a Special Group was constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. S.P Gupta, Member, Planning Commission to suggest strategies and programmes for creating one crore employment opportunities per year during each year of the Tenth Plan. The recommendations made in the report which was submitted in May 2002 would be taken into account for generating additional employment opportunities as targeted in the 10th Plan.

Development Project for Fishermen

2100. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the livelihood of fishermen in our country are jeopardised by trawler fishing in the deep sea by the multinationals;

(b) whether due to prohibitory order imposed by the Union Government on fishing of 21 species, the condition of the fishermen are further aggravated;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any developmental plan to build up temporary dwelling for the fishermen at the sea-coast for fishing and drying particularly in Jambu Island;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Destruction of Mangroves in Mumbai

2101. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various mangrove sites in Mumbai have been visited by the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details indicating the purpose and observations made in this regard;

(c) whether any complaints regarding destruction of mangroves in Mumbai have been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action plan prepared by the Government to save the mangroves in Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) In pursuance of a complaint received, the Government deputed a team to visit a site at Survey No. 161 CTS No.1 of village Pahadi Goregaon (West) along Malad Creek in Mumbai to verify reported destruction of mangroves by M/s Usha Madhu Development Cooperative Housing Society Ltd., Mumbai. Preliminary findings of the team indicate that mangroves at this site have been destroyed. However, the team has observed that it would be difficult to indicate the time/period during which the destruction has taken place. Therefore a conclusive view would be possible only after the matter is examined with reference to the satellite imageries pertaining to the site in question from 1991 till date. Further, the correctness of demarcation of High Tide Line for the site needs to be verified.

(e) For protection of coastal environment, the Government have issued the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 which, inter-alia, prohibits destruction of mangroves. Maharashtra State Coastal Zone Management Authority has been constituted to monitor and enforce the implementation of the CRZ Notification, 1991 and Maharashtra State Coastal Zone Management Plan. The Government has initiated a scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs. Based on the recommendations of the National Committee on mangroves, nine mangrove areas in Maharashtra, namely, Achra/ Ratnagiri, Devgarh, Vijay Durg, Veldur, Kundlika & Revdanda, Mumbra-Diva, Vaitarna River, Vasai-Manori Creek, Shreevardhan-Varal-Turumbadi & Kalsuri have been identified for intensive conservation. These include some of the stretches of Mumbai.

[Translation]

Welfare Board for Labourers

2102. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Welfare Board for labourers in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government have proposed to constitute similar Welfare Boards for labourers in other states of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Government have enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996. Under the provisions of the Act, all States are to constitute Welfare Boards for workers in their respective States. The Government of NCT of Delhi have recently constituted a Welfare Board for the construction workers viz; The Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board under this Act. Besides this, the Government of Kerala and Tamil Nadu have constituted such Boards earlier. The Government have continuously been insisting all other States for early implementation of the Act.

[English]

Settlement of Pending Crop Insurance Claims

2103. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details/data pertaining to the total number of Crop Insurance claims pending before the State Governments/Union Territories/Banks for settlement alongwith the total amount involved since 1999-2000 onwards, year-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the speedy settlement of the pending Crop Insurance claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was implemented from Rabi 1999-2000 in the country. A statement of crop season-wise claims paid and payable (pending) is enclosed.

(b) As per the scheme, the claims are to be settled by the Implementing Agency (IA) i.e. General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC). Government has been impressing upon the GIC to settle the pending claims at the earliest. The GIC has also taken the following steps:-

(i) Guidelines to financial institutions for correct coverage of risk, timely submission of insurance proposals and avoidance of discrepancies while sending declarations to IA.

(ii) Guidelines to State/UT Government agencies to furnish the final yield data within a month from harvesting period.

(iii) Making timely budget provision for meeting the liabilities of NAIS.

Statement

NAIS - Claims Position of various seasons

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Rabi 1999-2000		Kharif 2000		Rabi 2000-01		Kharif 2001		Rabi 2001-02	
		Claims Paid	Claims Payable	Claims Paid	Claims Payable	Claims Paid	Claims Payable	Claims Paid	Claims Payable	Claims Paid	Claims Payable
1	Andhra Pradesh	N.P.		2926.27	0.00	565.38	22.18	8722.98	41.34	116.04	0.00
2	Assam	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.75	0.00	0.17	0.00	1.60	0.00	12.11
3	Bihar	N.P.		481.25	0.00	60.07	0.00	175.95	0.00	120.35	0.00
4	Chhattisgarh	Part of MP		8004.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.31
5	Goa	0.1	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Gujarat	218.02	0.00	77040.19	0.00	273.14	0.00	1447.65	13407.07	0.00	46.16
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	42.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Jharkhand	N.P.		Part of Bihar		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Karnataka	N.P.		213.02	0.00	113.92	0.00	11739.06	99.41	0.00	1634.82
10	Kerala	29.54	0.00	242.88	0.00	7.52	0.00	0.00	108.71	0.00	7.21
11	Madhya Pradesh	11.33	0	8195.15	12.65	1577.12	0.00	3324.33	0.00	0.00	1904.38
12	Maharashtra	508.32	0.00	14082.94	0.00	2669.26	23.45	0.00	7188.28	0.00	212.39
13	Meghalaya	N.P.		0.14	0.00	4.07	0.00	0.03	0.00	6.56	0.00
14	Orissa	0.17	0	10561.63	0.00	153.56	0.00	73.43	152.46	0.00	108.19
15	Sikkim	N.P.		N.P.		N.P.		N.P.		0.00	0.00
16	Tamil Nadu	N.P.		0.66	0.00	50.29	0.00	81.03	0.00	1546.36	35.20
17	Uttar Pradesh	N.P.		528.06	0.00	257.63	0.00	314.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	West Bengal	N.P.		N.P.		73.50	0.00	1.35	0.00	0.00	333.33
19	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	N.P.		0.36	0	N.P.		0.25	0.00	0.00	341.33
20	Pondicherry	1.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.80	0.00
	Total	768.76	0.50	122277.47	13.40	5904.12	45.80	25882.83	20998.87	1791.11	4648.43

Reasons for pendency:

1 State Govt's share of claims / premium subsidy has not been received.

2 Gujarat - Kharif 2001 claims (Rs. 13407.07 lakhs) are awaiting approval.

3 Karnataka - Rabi 2001-02 claims (Rs. 1634.82 lakhs) are under consideration / investigation.

Selling of African Ivory in International Market

2104. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recently held Conference of Parties of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna in Chile, it has been decided to allow some African countries to sell huge stocks of ivory in the international market; and

(b) if so, the impact of this decision on the Indian endangered animals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) At the 12th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) held in Santiago (Chile) from November 3 to 15, 2002, it has been decided to permit Botswana, Namibia and South Africa to sell some quantity of ivory. But the permission is only for a one-off sale of the legally procured stocks of ivory lying in the government custody. Furthermore, the sale will take place only after fulfilment of certain conditions by the exporting and the importing countries and, in any case, not before May 2004. As such, no major impact of the proposed sale on the elephant or any other endangered animal in India is apprehended.

Extinction of Gibbons

2105. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

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

(a) whether the hoolock gibbons in the country are facing the threat of extinction due to poaching as reported in the Hindustan Times dated November 13, 2002; and

(b) if so, the concrete action taken by the Government to save the hoolock gibbons from extinction?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Expenditure under various Programmes

2106. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any caretaker in the Khadi Gram Udyog Commission from September 6, 1999 to October 1, 2001;

(b) if so, the funds sanctioned, released and spent on C.F.C. programme, Sarvodaya Brand, Biomanure Training, various seminars, conferences, workshops and other schemes;

(c) the projects and programmes sanctioned for Mahamana Malviya Mission, Regional Appropriate Rural Technology, Vishnupur, Gumla and Ranchi Khadi Gram Udyog Commission;

(d) whether the sanction, release and expenditure incurred were as per the instructions of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, whether the Government are likely to take action under Section 6A(B) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) No, Sir. After the expiry of tenure of the Commission on 4th September, 1999 as per the provision in Para 13(1) of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Act, Dr. Mahesh Sharma was continuing as Chairman till 1st October, 2001 on which date the Government of India made a fresh notification of his re-nomination as Chairman, KVIC.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Regional Centre for Appropriate Rural Technology (RCART), Vishnupur, a unit of Mahamana Malviya Mission was identified as one of the Zonal Pilot Centres for prograting Biomanure Programme. Rs. 1,70,800/- has been provided to this agency for various purposes like demonstration, display and exhibition of Biomanure programme during 2001-2002. An additional amount of Rs. 57,400/- was also sanctioned to this center for conducting 5 awareness camps and 2 Entrepreneurs Development Programme.

(d) and (e) The funds have been released in accordance with the provisions of KVIC Rules laid down in the KVIC Act. The source of the fund was budgetary support provided by the Government.

(f) Does not arise.

Fruits and Vegetables Projects of Mother Dairy by NDDB

2107. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a committee to look into the working of the Fruits and Vegetables shops of Mother Dairy which have outlived their usefulness due to poor management and privatise these as a part of disinvestment policy and also look into other operations of Mother Dairy/NDDB including its milk operations; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

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

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

Irrigation Projects under AIBP

2108. SHRI K.H MUNIAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major and medium irrigation projects covered under Accelerated Irrigation Benfit Programme during the last three years;

(b) whether any project under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme is being implemented in Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) During the last three years 150 Major/Medium Irrigation Projects have been covered under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP).

(b) and (c) The details of Irrigation Projects of Karnataka implemented under AIBP is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Project	CLA Released (Rs. in crore)			
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	Total
1.	UKP Stage-I (VI)	100.000	100.000	200.000	400.000
2.	Malprabha (III)	13.500	-	10.000	23.500
3.	Hirehalla (VI)	8.000	8.000	10.000	26.000
4.	Ghataprabha (V)	20.000	45.000	5.000	70.000
5.	Karanja (V)	15.640	18.000	10.000	43.640
6.	UKP State-II (IX)	-	-	250.000	250.000
7.	Gandorinala (VIII)	-	-	7.500	7.500
	Total	157.140	171.000	492.500	820.640

CISF Security at IGI Airport

2109. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when IGI airport will be handed over to the CISF for security;

(b) the names of the other airports proposed to be placed under the security net of CISF; and

(c) by when the entire exercise is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No date has yet been fixed for handing over IGI airport to the CISF.

(b) and (c) CISF is being deployed at airports in a phased manner. 22 operational airports still remain to be covered namely, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Bhavnagar, Indore, Dimapur, Tirupathi, Silchar, Imphal, Jabalpur, Srinagar, Dehradun, Dangra, Leh, Keshod, Dandla, Delhi, Jammu, Agatti, Lingpui, Diu, Jaisalmer, and Puttaparti.

ITDC Guest Houses/Resorts at Gaya

2110. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct ITDC guest houses/resorts at Gaya for the Buddhist tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration for setting up any guest house/tourist resort of ITDC at Gaya.

Filling of Vacancies

2111. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vacancies for SCs, STs and Backward Classes in his Ministry and its subordinate offices have been filled as on date;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Per Hectare Average Productivity of Wheat, Paddy

2112. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per hectare average productivity of wheat, paddy during last three years, State-wise;

(b) the per hectare cost of those crops for last years, State-wise;

(c) the Minimum Support Price of those crops for the current year;

(d) whether the Minimum Support Price announced this year is less than the expenditure incurred actually in case of Punjab; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The latest three years for which State-wise estimates of per hectare average productivity of wheat and paddy are available i.e. during 1998-99 19'99-2000 and 2000-01 are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) to (e) The State-wise estimates of cost of production per quintal of wheat during 2000-01 & 2001-02 and per quintal of paddy during 2001-02 & 2002-03 are given in the enclosed statement-II. In case of paddy the Minimum Support Price (MSP) during 2002-03 is Rs.530 per quintal for common variety and Rs.560 per quintal for Grade-A Variety. Besides, special drought relief price of Rs.20 per quintal is also payable over and above the MSP. The MSP of Wheat for 2001- 02 crop-year to be marketed in 2002-03 season is Rs.620 per quintal.

Statement-I

Productivity of Rice and Wheat during 1998-99 to 2000-01

(kg./hectare)

S.No.	State	Rice			Wheat		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	2752	2650	2842	500	667	585
2	Assam	1345	1459	1495	1010	1289	1219
3	Bihar	1331	1450	1475	2076	2186	2134
4	Jharkhand#			1111			1626

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	Gujarat	1633	1482	1553	2427	2116	2268
6	Haryana	2239	2385	2559	3916	4165	4109
7	Himachal Pradesh	1435	1501	1533	1700	1574	1554
8	Jammu & Kashmir	2179	1561	1700	1519	1768	524
9	Karnataka	2563	2564	2520	816	833	917
10	Kerala	2061	2204	2162	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
11	Madhya Pradesh	924	1191	574	1788	1863	1446
12	Chhattisgarh #			900			994
13	Maharashtra	1664	1684	1285	1289	1369	1256
14	Orissa	1212	1127	1041	1189	1305	1466
15	Punjab	3152	3347	3506	4332	4696	4563
16	Rajasthan	1222	1262	936	2487	2540	2405
17	Tamil Nadu	3579	3481	3415	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
18	Uttar Pradesh	1936	2176	1976	2518	2764	2720
19	Uttaranchal#			1988			1885
20	West Bengal	2255	2237	2287	2117	2336	2485
21	Others	1758	1848	1853	1450	1673	631
	All India	1921	1986	1913	2590	2778	2743

Separate estimates for the newly carved out states available from 2000-01 only.

Statement-II

Crop	State	Cost of Production (Rs./Quintal) 2000-01	2001-02
Wheat			
	Bihar	503	531
	Haryana	418	441
	Madhya Pradesh	536	568
	Punjab	423	454
	Rajasthan	454	509
	Uttar Pradesh	427	453
Paddy			
	Andhra Pradesh	491	534
	Assam	487	512
	Haryana	554	585
	Madhya Pradesh	506	518
	Punjab	421	440
	Tamil Nadu	505	573
	Uttar Pradesh	406	423
	West Bengal	500	546

Note: The figures relate to C2 Cost in case of both wheat and paddy. C2 Cost covers all actual expenses in cash and kind incurred in production by owner, interest on value of owned capital assets (excluding land), rental value of owned land (net of land revenue), and rent paid for leased-in land, and imputed value of family labour.

Assistance for State Agro Industries Corporation

2113. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have devised any financial package to assist various State Agro Industries Corporations to tide over the financial crisis faced by these corporations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government have been gradually reducing its stake in the equity of these corporations in favour of State Governments;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) any other measures taken by the Government to make these corporations competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Central Government has not devised any financial package to assist State Agro Industries Corporations. (SAICs).

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) In order to give a greater say to the State Governments in running the SAICs and to exercise their greater control over the affairs of SAICs, the Government of India had issued on 27.9.1995 guidelines for disinvestments of Central Government's shares held in State Agro Industries Corporations (SAICs) to the State Governments. These guidelines were issued in consultation with Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission and the same provide for the following:

(i) Where the networth of the SAIC is positive, Government of India would be willing to consider offering the share to the State Governments at a price 25% less than the book value of the shares on the basis of the latest available audited balance sheet.

(ii) In the case of the SAICs whose networth is negative, Government of India would be willing to pass on its stake for a token consideration of Rs.1000 for the value of the shares.

So far Government of India have disinvested its share in five SAICs in favour of State Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(e) It is for the concerned State Governments and Agro Industries Corporations to take measures to make them competitive.

FICCI Task Force on Agriculture

2114. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FICCI task force on agriculture has recommended scrapping of the Essential Commodities Act to make Indian agriculture globally competitive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the Union Government on each and every recommendations; and

(d) by when the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

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

Closure of Joint Plant Committee

2115. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) has recommended the closure of Joint Plant Commission (JPC) two years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for not closing JPC even after recommendations of ERC and fully decontrolling the steel industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of a prima-facie examination, the Ministry of Steel finds that even after decontrol, the core functions of JPC in terms of data collection, analysis and other support to the Ministry still persist and cannot be replicated. It is planned to appropriately downsize and restructure the organisation in order to effectively discharge these core activities.

Storage of Rain Water

2116. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which have made rainwater storage mandatory to check the ever depleting ground water, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend financial loans/advances/ assistance to meet the cost of installation of rainwater harvesting system in houses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take action for making rainwater storage mandatory. As per information available in the Ministry of Water Resources, rainwater harvesting through storing of water run-off, including rain water has been made mandatory by the Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation in NCT of Delhi for all the new buildings on plots of 100 sq. mts. and above, by Government of Tamil Nadu in Chennai Metropolitan Area of Tamil Nadu for various categories of new buildings and by Government of Haryana in Faridabad Municipal Corporation area for houses measuring 100 sq. mts. or more. Besides, Government of Uttar Pradesh has also initiated action in this direction. As of now, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources is providing technical know-how about water harvesting techniques, free of cost to the public at large, as well as Government and Non-Government agencies. No other incentive is provided nor is under consideration for this purpose.

Rehabilitation of Animals in Circuses

2117. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that small time circus companies in the small towns and villages are still engaging wild animals for exhibition and performance in their shows;

(b) if so, the details of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the past two years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the ban imposed by the Central Government on performance of five species of wild animals by circuses, the Government of India requested the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States to cancel the ownership certificates issued to circuses with respect to the five species. 234 animals belonging to the five species from twenty two circuses have so far been seized and rehabilitated at 5 rescue centres established by Government of India. Central Government has provided financial assistance of Rs. 248 lakhs to the States concerned for feeding and health care of the animals rehabilitated at these rescue centres.

Setting up of Food Parks

2118. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to withdraw funds allocated to States for setting up and operating food parks if there is no visible progress in next six months;

(b) if so, the main reasons for not implementing the schemes by the States;

(c) whether the Government are considering to extend food park scheme to the Tenth Plan and an outlay of Rs.250 crore has been earmarked for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the States which have not so far implemented the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries have been monitoring the implementation of food park scheme. Decision has been taken to recall funds allocated to two implementing agencies, one, on account of inability to contribute matching share and no progress on the ground and the other where implementing agency recommended setting up the Food Park in a location other than the one approved.

(c) Out of the total Tenth Plan outlay of Rs.650 crore for the Plan schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, an amount of Rs.250 crore has been proposed for the Scheme of Infrastructural Development of which 'Setting up of Food Parks' is one of the components.

(d) The scheme does not envisage direct assistance to States.

Road Show in Foreign Countries

2119. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hold Road Shows in the United Kingdom, South East Asia, Europe and America to assure Foreign tourists that India is a safe destination;

(b) if so, by when these shows are likely to be held; and

(c) the other steps proposed by the Government to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for holding road shows at present. However, promotion of India's tourism products in the tourism generating markets is an ongoing process and the strategy includes advertising in print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, dissentination of information through brochures, CD Roms, inviting of media personalities under the hospitality programme, web marketing organization of workshops and seminars etc.

Restoration of Destroyed Bamboo Forests

2120. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for the restoration of destroyed bamboo forests in different States including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the allocation of funds made for the purpose during the last three year's and thereafter, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No proposal specifically for restoration of destroyed bamboo forests in different States including Madhya Pradesh is under consideration. However, bamboo plantation continues to be one of the components under the restructured scheme of National Afforestation Programme which is being implemented through Forest Development Agencies. Projects are being sanctioned under this scheme for all States including Madhya Pradesh.

(d) A total of 22 projects solely for Bamboo plantation submitted by the States were sanctioned with an outlay of Rs 21.06 crores for treating an area of 30579 hectares during the last three years of the 9th Plan under Non-Timber Forest Produce Scheme which has been merged with other afforestation schemes into the National Afforestation Programme during the 10th Plan.

State-wise details showing allocation of funds and releases made during the last three years (1999-2000 to 2001-02) are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Statement showing State-wise financial details during the last three years (1999-2000 to 2001-02) for Bamboo Plantation Projects under Non-Timber Forest Produce Scheme.

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	258.40	210.00
2	Assam	72.90	50.00
3	Bihar	102.63	30.00
4	Chhattisgarh	143.23	110.52
5	Goo	16.84	11.83
6	Gujarat	119.70	95.00
7	Haryana	34.85	34.85
8	Himachal Pradesh	17.85	17.85
9	Jammu & Kashmir	120.25	45.00
10	Kerala	100.50	70.00
11	Madhya Pradesh	163.50	99.48
12	Maharashtra	49.42	44.00
13	Manipur	104.30	73.37
14	Meghalaya	24.75	15.00
15	Mizoram	101.64	101.64
16	Nagaland	148.20	70.00

1	2	3	4
17	Orissa	170.40	84.02
18	Rajasthan	82.50	79.50
19	Sikkim	95.92	95.92
20	Tripura	47.80	22.32
21	Uttar Pradesh	90.50	37.87
22	West Bengal	39.60	35.00
	Total	2105.68	1433.17

[Translation]

Air Link in Uttar Pradesh

2121. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to link various big towns of Uttar Pradesh by Air Service with a view to help tourism and trade potential; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Lucknow, Varanasi and Agra in Uttar Pradesh are already linked by Indian Airlines/private scheduled airlines. As regards introducing of air services to other big towns, the airlines are free to operate to any station in their commercial judgment, subject to compliance of the Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.

[English]

Aid to Animal Welfare NGOs

2122. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have green signalled the release of its funds to certain animal welfare Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) including SPCA Chennai;

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

(c) the extent of money released so far to each of the NGOs involved in animals' welfare;

(d) whether the Government are aware that some of the above said NGOs are engaged in private activity and are black listed; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Funds are released to such NGOs as fulfil the laid-down eligibility criteria under the various schemes. SPCA Chennai had been sanctioned an amount of Rs.3,40,000/- for sterilization of 1000 dogs on 14.6.2001. First instalment of Rs.1, 70,000/- was released on 22.6.2001. The 2nd installment of Rs.1, 70,000/- was sanctioned on the basis of recommendatory inspection of the Vice Chairman, Animal Welfare Board of India.

(c) A scheme-wise statement showing the names of the organizations and amount released is enclosed.

(d) and (e) The SPCA Chennai was reported to have indulged in some commercial activities because of which it had been ordered to be blacklisted. However recently the Animal Welfare Board has recommended its removal from blacklist and restoration of assistance.

In view of the availability of developed infrastructure in terms of kennels, Operation Theatre, Veterinary services, other staff and facilities and a large van, it was thought appropriate to provide assistance on a limited scale under Animal Birth Control Programme.

The process of ascertaining if the reported commercial activity is by way of meeting the deficit between income & expenditure without being detrimental to primary objective of animal welfare or otherwise is on.

Another Animal Welfare Organization viz Crusaders for the Rights of Animals (CRA), Bangalore was also ordered to be put on the blacklist. The said NGO has not been given any assistance thereafter.

Statement

Details of Funds Sanctioned/released for Shelter Scheme from 1st April 2002

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Shri Bhagwan Mahavir Jain Gaushala Trust, Rajasthan	5,13,000.00

1	2	3
2.	Circle of Animals lovers, New Delhi	1,65,500.00
3.	Vadodara SPCA, Gujarat	4,03,711.00
4.	PFA, Orissa	81,77,500.00
5.	Anath Gau Ashram Bhatinda, Punjab	2,72,250.00
6.	PFA Sirohi, Rajasthan	9,55,159.00
7.	PFA, Haryana, Rohtak	11,25,000.00
8.	Shri Gopal Gaushala Patram, Patiala, Punjab	8,55,950.00
9.	Vivekanand Adharsh Sevashram, Midnapur, West Bengal	9,55,094.00
10.	Shri Ram Gaushala Trust, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	6,54,210.00
11.	Bombay SPCA, Parel, Mumbai	2,98,350.00
12.	Shri Anjar Panjarapole Anjar, Kutch, Gujarat	4,13,240.00
13.	Shri Kapil Krishan Gaushala, Rajasthan	6,44,400.00
14.	Dushkal Gau Seva Samiti, Sumerpura, Rajasthan	7,20,000.00
15.	PFA, Agra	11,16,000.00
16.	Shri Gramaudyog Sansthan, Aligarh, U.P.	9,57,565.00
17.	Dayodaya Pashu Sansthan Kendra, Lalitpur, U.P.	7,20,000.00
18.	Ashurali Vivekanand Smriti Sangh, West Bengal	9,23,649.00
19.	Akhil Bhartiya Maharishi Dayanand Gaushala, Rohtak	7,25,125.00
20.	Dayodaya Pashu Seva Samiti, Madhya Pradesh	10,68,750.00
21.	Chandigarh Animal Welfare & Eco Development Society, Chandigarh	9,15,750.00
	Total	1,52,80,203.00

Details of Funds Sanctioned/released for ABC Scheme from 1st April 2002

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Amount Sanctioned
1.	PFA Jallandhar	36,000.00
2.	SPCA Chandigarh	57,000.00
3.	DIYA Bangalore	6,80,000.00
4.	PFA Goa	10,20,000.00
5.	Friendicoes SECA New Delhi	5,10,000.00
6.	Canine Welfare Society Rajasthan	59,500.00
7.	Animal Care land A.P.	85,000.00
8.	SPCA Vadodara Gujarat	1,70,000.00
9.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	1,70,000.00
10.	Circle of Animals Lovers, Saket N.D.	2,00,000.00
11.	Dr. Pets Creche Animal Welfare, Lucknow	17,000.00
12.	Blue Cross Society of Pune	4,25,000.00
13.	Sanjay Gandhi Care Centre, New Delhi	4,08,000.00
14.	Animal Welfare & Protection Trust, Chennai	3,40,000.00
15.	PFA Kolkata	2,00,000.00
16.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	1,70,000.00
17.	PFA Rourkela	95,000.00
18.	SPCA Vepery High Road, Chennai	1,70,000.00
	Total	48,12,500.00

Details of Funds Sanctioned/released for Ambulance Scheme from 1st April 2002

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Shri Dayalu Gau Jiv Jan Parmarth Seva Sansthan Kherapra, Rajasthan	4,13,000.00
2.	Early Birds, Guwahati, Assam,	2,65,915.00

1	2	3
3.	Vivekanand Adarsh Sevashram, West Bengal	4,40,000.00
4.	PFA, Imphal, West Manipur	3,15,345.00
5.	Shri Krishan Goseva Sansthan, Rajasthan	3,43,511.00
	Total	17,77,771.00

Construction Around Protected Monuments

2123. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the construction being carried around the protected monuments in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in this regard?

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

(b) As per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules 1959, notices have been issued to the encroachers to remove the unauthorized constructions and the respective District Collectors have been asked to demolish them.

As a preventive measure the archaeological area around the protected monuments are being fenced.

Canadian Assistance in Security of Airports

2124. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance of Canadian Government is being sought to further strengthen the safety and security arrangements of the major airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other measures taken by the Government to strengthen the security system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to further strengthen the security of all the airports in the country, inter-alia include:

(i) Surveillance and patrolling of the perimeter wall;

(ii) Stricter access control and thorough pre-embarkation security checks;

(iii) Deployment of CISF, Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) and Sky Marshals;

(iv) Screening of baggage.

Survival of Package of IISCO

2125. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress of survival of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) as had been assured by the Government to Public Representative of West Bengal;

(b) the special features of this package; and

(c) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (c) As directed by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has submitted a rehabilitation proposal, based on the Government's approval to the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) the Operating Agency for IISCO. The scheme is currently under examination by the IDBI.

(b) Government has approved a revival package for Indian Iron & Steel Co. (IISCO) which inter alia includes grants for financing a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in Kulti Works, which is to be closed down. In addition, provision of Govt. guarantees to raise money for financing VRS in Burnpur Works, mines &, collieries, as well as for capital expenditure in these units, has been made. This is, however, subject to the Government of West Bengal conveying its approval to provide waiver of past dues and also exemption from payment of sales tax (without any monetary ceiling), electricity duty, royalty & cess and municipal tax for the next five years.

Pending Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh

2126. DR. (SHRIMATI) CH. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in clearance of the pending irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the time by when "Dayadhula" lift irrigation scheme on Godavari river would be cleared; and

(c) the action taken to expedite the clearance of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The reasons for delay in clearance of pending irrigation projects are non-compliance of the observations of Central Appraising Agencies.

(b) The detailed Project Report of Dayadhula Lift Irrigation Scheme on Godavari has not been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(c) The clearance of projects depend on the promptness with which the State Government complies with the observations of Central Appraising Agencies.

Interest Rate on PF

2127. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All-India Tax Advocates Forum has urged the Union Government to peg interest rate at 10.5% on PF for the year 2002-2003; and

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

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

(b) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund has recommended continuation of 9.5% rate of interest to the EPF subscribers for the year 2002-2003.

Shortage of Cold Storage

2128. SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storage functioning in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa and in the areas where production of Pine-apple, orange, Water-melon etc. are produced in large quantity at present, state-wise;

(b) whether there is acute shortage of cold storage in the country particularly in those States;

(c) the number of cold storages set up in the country particularly in those States during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 till date respectively, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up the new cold storages in the country particularly in those States;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Statement-I indicating number of cold storages in the country as on 31.12.2001 is enclosed.

(b) The High Level Expert Committee on Cold Storage and Storage in its report submitted, in February 1999, to the Ministry of Agriculture had identified creation/expansion of 12 lakh tonnes during next five years and also to rehabilitate/modernize 8 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity lying closed. Based on the recommendations of the Committee report the National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing a scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of cold storages and storages for Horticulture Produce". Under the scheme additional capacity of 27.37 lakh tonne has since been created with the sanction of 604 cold storage projects.

(c) Statement-II indicating number of cold storages set up in the country during 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto 31.10.2002) is enclosed.

(d) to (f) The aforesaid NHB scheme assisting creation of cold storage capacity is project based. The entrepreneurs from any part of the country may take advantage of the scheme.

Statement-I

Number of Cold Storages in the country as on 31.12.2001

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of cold storages
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	200
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	00
4.	Assam	13

1	2	3
5.	Bihar	203
6.	Chandigarh	05
7.	Delhi	92
8.	Gujarat	327
9.	Goa	23
10.	Haryana	201
11.	Himachal Pradesh	17
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	18
13.	Jharkhand	20
14.	Kerala	163
15.	Karnataka	102
16.	Lakshadweep	01
17.	Maharashtra	385
18.	Madhya Pradesh	186
19.	Manipur	00
20.	Meghalaya	00
21.	Mizoram	00
22.	Nagaland	01
23	Orissa	75
24	Pondicherry	05
25.	Punjab	390
26.	Rajasthan	87
27.	Sikkim	00
28	Tamil Nadu	111
29.	Tripura	04
30.	Uttar Pradesh	1129
31.	West Bengal	386
	Total	4146

Statement-II

Number of cold storages with their capacity set up during 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto 31.10.2002)

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of cold storage projects sanctioned during 2001-02	Number of cold storage projects sanctioned during 2002-03
1.	Punjab	9 (31054 MT)	1 (5169 MT)
2.	Haryana	17 (63548 MT)	1 (3359 MT)
3.	Tamil Nadu	5 (12137 MT)	2 (9947 MT)
4.	Himachal Pradesh	2 (2392 MT)	1 (6000 MT)
5.	Uttar Pradesh	82 (442096 MT)	14 (99144 MT)
6.	Uttaranchal	1 (4067 MT)	1 (4011 MT)
7.	Maharashtra	14 (36774 MT)	15 (34341 MT)
8.	Rajasthan	5 (14144 MT)	6 (16239 MT)
9.	Karnataka	7 (36309 MT)	3 (3125 MT)
10.	Gujarat	15 (41173 MT)	16 (47216 MT)
11.	Orissa	1 (3064 MT)	4 (21176 MT)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3 (15723 MT)	8 (17472 MT)
13.	Chhattisgarh	12 (74480 MT)	4 (30300 MT)
14.	West Bengal	21 (48140 MT)	6 (28915 MT)
15.	Andhra Pradesh	9 (34680 MT)	4 (15200 MT)
16.	Assam	6 (28400 MT)	3 (14500 MT)
17.	Bihar	20 (86723 MT)	3 (13359 MT)
18.	Jharkhand	1 (5000 MT)	2 (9318 MT)
19.	Delhi	4 (12260 MT)	-
20.	Kerala	2 (500 MT)	-
21.	Tripura	-	1 (5000 MT)

[Translation]

Contract Farming for Popular Varieties of Silk

2129. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Silk Board proposes to start contract farming to encourage the popular varieties of silk on the lines of multinational companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States in which the contract farming of silk is being undertaken;

(c) whether the silk producers have opposed contract farming of silk; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Central Silk Board has no commercial operations but it would encourage strengthening of linkages between producers and the industry in line with the National Textile Policy 2000, and in this regard, facilitate corporates or large reelers in contract farming so as to help farmers to get remunerative and stable prices.

(b) So far, no large units have entered into any contract farming arrangements with farmers.

(c) and (d) No case of protests from any manufacturer has come to the notice. Farmers may, however, be apprehensive as to the implications of contract farming. Extension, facilitation and advice is being provided to State Governments so as to examine and elucidate the manner in which linkages between producers and the industry can be advantageously established for both.

[English]

Closure of Ayurvedic Centre by AI

2130. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has closed down its alternative medical unit (Ayurvedic Clinic);

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

(c) the number of doctors and other staff working there;

(d) whether the services of all the doctors and other staff working there has been terminated; and

(e) if so, the compensation, if any, paid to the doctors and other staff working in the Ayurvedic Clinic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The alternative medical clinics, including Ayurvedic clinic, which were started on a trial basis were closed because, administratively, it was very difficult to continue these clinics due to non-availability of qualified para-medical personnel in this field.

(c) Only three Doctors (one each for Ayurveda, Acupuncture and Homeopathy), one person for Acupressure and one storekeeper were working in the alternative medical clinics.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. No compensation has been paid to any professionals as they were purely on a contract basis.

Minimum Wages to Beedi Workers

2131. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minimum wages for the beedi workers differ from State to State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to enforce uniform wages for Beedi workers allover the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Central and State Government fix, revise and enforce minimum wages in the schedule employments under their respective jurisdictions. Beedi making is a scheduled employment in the State Sphere. There is disparity in the minimum wages in various states due to variations in socio-economic and agro-climate conditions, cost of living, productivity, paying capacity and local conditions influencing the wage rates.

(c) With a view to reduce the disparity, the Central Government issued guidelines in 1987 for setting up Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committees. These Committees have made a number of recommendations, which include reduction in disparity in minimum wages of different States within a region, setting up Inter-state Coordination Council, consultation with the neighbouring States while fixing/revising minimum wages etc. The Central Government also suggested to the state Governments in February, 1999 for constitution of Committees of officials from adjoining States to explore uniformity in minimum wages in the States within a region. The Central Government also mooted the concept of National Floor Level Wage in 1996 and requested all State Governments to ensure that in none of the scheduled employments the minimum wage was below in floor level wage. Initially it was fixed at Rs.35/- per day based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour (1991) and periodically revised based on the rise in the price level. The national floor level wage has been recently revised to Rs.50/- per day w.e.f. 1.9.2002.

[Translation]

Purchase of Tractor

2132. SHRI RAM RATI BIND: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the farmers purchasing tractor are unable to pay the interest and the instalments in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken in this regard. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have informed that they have not received any complaint from banks regarding inability of the farmers to repay the interest and instalments in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) A general study covering various States, including some parts of Uttar Pradesh conducted by NABARD reveals that recovery under tractor loans from Commercial Banks and Cooperatives/PLDBs has been generally better. The rate of return on the investment has also been found to be adequate.

[English]

Opening of Agricultural Research Centre

2133. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Agriculture Research Centres in the country/State-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal for opening Agriculture Research Centre during 2002-2003 in the country;

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

(d) the existing norms for opening Agriculture Research Centre in the districts; and

(e) the number of proposals received and approved by the Government to open Agriculture Research Centre in Jharkhand State during last three years and current year till October, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The details are given in statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The DARE/ICAR propose to initiate the following New Initiatives/Projects during the Xth Five Year Plan (2002-07) subject to the approval of Planning Commission:

i. Impact of Climate Change on Agricultural Productivity

ii. Network Project on Organic Farming

iii. Networking on Transgenics

iv. Institute on National Bureau of Indian Veterinary Type Culture

v. Network on Biosystematics of Insects

vi. NRC for Agricultural Extension

(d) There is no proposal for opening Agriculture Research Centre at district level in the country. However, there is a proposal for opening a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in each remaining districts of the country.

(e) The projects approved and in operation in Jharkhand State are also given in statement.

Statement

State-wise list of ICAR Institutes/NRCs/PDs/AICRPs and its Regional Stations/Research Centres/KVKs

Name of State	Name of Institutes/NRCs/PDs/AICRCPs	Location
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	Central Agricultural Research Institute	Port Blair
Andhra Pradesh	Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Rajamundhry
	National Academy for Agril Res. Management	Hyderabad
	N.R.C - Sorghum	Hyderabad

1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	N.R.C. - Oil Palm	**Pedavegi**
	NRC - Meat	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate - Oilseed Research	Hyderabad
	Directorate of Rice Research including AICRP Rice	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate - Poultry Research	Hyderabad
	AICRP - Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	AICRP - Sorghum	Hyderabad
	AICNP - Tobacco	Rajamundhry
	AICRP - Agro-meteorology	Hyderabad
	Network - Economic Ornithology	Hyderabad
	AICRP on Sunflower, Safflower and Castor	Hyderabad
	Regional Stations/ Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Eluru
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Vijayawada
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Kankipadu
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Guntur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Kakinada
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Vishakhapatnam
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Kakinada
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Vishakhapatnam
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Guntur
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Jeddangi
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Kandukur
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Hyderabad
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Kaovvur
	Directorate of Maize off season nursery	Hyderabad
Arur.achal Pradesh	N.R.C. - Yak	Dirang
	Regional Station / Research Centre ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Basar

1	2	3
Assam	NRC Pig	Khanapara, Guwahati
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	CRRI Research Station on Rainfed Lowland Rice	Gerua
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Sorbhog
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Guwahati
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kahikuchi
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & land Use Planning	Jorhat
Bihar	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region	Patna
	Project Directorate - Water Management	Patna
	NRC for Litchi	Muzaffarpur
	NRC Makhana	Darbhanga
	AICRP on Water Management	Patna
	AICRP on Optimization of Groundwater Utilisation	Patna
	AICRP on Management of Diaralands	Patna
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Potato Research Institute	Patna
	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (Crop Res. Stn)	Pusa
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Pusa
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Motipur
Chandigarh (UT)	Central Soil & water Conservation Research & Trning Institute	Chandigarh
Goa	ICAR Research Complex for Goa	Goa
Gujarat	N.R.C. - Groundnut	Junagadh
	N.R.C. - Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Anand
	AICRP - Groundnut	Junagadh
	AICRP Betelvine	Anand
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Bhuj
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Vadodara
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Surat

1	2	3
Gujarat	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Veraval
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Veraval
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Valsad
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Anand
	Central Institute for Arid Horticulture	Godhra
Haryana	National Dairy Researach Institute	Karnal
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Karnal
	Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes	Hisar
	National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resource	Karnal
	N.R.C. - Biotechnology (Part of NDRI)	Karnal
	N.R.C. - Equine	Hisar
	Directorate of Wheat Research	Karnal
	AICRP - Blood Protesta	Hisar
	AICRP - Buffalo	Hisar
	AICRP - Honey Bees	Hisar
	AICRP - Mgmt. of Salt Affected Soils & Use of Saline Water	Karnal
	R&D Support for Process Upgradation of indigenous Milk Products	Karnal
	Regional Stations / Research Centres Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Karnal
	Central Institule for Research on Cotton Technology	Hisar
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Sirsa
	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Sirsa
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Rohtak
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Karnal
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Karnal
Himachal Pradesh	Central Potato Research Institute	Shimla
	N.R.C. - Mushroom	Solan
	AICRP - Micro Biological Decomposition	Palampur
	AICRP - Mushroom	Solan

1	2	3
Himachal Pradesh	AICRP - Potato	Shimla
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Potato Research Institute	Kufri
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Garsa, Kullu
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Kullu
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Katrain
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Tutikandi, Shimla
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Amartara, Shimla
	Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute	Palampur
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Palampur
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Shimla
	Project Directorate - Wheat Research	Shimla
	Project Directorate - Wheat Research	Lahul Spiti
Jammu & Kashmir	Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture	Srinagar
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Sapore, Srinagar
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Srinagar
Jharkhand	Indian Lac Research Institute	Ranchi
	Regional Slation / Research Centre	
	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (H&AF Progr.)	Ranchi
	Central Rainfed Upland Rice Res. Station	Hazaribagh
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Ranchi
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Ranchi
Karnataka	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Bangalore
	National Institute of Animal Nutrition & Physiology	Bangalore
	N.R.C. - Cashew	Puttur
	Project Directorate - Biological Control	Bangalore
	Project Directorate - Animal Disease & Monitoring Surveillance	Bangalore

1	2	3
Karnataka	AICRP - Tropical Fruits	Bangalore
	AICRP - Cashew	Vittal
	AICRP - Small Millets	Bangalore
	Network - Agricultural Acarology	Bangalore
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Bangalore
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Bangalore
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Dharwad
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Karwar
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Bangnlore
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Hirehalli
	Ccntral Plantation Crops Rescarch Institute	Vittal
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kidee
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Bellary
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Hunsur
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Dharwad
	Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute	Dharwad
	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Chethali
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Bangalore
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Bangalore
	National Dairy Researach Institute	Bangalore
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Jamkhandi
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Hunsur
Kerala	Central Institute of fisheries Technology	Cochin
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Cochin
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kasargod
	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	Thiruvananthapuram
	Indian Institute of Spices Research	Calicut
	AICRP - Palms	Kasargod

1	2	3
Kerala	AICRP - Spices	Calicut
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Alappuzha
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Kollamparambi
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Narakkal
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Calicut
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Vizhinjam
	Central Plantation Crops Rescarch Institute	Kayangulam
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kannara
	Indian Institute of Spices Research	Apangala
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Trichur
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Cannanore
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Agali
Lakshadweep	Regional Stations/ Research Centres	
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Minicoy
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Minicoy
Madhya Pradesh	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering	Bhopal
	Indian Institute of Soil Science	Bhopal
	N.R.C. - Soyabean	Indore
	N.R.C. - Weed Science	Jabalpur
	AICRP - Energy Requirement in Agricultural Sector	Bhopal
	AICRP - Farm Implements Machinery	Bhopal
	AICRP - Human Engineering and Safety Studies	Bhopal
	AICRP - Micro Secondary Nutrients	Bhopal
	AICRP - Power Tiller	Bhopal
	AICRP - Renewable Energy Sources	Bhopal
	AICRP - Soil Test Crop Response	Bhopal
	AICRP - Soyabean	Indore
	AICRP - Utilisation of Animal Energy	Bhopal

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	AICRP - Weed Control	Jabalpur
	AICRP Sesame and Nige	JNKVV, Jabalpur
	RNAM Phase-VI	Bhopal
	AICRP on Long Term Fertilizer Experiments	Bhopal
	AICRP on Biological Nitrogen Fixation	Bhopal
	AICRP on Tillage Management of Indian Soils	Bhopal
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Hoshangabad
	Central Institute for freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Balaghat
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Powarkhera
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Hoshangabad
	Central Potato Research Institute	Gwalior
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Datia
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Indore
	High Security Animal Diseases Laboratory	Bhopal
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	IGKV, Ambikanagar
Maharashtra	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Nagpur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Mumbai
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Nagpur
	N.R.C. - Citrus	Nagpur
	N.R.C. - Grapes	Pune
	N.R.C. - Onion And Garlic	Pune
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Mumbai
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Bhandra
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Nagpur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Mumbai
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Mumbai
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Pune

1	2	3
Maharashtra	N.R.C - Sorghum	Solapur
	National Bureau or Plant Genetic Resources	Akola
	National Bureau or Plant Genetic Resources	Amravati
	National Bureau or Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Nagpur
Manipur	Central Agricultural University	Imphal
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Imphal
Mizoram	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Kolasib
	College of Veterinary Science, CAU	Selesch
Meghalaya	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Barapani
	Regional Stations / Research Centres Central Potato Research Institute	Shillong
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	West Garo Hills
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Shillong
	College of Home Science, CAU	Tura
Nagaland	N.R.C. - Mithun	Jharnapani
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Khanakhuru
New Delhi	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	New Deilli
	Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute	New Delhi
	National Bureau of Agriculturally Micro-Organisms	New Dellli
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	New Delhi
	N.R.C. - Agricultural Economics & Policy Research	New Delhi
	N.R.C.- on Plant Biotechnology	New Delhi
	N.R.C. - Integrated Pest Management	New Delhi
	N.R.C. - DNA Fingerprinting	New Delhi
	Directorate of Maize Research	New Delhi
	AICRP - Agricultural By-Product	New Delhi
	AICRP - Agricultural Drainage	New Delhi
	AICRP - Engineering Measures for Efficient Land & Water Mgmt.	New Delhi
	AICRP - Floriculture	New Delhi
	AICRP - Nematode	New Delhi

1	2	3
New Delhi	AICRP - Pesticide Residue	New Delhi
	AICRP Post Harvest Techn. of Horticultural Crops	New Delhi
	AICRP - Under-Utilised & Under-exploited Plant	New Delhi
	AICRP on Home Science	New Delhi
	Integrated Krishi Vigyan Kendras	New Delhi
	National Seed Project	New Delhi
	Network Scheme - Animal Genetic Resources	New Delhi
	Network Scheme - Embryo Transfer Technology	New Delhi
	Agril. Human Resource Develoment (W.B.)	New Delhi
	Indo-Israel Demonstration Project (IARI)	New Delhi
	National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)	New Delhi
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Issapur
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	New Delhi
Orissa	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Bhubaneshwar
	Central Rice Research Insititute	Cuttack
	NRC for Women in Agriculture	Bhubaneshwar
	Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region	Bhubaneshwar
	AICRP - Tuber Crops	Bhubaneshwar
	ORP on Processing & Utilisation of Organic Waste for Aquaculture	Bhubaneshwar
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Avian Research Institute	Bhubaneshwar
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Bhubaneshwar
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Puri
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Bamra
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Koraput
	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	Bhubaneshwar
	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Bhubaneshwar

1	2	3
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Cuttack
Punjab	Central Institute for Post Harvest Engg. & Technology	Ludhiana
	AICRP - Application of Plastics in Agriculture	Ludhiana
	AICRP - Harvest & Post Harvest Technology	Ludhiana
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Ludhiana
	Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes	Nabha
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Ludhiana
	Central Potato Research Institute	Jalandhar
Rajasthan	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Jodhpur
	Central Institute for Arid Horticulture	Bikaner
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Avikanagar
	N.R.C. - Camel	Bikaner
	N.R.C. - Rapeseed & Mustard	Bharatpur
	NRC - Seed Spices	Ajmer
	NRC Equines	Bikaner
	AICRP - Sheep	Avikanagar
	AICRP Pearl Millet	Jodhpur
	AICRP on Arid Zone Fruits	Bikaner
	AICRP - Rapseed & Mustard	Bharatpur
	AICRP - Arid Legumes	CAZRI, Jodhpur
	Network - Rodent Control	Jodhpur
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Pali
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Jaisalmer
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Bikaner
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Sri Ganganagar
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Bikaner
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Kota

1	2	3
Rajasthan	Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute	Avikanagar
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	RAU, Mandor
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Udaipur
Sikkim	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Gangatok
	N.R.C. - Orchids	Tadong
Tamil Nadu	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Chennai
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Coimbatore
	N.R.C. - Banana	Tiruchirapalli
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Coimbatore
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Coimbatore
	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Coimbatore
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Mandapam
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Tuticorin
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Chennai
	Central Potato Research Institute	Udhagamandalam
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Kodaikanal
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Udhagamandalam
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Vedassundur
	Indian Agriculrural Research Institute	Wellington
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Aduthurai
	AICRP Cotton	Coimbatore
Tripura	Regional Station / Research Centre	
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Lembucherra
Uttar Pradesh	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Izatnagar
	Central Avian Research Institute	Izatnagar
	Central Institute for Research on Goats	Makhdoom
	Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture	Lucknow
	Indian Institute of Pulses Research	Kanpur

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research	Lucknow
	Indian Institute of Vegetable Research	Varanasi
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute	Jhansi
	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources	Lucknow
	N.R.C.- Agroforestry	Jhansi
	AICRP - Agroforestry	Jhansi
	Project Directorate - Cropping System Research	Modipuram
	Project Directorate - Cattle Research	Meerut
	AICRP - Chick Pea	Kanpur
	AICRP - Gastointestinal Parasitism	Izatnagar
	AICRP- Goat	Makhadoom
	AICRP - Haemorrhagic Septicaemia	Izatnagar
	AICRP - Jaggery & Khandasari	Lucknow
	AICRP - Pig	Izatnagar
	AICRP - Pigeon Pea	Kanpur
	AICRP - Pulses (MULLARP)	Kanpur
	AICRP - Sugarcane	Lucknow
	AICRP - Vegetable Research	Varanasi
	AICRP on Management of Diaraland Improvement	Modipuram
	AICRP on Forage Crops	Jhansi
	AICRP-Sub-Tropical Fruits	Lucknow
	Vegetable Seed Project (National Seed Project)	Varanasi
	AICRP Linseed	Kanpur
	Network Scheme - Crop Based Animal Production System	Jhansi
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Allahabad
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Allahabad
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Chinhat

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	Central Potato Research Institute	Modipuram
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Pratapgarh
	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Agra
Uttaranchal	Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	Dehradun
	Vivekanand Parvataiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala	Almora
	N.R.C.- Cold Water Fisheries	Bhimtal (Nainital)
	PD on Foot and Mouth Disease	Mukteshwar
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture	Mukteshwar
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Mukteshwar
	N.R.C.- Cold Water Fisheries	Champawat
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Bhowali
West Bengal	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Barrackpore
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Barrackpore
	National Institute of Research on Jute & Allied Fibre Technology	Kolkatta
	AICRP - Jute & Allied Fibres	Barrackpore
	AICRP White Grub	Durgapur
	Regional Stations / Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Malda
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Kolkatta
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Rahara
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Kalyani
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture - ORP centre	Kolkatta
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Kolkatta
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Kakdweep
	Central Institute of Sub-tropical Horticulture (Proposed)	Malda
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Jalpaiguri
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Bud Bud

1	2	3
West Bengal	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Canning Town
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Dinhata
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Kalimpong
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Kolkatta
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Kolkatta
	National Dairy Research Institute	Kalyani
	NRC - Orchids	Darjeeling

List of Agricultural Universities

1. Acharya N.G, Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500 030, Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam Agricultural Univeristy, Jorhat (Assam)- 785 003
3. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Mohanpur (West Bengal)-741252
4. Birsa Agricultural Univeristy Ranchi(Bihar)-834 006
5. Chandra Azad Univeristy of Agriculture and Technology Kanpur(Uttar Pradesh)-208 002
6. Chaudhary Charan Haryana Agricultural Univeristy Hissar (Haryana)-125 004
7. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola (Maharashtra)-444 104
8. Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni, Distt. Solan (Himachal Pradesh)-173 230
9. Gobind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology Pantnagar (Uttaranchal)-263 145
10. Gujarat Agricultural University Sardar Krushinagar, Distt. Banaskantha (Gujarat)-385 506
11. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya. Palampur(Himachal Pradesh)-176 062
12. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)-482 004
13. Maharana Pratap Agriculture Universtiy Udaipur-313 001, Rajasthan
14. Central Agricultural University Imphal-795 004 (Manipur)
15. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Raipur-492 012 (Madhya Pradesh)
16. Kerala Agricultural University Trichur-680 656 (Kerala)
11. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth Ratnagiri-415712 (Maharashtra)
18. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth Rahuri-413 722 (Maharashtra)
19. Marathwada Agricultural University Parabhani-431 402 (Maharashtra)
20. Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology Faizabad-224 229 (Uttar Pradesh)
21. Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology Bhubaneswar-751 003 (Orissa)
22. Panjab Agriculture University Ludhiana-141004 (Panjab)
23. Rajasthan Agricultural Universtiy Bikaner-334 002 (Raj.)
24. Rajendra Agricultural University Samastipur-848 125 (Bihar)
25. Shere-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology Srinagar-191 121 (J & K)
26. Shere-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology Jammu-180004(J & K)
27. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore-641 003 (Tamil Nadu)
28. Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Chennai-600051 (Tamil Nadu)
29. University of Agriculture Sciences Bangalore-560065 (Karnataka)
30. University of Agriculture Sciences Dharwad- 580005 (Karnataka)
31. West Bengal University of Agriculture and fisheries Sciences Calcutta-700037 (West Bengal)

List of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

S.No.	Name & Address of KVK	Host Organisation	Est Year
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o CARI, Port Blair-744101	The Director, Central Agril. Research Institute, Port Blair - 744101 (A&N)	1992 I
Andhra Pradesh (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Behind M.R.O. Office, Kotha, Madanpur, Mahboobnagar (AP)	The Executive Director, Youth for Action, 1-8 702/26/1, Padma Colony, Hyderabad-500044 (AP)	1992 N
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadipalli-508201, Nalgonda (AP)	Secretary, Aurobindo Institute of Rural Dev., Gaddipalli-508201 (AP)	1985 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalvacherla, Rajahmundry, East Godawari - 533105	The Director, Central Tobacco Research Instt., Rajahmundry-500044 (AP)	1992 I
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CRIDA, Hyatnagar, Ranga Reddy (AP)	The Director, CRIDA Complex, Saidabad, P.O. Santoshnagar, Hyderabad (AP)	1973 I
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RASS Vanasthali, Vill. - Karakanbadi, Chittoor - 517501 (AP	Chairman, Rayalseema Seva Samiti, 9 Old Hazur Office Building, Tirupathi (AP)	1992 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jamikunta, Karimnagar - 505112 (AP)	Director, Gram Nava Nirman Samiti, H.No. 1-9-639/1, Vidyanagar, Hyderabad	1992 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Banaganpalli, Kurnool - 508201 (AP)	Secretary, Shri Hanumantharaya Educational & Charitable Society, Rendakanti Public School, Illuru, Kothapeate, Kurnool	1989 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatanam - 531005 (AP)	The Secretary, Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatanam - 531005 (AP)	1995 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Box No. 214, Zahirabad, Medak - 502220 (AP)	Chairman, Deccan Dev. Society, A-5, Meera Apartments, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad (AP)	1992 N
10.	Training Organiser, N.G. Ranga Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vinayashram, Kavur, Guntur (AP)	Chairman, Vinayashram Kavur, Guntur (AP)	1992 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, OCMS Building, Kamlanagar, Anantpur (AP)	Vice - Chancellor, Andhra Pradesh Agril. University, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad - 500030	1983 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Opp. Rama Krishnan Temple UMDI, Rayalam Bhimavaram, West Godavari-534208 (AP)	-do-	1995 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malyal Farm, Village Malyal, Warangal - 506101 (AP)	-do-	1984 S

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14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Research Station, Amadalavalasa, Shrikakulam - 532523 (AP)	-do-	1984 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rastakuntabai, Vizianagaram - 535523 (AP)	-do-	1984 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nandyal, M.C. Farm, P.O. Kurnool (AP)	-do-	1992 S
Arunachal Pradesh (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Basar, West Siang - 791101 (Arunachal Pradesh)	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani - 793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Assam (4)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur, Tezpur, C/o. P.B. No. 51, Main Post Office, Tezpur (Assam)	Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agril. University, Jorhat - 785013 (Assam)	1979 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arunachal Silchar - 788025, Cacher (Assam)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khuontail, Golaghat-785601	-do-	1993 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gossaigaon - 783360, Distt. Kokrajhar (Assam)	-do-	1985 S
Bihar (16)			
1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sankarpur, Munger-811201 (Bihar)	Vice Chancellor, Rajendra Agril. University, Samastipur-848125 (Bihar)	1979 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Darbhanga (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hajipur Farm, Vaishali (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Meghaual, Khodawanpur, Begusarai (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agwanpur, Saharsa (Bihar)	-do-	1979 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Harnaut, Nalanda (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Vijai Nagar, Banka - 813101 (Bihar)	-do-	1983 S

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8.	Chief Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barh, Patna (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sekhpura (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saraiah Farm, Muzzaffarpur (Bihar)	-do-	1997 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SCADA, P.O. Arra, Bhojpur-802301 (Bihar)	Chairman, Sone Command Area Deve. Agency, Sone Bhavan, Patna (Bihar)	1993 O
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jahanabad (Bihar)	-do-	1997 O
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sokhodeora, Nawada - 805106 (Bihar)	General Secretary, Gram Nirman Mandal Ashram, Sokhodera, Nawada-805106 (Bihar)	1979 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vanvasi Seva Kendra, P.O. Adhaura, Bhabua - 821116	President, Banvasi Seva Kendra, Adhaura, Bhabhua-821116 (Bihar)	1992 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharma Bharti Khadigram, Khadigram, P.O. Jamui-811313	Chairman, Khadi Gramydog Sangh, Khadigram, Jamui-811313	1994 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, VPO Basaith, Chandpura, Madhubani-847102 (Bihar)	Chairman, S.K. Choudhary Edn. Trust, New Delhi	1994 N
Chhattisgarh (4)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Research Station, Sarkanda Farm, Bilaspur-495001	Vice-Chancellor, IGKVV, Raipur	1984 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sarguja	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Animal Husbandry Science, Gokulan, G.E. Road, Anjora, Durg-491001	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Via. Dimrapal, Jagdalpur, Bastar-494001	-do-	1992 S
Delhi (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ujwa, New Delhi	The Director, NHRDF, Janakpuri, New Delhi	1995 O
Goa (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex, Ela, Old Goa-403202	The Director, ICAR Complex, Ela, Old Goa-403202, Goa	1984 I
Gujarat (10)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Deesa, Banskantha-385535	Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat Agril. University, Ahmedabad (Guj.)	1976 S

1	2	3	4
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Hill Millet Research Station, Waghai, Dangs (Guj.)	-do-	1985 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Devgarh Baria, Dahod-389380	-do-	1976 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Devraj (Sojitra), Distt Kheda-387240	-do-	1985 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Randheja, Gandhinagar-383630	Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad	1977 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Ambeti Ashram, Valsad (Guj.)	-do-	1992 O
7	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bharauch	Chairman, Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Pune	1994 N
8	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti, Golagamadi, Golag Mandi, Vadodara (Guj.)	Chairman, Mangal Bharti Bahadurpur, Baroda-391125	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Samoda, Sidhpur, Mehsana-384130	Director, Saraswati Gram Vidyapeeth, Samoda, Mehsana	1992 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mundra, Kuchchh-370130	Chairman, Rural Agro Research & Dev. Society, Jhuhu, Bombay	1992 N
Haryana (12)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Seema Theater, Commercial Complex, Court Road, Panipat	Vice-Chancellor, H.A.U., Hissar (Haryana)	1993 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Peoda, Kaithal-132027	-do-	1992 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 2131, Urban Estate, Jind-126052 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Plot No. 82, Auto Market, Sadalpur, Hissar-125052 (Haryana)	-do-	1989 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 430/13, Urban Estate, Kurukshetra-132118 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 604, Sector-16A, Faridabad-121001 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 269-4, Model Town, Yamunanagar-135001	-do-	1992 S

1	2	3	4
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sector-14, House No. 449, Sonipat-131001 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, No.2, Rajendra Park, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Ambala (Haryana)	President, Society for Creation of Heaven on Earth, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi	1993 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NDRI, Karnal-132001 (Haryana)	Director, NDRI, Karnal-132001 (Haryana)	1976 I
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Bhagvat Bharati Asharam, Rampura, Rewari-123401 (Haryana)	Secretary, Bhagvat Bhakti Ashram, Rampura, Rewari-123401	1983 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sikohpur, Gurgaon-122001	Director, IARI, Pusa, New Delhi-110012	1983 I
Himachal Pradesh (8)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Research Station, Bajaura, Kullu-175125 (HP)	Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh Krishi, Vishwavidylaya, Palampur (HP)	1993 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sultanpur, Baloo, Chamba-176314 (HP)	-do-	1991 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rampura, Una-174303 (HP)	-do-	1991 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mandi (HP)	-do-	1993 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Dhaula Kuan, Sirmur-173001	-do-	1982 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bara, Hamirpur-177044 (HP)	-do-	1989 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharbo at Rekong Peo, Kinnaur (HP)	Vice-Chancellor, YSPUH&F, Solan (HP)	1995 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Petrol Pump, Rohru, Shimla	-do-	1995 S
Jammu & Kashmir (4)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Research St., R.S. Pura, Jammu-181102 (J&K)	Vice-Chancellor, S.K. University of Agril. Science & Tech. Jammu	1992 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Leh (J&K)	Vice-Chancellor, S.K. University of Agril. Science & Tech. Srinagar	1993 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malangpura, Anantnag	-do-	1983 S

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4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalibari, Kathua-184104 (J&K)	Secretary, Shiv Gramodyog Mandal, Kathua (J&K)	1993 N
Jharkhand (5)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O Jagannathpur, West Singhbhum-833203	Vice-Chancellor, Birsa Agril. University, Kanke, Ranchi-834006 (Bihar)	1983 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sujani, P.O Ghorlash, Deoghar-814152	General Secretary, Santhal Paharia Seva Mandal, Deoghar-814152 (Bihar)	1985 N
3.	Chief Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O Morabadi, Ranchi-834008	Secretary, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Morabadi, Ranchi	1977 N
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh-825301	Directoress, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh-825301	1984 N
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sindhri, Dhanbad-828122	Chairman, Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, New Delhi	1994 O
Karnataka (11)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Raichur (Karnataka)	Vice-Chancellor, University of Agril. Sciences, Dharwad	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hegari, Bellary (Karnataka)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanmatti, Distt. Dharwad, (Karnataka)	-do-	1977 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Res. Station, Janawada, Bidar, (Karnataka)	-do-	1985 S
5	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kandil, Hassan (Karnataka)	Vice-Chancellor, University of Agril. Sciences, Bangalore	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, Mudigere-577132	-do-	1985 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonikoppal-571213, Distt. Coorg (Karnataka)	The Director, HHR, 255, Upper Palace, Orchards, Bangalore-79	1976 I
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttoor, Mysore (Karnataka)	President, JSS, Rural Development Foundation, Mysore	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkabalapur, Kolar (Karnataka)	President, Karnataka Welfare Society, Chikabalapur, Kolar	1994 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tukanatti Gohak, Belgaum-591319 (Karnataka)	President, Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum	1994 N
11	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, Distt. Gadag	Chairman, K.H. Patil Agril. Sciences Foundation, Distt. Gadag-582205	1985 N

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Kerala (9)			
1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Pattambi-679306 (Kerala)	Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agril. University, Mannuithy, Thrissure-680651	1979 S
2	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sadanandapuram, Quillon (Kerala)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Ambalavayal, Wynad-673593 (Kerala)	-do-	1984 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kasargod-671124 (Kerala)	Director, CPCRI, Kasargod-671124	1991 I
5	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan, Vellad, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)	President, Mitraniketan, Vellanad-696543, Thiruvananthapuram	1993 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chakkupallam, Idukki (Kerala)	Persident, Bapooji Sewak Samaj, Chakkopallam, Idukki	1994 N
7	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathenamthitta (Kerala)	Chairman, Christian Agency for Rural Development, Thiruvalla, Pethennamthitta	1994 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CMFRI Res. Stn. Narkkal, Ernakulam-682505 (Kerala)	Director, CMFRI, Cochin	1976 I
9	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Peruvannamuzhi, Calicut-673012, Kozhikode (Kerala)	Director, Indian Spices Research Institute (Regional Centre), Calicut (Kerala)	1991 I
Lakshadweep (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Cilton Island (Lakshadweep)	Directorate of Agriculture, Union Terriroty of Lakshadweep and Monicoy Islands Kavaratti, Lakshadweep	1996 O
Madhya Pradesh (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Agril. Res. St., Chandagaon, Chhindwara-480001 (MP)	Vice-Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur	1983 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JNKVV Farm, Jhabua-457661 (MP)	-do-	1984 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Goviana Site, Post Box-7, Sidhi-486661 (MP)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Birhulia Farm, Shahdol	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, College of Agril., Warwadi Farm, East Nimar (Khandawa)	-do-	1994 S

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6	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Lalitpur Naka, Tikamgarh-472001 (MP)	-do-	1994 S
7	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Block Office Compound, Seoni (MP)	-do-	1994 S
8	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JNKVV Campus, Gwalior (MP)	-do-	1997 S
9	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kathi Bagh, Rajgarh (MP)	-do-	1994 S
10	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Post Aaraon, Guna (MP)	-do-	1994 S
11	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badagaon Block-Kornapur, P.O. Pala Balaghat-481115 (MP)	Vice Chancellor, IGKVV, Raipur	1992 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Joara, Kalukeda, Ratlam-457340	President, Kalukheda Shiksha Samiti, Ratlam	1994 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Malwa Mahila Samiti, P.O. Sirjon, Vidisha-464228 (MP)	President, Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti, 32, Niyamatpura, Shajanabad, Bhopal (MP)	1992 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jagdalpur, Bastar (MP)	Vice-Chancellor, IGKVV, Raipur	1976 S
15	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Majhgaon, Satna (MP)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
16	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhopal (MP)	The Director, CIAE (ICAR), Nambiagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal	1979 I
Maharashtra (23)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Selsura, Wardha (MS)	Vice-Chancellor, Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, (MS)	1976 S
2	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Paithan Road, Aurangabad (MS)	Vice-Chancellor, Marathwada Agril. University, Parbani-415725 (MS)	1983 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shirgaon, Ratnagiri (MS)	Vice-Chancellor, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Ratnagiri (MS)	1983 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Res. Station, Dhule-424004 (MS)	Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (MS)	1983 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Y.C. Maha Open University, Nasik-422005 (MS)	Vice-Chancellor, Y.C. Maharashtra Open Univ., Nasik (MS)	1994 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagyanagar, Parbani-431401 (MS)	President, Jeevan Jyoti Charitable Trust, Parbani (MS)	1994 N

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7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Talasadi, Kolhapur-416012 (MS)	President, D.Y. Patil Edn. Society, Talashande, Kolhapur	1994 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana-443402 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Edn. Society, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana-443402 (MS)	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ghatked, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Sadhna Trust, 57, Congress nagar, Amravati	1995 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Safalya Foundation, Madhuban Colony Camp, Amravati	1995 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, HIG Colony, Near ITI, Nanded (MS)	Chairman, J.N. Instt. of Edn. Sci. & Tech. Research, Nanded (MS)	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 51, Railway Lines, Solapur-413001 (MS)	Persident, Shabri Krishi Pratshtan, Solapur (MS)	1994 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karda, Risod, Akola-444106 (MS)	President, SUVIDE Foundation, Risod, Akola (MS)	1994 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Poip Adarsh Krishi, Sindhudurg-416622 (MS)	President, Poip Falaotpadan Sankar Samiti, Sidhudurg (MS)	1995 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gokhle Education Society, Kosbad Hill, Thane-401703 (MS)	Secreary Gokhle Edn. Society, BYK College of Commerce, Nasik (MS)	1976 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o. Satpura Vikas Mandal, Pal, Raver, Jalgaon-425508 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon-425508 (MS)	1984 N
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adarsh Colony, Village-Ambajogai, Distt. Beed-431517 (MS)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Res. Instt., Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalavade, Karad, Satara-415110	Chairman, Kalayani Gorakshan Trust, Koregaon Road, Pune (MS)	1992 N
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o. Agril. Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune-413115 (MS)	Chairman, Agril. Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune-413115 (MS)	1992 N
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Babhleshwar, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar-413736 (MS)	Chairman, Pravara Instt. of Res. & Edn. in Natural & Soc Sci. Parvarnagar, Ahmednagar	1992 N
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C-413, Vasant Dada Sahakari Sakhar, Karkhana, Sangli-416416 (MS)	President, Vasant Prakash Vikas Pratisthan, Sangli (MS)	1992 N
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Marathwada Sheti Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No.225, S.P. Road, Jalna-431203	Secretary, Marathwada Shethi Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 45, S.P. Road, Jalna-431203	1992 N

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23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. No. 225, Nagpur-440001 (MS)	The Director, Central Institute for Cotton Research, P.O. 225, Nagpur	1994 I
Manipur (1)			
1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Lamphelprt, Imphal-795004	The Director,ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani-793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Meghalaya (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Sansan Girri Bobasipara, Tura, West Garro Hills-794005	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani-793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Mizoram (2)			
1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, State Deptt. of Agriculrure, Hnahthial, Lunglei (Mizoram)	The Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Mizoram, Aizawal (Mizoram)	1995 O
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Farm Science Centre, Kolasib-796081 (Mizoram)	The Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Mizoram, Aizawal (Mizoram)	1976 O
Nagaland (1)			
1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Jharnapani, Medziphema	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani-793103 (Meghalaya)	1977 I
Orissa (12)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Res. Station, Scmiliguda, P.Box No. 10, Sunabeda-763002, Koraput (Orissa)	Vice-Chancellor, OUAT, Bhubneshwar (Orissa)	1982 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara (Orissa)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, Judia Farm, P.O. Keonjhar (Orissa)	-do-	1982 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Devog Via Singila, Beliapal, Balasore-756026	-do-	1983 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhanjanagar, At: Benakunda, P.O. Ganjam-768102	-do-	1985 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gambhirpalli, P.O. Larambha, Sambalpur-768102	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Udyagiri, Phulbani-762100	-do-	1982 S

1	2	3	4
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, NARP Campus, Bhowani Patna, Kalahandi	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhenkennal (Orissa)	The Director, Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttak	1994 I
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Angul (Orissa)	-do-	1994 I
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Cuttack-763006 (Orissa)	-do-	1992 I
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kausalayaganga, Dhauli, Bhubneshwar-751002 (Orissa)	The Director, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kauslyaganga, Dhauli, Bhubneshwar	1976 I
Pondicherry (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madur, Karaikal, Pondicherry	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Pondicherry, Chief Secretariate Bldg. Pondicherry	1974 O
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kusambapet, (Pondicherry)	Chief Secretary, Govt. of Pondicherry, Chief Secretariate Bldg., Pondicherry	1994 O
Punjab (10)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Res. Station, Faridkot-151203 (Punjab)	Vice-Chancellor, Punjab Agril. University, Ludhiana (Punjab)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hardochani Road, Old Gurunanak College Building, Gurudaspur	-do-	1982 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malwa Farm, G.T. Road, Firozpur-152001 (Punjab)	-do-	1988 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Kheti Bhawan, Dabawali Road, Bhatinda-151001 (Punjab)	-do-	1989 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahowal, Hoshiarpur-146105	-do-	1989 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No.22, Village Rauni, Patiala-147001 (Punjab)	-do-	1989 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sultanpur Road, Near New Grain Market, Kapurthala-144601	-do-	1989 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kheri, Sangrur (Punjab)	-do-	1993 S

1	2	3	4
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Langroya, Nawanashaher (Punjab)	-do-	1994 S
10	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Abohar (Punjab)	The Director, Central Instt. of Post Harvest Engg. & Tech., Ludhiana (Punjab)	1992 I
Rajasthan (31)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Teachers Colony, Gupteswar Road. Dausa - 303303 (Raj.)	Vice-Chancellor, Rajasthan Agril University, Bikaner - 334001	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, B-33, Man Nagar, Jhunjhunu (Raj.)	-do-	1989 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fodder Farm Village Beechwal, Bikaner - 334002 (Raj.)	-do-	1983 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Post Box No. 16, Swaimadhopur-322001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station, Tabiji Farm, NH 08, Ajmer-305001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Old City, Dhaulpur (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fatehpur, Sckhwati, Sikar-332301	-do-	1976 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Keshwana, Jalore-342001 (Raj.)	-do-	1985 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vill. Navgaon, Alwar (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kisan Vidyapeeth, Near Sarag Guest House, Kumher, Bharatpur-321001 (Raj.)	-do-	1988 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 46, Jaisalmer - 345001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sanjay Colony, Nagaur (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonera, Deepak Bhawan, Dabla Road, Kotputli-303108, Jaipur	-do-	1989 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Badat Mat, Sastri Colony, Dungarpur-314001 (Raj.)	Vice Chancellor, Agril University, Udaipur	1992 S

1	2	3	4
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borwat Agril Research Station, Banswara-327001 (Raj.)	-do-	1983 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Station Road, Anta Baran - 325202 (Raj.)	-do-	1994 S
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kolar Farm, Ambasweiji Gate, P.O. Palri, Sirohi-307001 (Raj.)	-do-	1989 S
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittorgarh-312001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borkhera Farm, Kota-324001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittarapura Road, Bundi (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talai P.Box 16, Jhalawar-326001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhoinda, Rajasmand-313342 (Raj.)	-do-	1994 S
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Res. Station, Amajia Farm, Gandhinagar, Bhilwara-311001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P. Tankadra, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	The Secretary, Pragati Trust, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	1992 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Tonk-304022 (Raj.)	The Secretary, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Banasthali, Tonk, (Raj.)	1992 O
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001 (Raj.)	The President, Vidya Bhawan Society, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001	1983 N
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sardar Shahar, Churu-311401 (Raj.)	The Registrar, Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardar Shahar, Churu	1992 N
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gayatri Shanti Pith, Barmer-344001 (Raj.)	The Secretary, Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer (Raj.)	1992 N
29.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	The President, Keshyanand Memorial Trust, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	1989 N
30	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur-342003 (Raj.)	The Director CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur-342003 (Raj.)	1983 I
31.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, CAZRI (ICAR), Pali-Marwar-304401 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 I

1	2	3	4
Sikkim (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Saramsa, Ranipool-737135, East Sikkim	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani-793103 (Meghalaya)	1982 I
Tamil Nadu (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Salem (TN)	Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agril. University, Coimbatore (TN)	1994 I
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station (TNAU), Vridhachalam, South Arcot-606001 (TN)	-do-	1985 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kumara Parumal Farm Science, Surugama, Trichy-639115 (TN)	-do-	1977 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kattupakkam-623203, Changi MGR Distt (TN)	-do-	1985 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kanatchipuram, via Thennai, Madurai-626520 (TN)	Chairman, Centre for Deve. & Communication Trust, Theni, Madurai-626520	1994 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor-643101, Nilgiri Distt. (TN)	Secretary, UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor-643101 Nilgiri Distt. (TN)	1983 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gandhigram Rural Instt., Gandhigram-624302, Dindigul Anna (TN)	The Secretary, Gandhigram Rural Instt., Gandhigram-624302, Dindigul Anna (TN)	1989 O
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kilneli village, Vembakkam Block, Thiruvannamalai, Sambuvarayar (TN)	President, Tamilnadu Board of Rural Deve. No. 13, Cresent Park Street, T. Nagar, Madras-500017	1991 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tenkosi, Nellai Kattamboman, Distt. Tirunelveli (TN)	Chairman, RVS Edn. Trust, Dindigul Anna (TN)	1994 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kundrakudi, PMT District (TN)	Vice-Chancellor, TN Uni. of Vety. & Animal Science, Madras-600051	1996 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharamapuri (TN)	President, TN Board of Rural Deve. T. Nagar, Madras-500012	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RVS Campus, Usilampatti, Thanjavur (TN)	President, Bhakva Memorial Trust, 596, A-1 & A-2, TNHB Colony, Periyar Nagar, Korathur, Madras-600080	1995 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Allikulam, Mundradajpu, P.O. Kariaptti, Kamarajar-626102 (TN)	Chairman, Meyer's Trust, Madurai (TN)	1995 N

1	2	3	4
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talamali Centre of MYRADA, Talawadi Block, Sathyamangalam Taluk, Periyar-638468 (TN)	Executive Director, MYRADA, Domlur Layout, Bangalore-560071	1991 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vegaikulam, Chidambarnar (TN)	Chairman SCAD Cherandevi, Tirunelvelli (TN)	1995 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Avinashillingam Rural Centre, Vivekanandapuram, Karamadai Block, Coimbatore (TN)	The Secretary, Sri Avinashilingam Institute of Higher Educational and Home Science, Coimbatore-641113 (TN)	1979 O
Tripura (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Divyodaya, Dibanandapali, Cenbr, Khowai Sub Division, West Tripura-799207	The General Secretary, Sri Ramkrishna Seva Kendra, 23, RN Mukherjee Road, Culcutta (WB)	1979 N
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH, Birchandra Manu, South Tripura	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road,, Barapani-793103 (Meghalaya)	1984 I
Uttar Pradesh (28)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bachat Bhavan, Collectorate Compound, Shahjahanpur	Vice-Chancellor, G.B. Pant Uni. of Agril. & Technology, Pantnagar (U.P.)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rice Research Station, Nagina, Bijnour-246762 (UP)	-do-	1992 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chandra Nagar, Saharanpur (UP)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badaun-243601 (UP)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 243, Vikas Bhawan, New Collectorate, Rajnagar, Ghaziabad-201001 (UP)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Zila Panchayat Bhawan, Rampur-244901 (UP)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalalpur, Muzzaffarnagar (UP)	-do-	1994 S
8.	Training Organiser, Swami Kalyan dev Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hastinapur, Meerut (UP)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pilibhit (UP)	-do-	1998 S

1	2	3	4
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Crop Research Station, Behraich (UP)	Vice-Chancellor, N.D. Uni. of Agril. & Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad (UP)	1983 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ballia, PO Sohoan, Ballia-277504	-do-	1984 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, PO Haldhapur, Mau-221705 (UP)	-do-	1989 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, S-4/50 A, Mahaveer Road, Ardally Bazar, Varanasi-221001 (UP)	-do-	1989 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banjaria Farm, P.O. Karya, Basti (UP)	-do-	1989 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station, Bharal, P.O. Bhojla, Jhansi (UP)	Vice-Chancellor, C.S. Azad Uni. of Agril. & Technology, Kanpur (UP)	1989 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dairy Farm, Vety. College, Mathura-281001 (UP)	-do-	1984 S
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dariapur Farm, P.O. Munsiganj, Raibareilly-229405 (UP)	-do-	1984 S
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tharion Farm, Allahabad, G.T. Road, Fatehpur (UP)	-do-	1989 S
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Central Dairy Farm, Aligarh (UP)	-do-	1992 S
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lucknow (UP)	Director, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow (UP)	1994 I
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur-228118 (UP)	Secretary, Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur-228118 (UP)	1976 N
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Etah - Tundala Road, Awagarh, Etah (UP)	Principal, Raja Balwant Singh College, Bichpuri, Agra (UP)	1982 O
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jai-Prabha, Gram Gopalgram, Khargu, Chandpur, Gandhi Park, Gonda-271001 (UP)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Instt., Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1989 N
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganiwan, Banda-210206 (UP)	-do-	1992 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Allahabad Agricultural Research Institute, Allahabad-211007 (UP)	The Director, Allahabad Agricultural Research Institute, Allahabad-211007 (UP)	1992 O

1	2	3	4
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sohna, Sidharthnagar-272193 (UP)	The Secretary, Leond Tel Area Deve. Society, Sohna, Sidharthnagar-272193 (UP)	1992 N
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barakachha, Mirzapur-231001 (UP)	Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-110005 (UP)	1984 O
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Izatnagar, Bareilly-243122 (UP)	The Director, Indian Vet. Research Instt., Izatnagar, Bareilly-243122 (UP)	1985 I
Uttaranchal (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Gulchora (Lohaghat) Pithoragarh	Vice-Chancellor, G.B. Pant Uni. of Agril. & Technology, Pantnagar (UP)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ranichauri, Tehri, Garwhal-249199	-do-	1983 S
West Bengal (9)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalimpong, Darjeeling-734301 (WB)	Vice-Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Harinaghata, Mohanpur, Nadia (WB)	1992 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Ramkrishan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24-Parganas (WB)	Chairman, Sri Ramkrishan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram, South 24 Parganas-743338	1979 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kapgri, Midnapore-721505 (WB)	President, Sewa Bharti, Kapgari, Midnapore-721505	1976 N
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Burdwan-713212	Chairman, Hindustan Fertilizer Corp. Ltd., New Delhi	1994 O
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Niketan, Birbhum-731236 (WB)	Vice Chancellor, Vishwa Bharti Shanti Niketan, Bolepur	1994 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O Sonamukti, Bankura-722207 (WB)	Executive Vice Chairman, WB Comprehensive Area Development Corporation, 6-A, Raja Subodh Mullick Square, Calcutta	1983 O
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vivekanand Nagar, Purulia-735219 (WB)	President, Kalyan P.O. Vivekanand Nagar, Purulia	1992 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Brackish Water Experimental Fish Farm, P.O. Kakdweep South Parganas-24 (WB)	Director, Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore-743101	1979 I
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramshai, Jalpaiguri-735219 (WB)	Vice-Chancellor, WBUA&F, Calcutta (WB)	1983 S

I - ICAR

S - SAUs

N - NGOs

O - Others, includes State Govt. Central/ State Public undertaking, Educational Institutions including Central Universities.

List of Krishi Vigyan Kendras under NGO

S.No.	Name & Address of KVK	Host Organisation	Est. Year
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Behind M.R.O. Office, Kotha, Madanpur, Mahboobnagar (AP)	The Executive Director, Youth for Action, 1-8 702/26/1, Padma Colony, Hyderabad-500044 (AP)	1992 N
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadipalli-508201, Nalgonda (AP)	Secretary, Aurobindo Institute of Rural Dev., Gaddipalli-508201 (AP)	1983 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RASS Vanasthali, Vill. - Karakanbadi, Chittoor - 517501 (AP)	Chairman, Rayalseema Seva Samiti, 9 Old Hazur Office Building, Tirupathi (AP)	1992 N
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jamikunta, Karimnagar - 505112 (AP)	Director, Gram Nava Nirman Samiti, H.No. 1-9-639/1, Vidyanagar, Hyderabad	1992 N
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Banaganpalli, Kurnool - 508201 (AP)	Secretary, Shri Hanumantharaya Educational & Charitable Society, Rendakanti Public School, Illuru, Kothapeate, Kurnool	1989 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam - 531005 (AP)	The Secretary, Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam - 531005 (AP)	1995 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Box No. 214, Zahirabad, Medak - 502220 (AP)	Chairman, Deccan Dev. Society, A-5, Meera Apartments, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad (AP)	1992 N
8.	Training Organiser, N.G. Ranga Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vinayashram, Kavur, Guntur (AP)	Chairman, Vinayashram Kavur, Guntur (AP)	1992 N
Bihar			
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sokhodeora, Nawada - 805106 (Bihar)	General Secretary, Gram Nirman Mandal Ashram, Sokhodera, Nawada-805106 (Bihar)	1979 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vanvasi Seva Kendra, P.O. Adhaura, Bhabua - 821116	President, Banvasi Seva Kendra, Adhaura, Bhabhua-821116 (Bihar)	1992 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharma Bharti Khadigram, Khadigram, P.O. Jamui-811313	Chairman, Khadi Gramydog Sangh, Khadigram, Jamui-811313	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, VPO Basaith, Chandpura, Madhubani-847102 (Bihar)	Chairman, S.K. Choudhary Edn. Trust, New Delhi	1994 N
Gujarat			
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bharauch	Chairman, Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Pune	1994 N

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14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti, Golagamadi, Golag Mandi, Vadodara (Guj.)	Chairman, Mangal Bharti Bahadurpur, Baroda-391125	1994 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Samoda, Sidhpur, Mehsana-384130	Director, Saraswati Gram Vidyapeeth, Samoda, Mehsana	1992 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mundra, Kuchchh-370130	Chairman, Rural Agro Research & Dev. Society, Jhuhu, Bombay	1992 N
Haryana			
17	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, No.2, Rajendra Park, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Ambala (Haryana)	President, Society for Creation of Heaven on Earth, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi	1993 S
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Bhagvat Bharati Asharam, Rampura, Rewari-123401 (Haryana)	Secretary, Bhagwat Bhakti Ashram, Rampura, Rewari	1983 N
Jammu & Kashmir			
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalibari, Kathua-184104 (J&K)	Secretary, Shiv Gramodyog Mandal, Kathua (J&K)	1993 N
Jharkhand			
20	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sujani, P.O. Ghorlash, Devgarh-814152	General Secretary, Santhal Paharia Seva Mandal, Deoghar-814152 (Bihar)	1985 N
21	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Morabadi, Ranchi-834008	Secretary, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Morabadi, Ranchi	1977 N
22	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh-825301	Directoress, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh-825301	1984 N
Karnataka			
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttoor, Mysore (Karnataka)	President, JSS, Rural Development Foundation, Mysore	1994 S
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkabalapur, Kolar (Karnataka)	President, Karnataka Welfare Society, Chikabalapur, Kolar	1994 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tukanatti Gohak, Belgaum-591319 (Karnataka)	President, Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum	1994 N
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hukoti, Distt. Gadag	Chairman, K.H. Patil Agril. Sciences Foundation, Distt. Gadag-582205	1985 N
Kerala			
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan, Vellaud, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)	President, Mitraniketan, Vellanad-696543, Thiruvananthapuram	1979 N

1	2	3	4
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chakkupallam, Idukki (Kerala)	Persident, Bapooji Sewak Samaj, Chakkopallam, Idukki	1994 N
29.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathenamthitta (Kerala)	Chairman, Christian Agency for Rural Development, Thiruvalla, Pethennamthitta	1994 N
Madhya Pradesh			
30.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Joara, Kalukeda, Ratlam-457340	President, Kalukheda Shiksha Samiti, Ratlam	1994 N
31.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Malwa Mahila Samiti, P.O. Sirjon, Vidisha-464228 (MP)	President, Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti, 32, Niyamatpura, Shajanabad, Bhopal (MP)	1992 N
32.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Majhgaon, Satna (MP)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
Maharashtra			
33.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagyanagar, Parbani-431401 (MS)	President, Jeevan Jyoti Charitable Trust, Parbani (MS)	1994 N
34.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Talasadi, Kolhapur-416012 (MS)	President, D.Y. Patil Edn. Society, Talashande, Kolhapur	1994 N
35.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana-443402 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Edn. Society, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana-443402 (MS)	1994 N
36.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ghatked, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Sadhna Trust, 57, Congress nagar, Amravati	1995 N
37.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Safalya Foundation, Madhuban Colony Camp, Amravati	1995 N
38.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, HIG Colony, Near ITI, Nanded (MS)	Chairman, J.N. Instt. of Edn. Sci. & Tech. Research, Nanded (MS)	1994 N
39.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 51, Railway Lines, Solapur-413001 (MS)	Persident, Shabari Krishi Pratshtan, Solapur (MS)	1994 N
40.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karda, Risod, Akola-444106 (MS)	President, SUVIDE Foundation, Risod, Akola (MS)	1994 N
41.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Poip Adarsh Krishi, Sindhudurg-416622 (MS)	President, Poip Falaotpadan Sankar Samiti, Sindhudurg (MS)	1995 N
42.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gokhle Education Society, Kosbad Hill, Thane-401703 (MS)	Secreary Gokhle Edn. Society, BYK College of Commerce, Nasik (MS)	1976 N
43.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o. Satpura Vikas Mandal, Pal, Raver, Jalgaon-425508 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon-425508 (MS)	1984 N

1	2	3	4
44.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adarsh Colony, Village-Ambajogai, Distt. Beed-431517 (MS)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Res. Instt., Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
45.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalavade, Karad, Satara-415110	Chairman, Kalayani Gorakshan Trust, Koregaon Road, Pune (MS)	1992 N
46.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o. Agril. Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune-413115 (MS)	Chairman, Agril. Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune-413115 (MS)	1992 N
47.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Babhleshwar, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar-4137336 (MS)	Chairman, Pravara Instt. of Res. & Edn. in Natural & Soc. Sci. Parvarnagar, Ahmednagar	1992 N
48.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C-413, Vasant Dada Sahakari Sakhar, Karkhana, Sangli-416416 (MS)	President, Vasant Prakash Vikas Prathisthan, Sangli (MS)	1992 N
49.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Marathwada Sheti Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No.225, S.P. Road, Jalna-431203	Secretary, Marathwada Shethi Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 45, S.P. Road, Jalna-431203	1992 N
Rajasthan			
50.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P. Tankadra, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	The Secretary, Pragati Trust, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	1992 N
51.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001 (Raj.)	The President, Vidya Bhawan Society, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001	1983 N
52.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sardar Shahar, Churu-311401 (Raj.)	The Registrar, Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardar Shahar, Churu	1992 N
53.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gayatri Shanti Pith, Barmer-344001 (Raj.)	The Secretary, Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer (Raj.)	1992 N
54.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	The President, Keshyanand Memorial Trust, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	1989 N
Tamil Nadu			
55.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri (TN)	President, TN Board of Rural Deve., T. Nagar, Madras-500012	1994 N
56.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tenkosi, Nellai Kattamboman, Distt. Tirunelveli (TN)	Chairman, RVS Edn. Trust, Dindigul Anna (TN)	1994 N
57.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kanatchipuram, via Thenni, Madurai-626520 (TN)	Chairman, Centre for Deve. & Communication Trust, Theni, Madurai-626520	1994 N
58.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kilneli Village, Vembakkam Block, Thiruvannamalai, Sambuvarayar (TN)	President, Tamil Nadu Board of Rural Deve. No. 13, Crescent Park Street, T. Nagar, Madras-500017	1991 N

1	2	3	4
59	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor-643101, Nilgiris Distt. (TN)	Secretary, UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor-643101, Nilgiris Distt. (TN)	1983 N
60	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RVS Campus, Usilampatti, Tanjavur (TN)	President, Bhakva Memorial Trust, 596, A-1, A-2, TNHB Colony, Periyar Nagar, Korathur, Madras-600080	1995 N
61	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Allikulam, Mundradajpu, P.O. Kariapatti, Kamarajar-626102 (TN)	Chairman, Meyer's Trust, Madurai (TN)	1995 N
62	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talamali Centre of MYRADA, Talawadi Block, Sathyamangalam Taluk, Periyar-638468 (TN)	Executive Director, MYRADA, Domlur Layout, Bangalore-560071	1991 N
63	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vegaikulam, Chidambarnar (TN)	Chairman, SCAD Cherandevi, Tirunelvelli (TN)	1995 N
Tripura			
64.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Divyodaya, Dibanandapali, Cenbr, Khowai Sub Division, West Tripura-799207	The General Secretary, Sri Ramkrishna Seva Kendra, 23 RN Mukherjee Road, Culcutta (WB)	1979 N
Uttar Pradesh			
65.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur-228118 (UP)	Secretary, Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur-228118 (UP)	1976 N
66.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jai-Prabha, Gram Gopalgram, Khargu, Chandpur, Gandhi Park, Gonda-271001 (UP)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Instt., Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1989 N
67.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganiwan, Banda-210206 (UP)	-do-	1992 N
68	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sohna, Sidharthnagar-272193 (UP)	The Secretary, Leond Tel Area Deve, Society, Sohna, Sidharthnagar-272193 (UP)	1992 N
West Bengal			
69.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Ramkrishan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24 Parganas (WB)	Chairman, Sri Ramkrishan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram, South 24 Parganas-743338	1979 N
70.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kapgri, Midnapore-721505 (WB)	President, Sewa Bharti, Kapgari, Midnapore-721505	1976 N
71.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vivekanand Nagar, Purulia-735219 (WB)	President, Kalyan P.O. Vivekanand Nagar, Purulia	1992 N

[Translation]

Filling up of Posts of SC, ST and OBC

2134. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fruits and vegetable plants of Mother Dairy functioning in Delhi, location-wise;

(b) the number of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) alongwith other employees working therein, category-wise and location-wise;

(c) the extent to which fixed norms of reservation are being followed in these plants by the Government; and

(d) the manner in which reserved posts of SC, ST and OBC people are proposed to be filled by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Fruit and Vegetable Unit of Mother Dairy Foods Processing Ltd. is located at Mangolpuri Industrial Area, Phase-1 Delhi.

(b) Details of employees belonging to Scheduled Caste (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other backward Classes (OBCs) category-wise, are as under:-

Category	SC	ST	OBC	Total employees
A	-	01	-	69
B	02	-	02	169
C	03	01	01	53
D	40	02	13	245

(c) The reservation norms prescribed by the Government are being followed depending upon the number of vacancies being filled, response of the candidates from reserved categories against advertisement and urgency of the requirement.

(d) Efforts are made to give representation to the reserved categories as and when vacancies arise and filled up in future by giving wide publicity of the vacancies through news paper advertisement, notifying the vacancies to employment exchange, etc.

[English]

Implementation of Central Minikit Programme

2135. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have supplied fodder seeds in the form of minikits to Karnataka from different sources both for Kharif and Rabi seasons to be distributed to the farmers free of cost;

(b) if so, the number of minikits supplied to the State during 2001-2002 for raising fodder demonstration plots in the fields by farmers; and

(c) the number of such minikits to be supplied to the State during 2002-03?

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

(b) and (c) Government of Karnataka was allotted the following numbers of fodder minikits during 2001-02 and 2002-03.

2001-02			2002-03		
Rabi	Kharif	Total	Rabi	Kharif	Total
5,151	10,000	15,151	10,830	22,000	32,830

Discovery of Ancient Site by ASI

2136. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) names of the monuments in the Moradabad and Bareilly division under ASI;

(b) whether Excavations conducted at Madarpur in Moradabad District of Uttar Pradesh have unearthed an archaeological site dating to 2nd century B.C.;

(c) steps taken for preservation of the site and the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(d) steps proposed to be taken to further explore to excavate the area?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) A list of Centrally protected monuments in Moradabad and Bareilly division is enclosed as statement.

(b) The excavation conducted in January, 2000 revealed findings datable to 2nd millennium B.C.

(c) and (d) Steps have been taken to conserve the site. An amount of Rs.1,84,093/- has been incurred so far. Further steps have been initiated to explore adjacent areas to assess its archaeological potentiality.

Statement

(a) Moradabad Division

S.No.	Locality	Name of the Centrally Protected Monument/Site
1	2	3
(i)	**Moradabad District:**	
1.	Alipur, Tehsil Chandausi	Amarpati Khera
2.	Alipur, Tehsil Chandausi	Chandesvara Khera
3.	Berni, Tehsil Chandausi	Khera or Mound reputed to be the ruin or palace or Raja Vena
4.	Bherabharatpur, Tehsil Amorha	Large mound, the site of an ancient temple.
5.	Firozpur, Tehsil Sambhal	Old Fort and its relics
6.	Gumthal Khera	Ancient Mound
7.	Karvar, Tehsil Bilari	Large Mound
8.	Sambhal, Tehsil Sambhal	Jami Masjid
9.	Sarthal Khera, Tehsil Chandauri	Mound
10.	Sondhan Muharnrnadpur, Tehsil Sambhal	Gateway of Karwan Sarai
11.	Sondhan Muhamrnadpur, Tehsil Sambhal	Mosque of Karwan Sarai
(ii)	**Jyotibha Phule Nagar District:**	
1.	Amroha, Tehsil Amroha	Well or Baoli known as Bah-ka- Kuan
2.	Azampur, Tehsil Hasanpur	Talib Khan's tomb
3.	Azampur, Tehsil Hasanpur	Tomb of Abdul Ghafur Shah
4.	Azampur, Tehsil Hasanpur	Tomb of the grand son of Abdul Ghafur Shah and Mosque.
(iii)	**Bijnor District:**	
1.	Chandanpura, Tehsil Najibabad	Mordhaj also known Munawar Jar with lofty mound
2.	Chandpur Tehsil Chandpur	Fort
3.	Chandpur Tehsil Chandpur	Mosque
4.	Daranagar, Tehsil Bijnor	Old British Cemetery

1	2	3
5.	Daultabad, Tehsil Chandpur	Ancient Site
6.	Jahanabad, Tehsil Bijnor	Tomb of Nawab Shujat Khan
7.	Mandawar, Tehsil Mandawar	Jami Masjid
8.	Mandawar, Tehsil Mandawar	Well
9.	Nagina, Tehsil Nagina	Old Pathan Fort
10.	Najibabad, Tehsil Najibabad	Cemetery of Nawab Najib-ud-Daula
11.	Najibabad, Tehsil Najibabad	Pathargarh
12.	Najibabad, Tehsil Najibabad	Portion of the old Palace
13.	Najibabad, Tehsil Najibabad	Tomb of Nawab Najib-ud-Daula
14.	Tin Tehsil Bijnor	Mound
(b)	**Bareilly Division**	
(i)	**Bareilly District:**	
1.	Aonla, Tehsil Aonla	Begum's Masjid or three lofty domes
2.	Bareilly, Bakar Ganj, Tehsil Bareilly	Tomb of Hafiz-ul-Mulk Rahmet Khan, the Rohilla Chief
3.	Bareilly, Shah Dana, Tehsil Bareilly	Tomb of Hermit Shah Dana
4.	Fateh Ganj	Large obelisk of red sandston
5.	Pachomi or Wahidpur Pachaumi, Tehsil Faridpur	Several ancient ruined mound in which Indo Scythian coins are found
6.	Ramnagar, Alampur Kot, Jagannathpure	Ancient Site
7.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Fort
8.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Mound Called Chikatia Khera
9.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Mound to the south of the tans known as of the Gandhan Sagar and Adisagar
10.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Small hillock called Katari Khera or Kottari Khera
11.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Stupa mound
12.	Ramnagar, Tehsil Aonla	Two Buddist mounds close to the Konwaru Tal
13.	Rehtoia, Tehsil Aonla	Site near Aonla railway station
(ii)	**Budaun District:**	
1.	Budaun, Tehsil Budaun	Dargah of Imadul Mulk alias Pisan Hari-ka-Gumbuz dated A.H.896.
2.	Budaun, Tehsil Budaun	Jami Masjid
3.	Budaun, Tehsil Budaun	Tomb, Mohalla Behrampur, Tomb of Ikhlas Khan
4.	Budaun, Tehsil Budaun	Tomb of Makhduman Jahan, the mother of Alaudin Alam.
(iii)	**Pilibhit District:**	
1.	Pilibhit, Tehsil Pilibhit	Jami Masjid

Ban on Diesel run Vehicles

2137. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Diesel fumes may cause cancer: US report" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated September 5, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to ban plying of trucks/buses on diesel in the capital to protect the environment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to the report of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), exposure to diesel exhaust is likely to cause carcinogenic effects. However, the USEPA has also observed that the findings are subject to considerable uncertainties and should not be viewed as a definitive quantitative characterisation of risk.

(c) and (d) As per the Supreme Court directions, all the city diesel buses plying in capital have to be converted to CNG mode and inter-state trucks not destined to the capital are not allowed to ply within the city limit. Plying of goods vehicles during day time is also banned.

Open Sky Policy

2138. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Open Sky Policy;

(b) whether there are differences in the opinion between the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Tourism over the issue; and

(c) the reservation expressed by the Ministry of Tourism regarding Open Skies between December, 2002 to March, 2003 on a code sharing basis with Air India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) To take care of the peak season rush, the Government have issued instructions for operation of extra section flights by the designated carriers from US/West Europe from 1st December, 2002 to 31st March, 2003 subject to commercial agreement with Air India. The Ministry of Tourism are of the view that the commercial agreement with Air India may not yield the desired results and will not enable business and leisure tourists to fly into India during the peak tourist season. As our unilateral decision to allow operation of extra section flights outside the bilateral agreements during the period will be beneficial to the US/European carriers it has been considered necessary to put the commercial agreement clause.

[Translation]

Animal Research Centres

2139. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scarcity of Animal Research centres in the country and the existing centres are not functioning actively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the breeds developed in these centres during the last three years; and

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

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

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

(c) and (d) Although, no new breed has been developed in the last three years, these are at various stages of development and therefore it is difficult to apportion expenditure.

[English]

Anti-Sea Erosion Schemes in Maharashtra

2140. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments including Maharashtra has submitted any plan to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for financial assistance and clearance to carryout anti-sea erosion works in the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) A proposal amounting to Rs.193.80 crore received from the Government of Maharashtra alongwith the proposals received from the States of Karnataka, West Bengal and Union Territory of Pondicherry for construction of anti sea erosion works, which have been included under Phase-I of the National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP), are under examination in Central Water Commission in consultation with Central Water & Power Research Station, Pune. The proposals from other maritime States/UTs which includes Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Orissa and Tamil Nadu, which are proposed to be included in Phase-II of the project, are under different stages of examination in Central Water Commission.

The proposals for taking up critical anti sea erosion works for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme received from the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa and Pondicherry are also under examination in Central Water Commission.

Promotion of Tourism

2141. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Tourism Industry is one of the major source of revenue and plan to regenerate tourism as a viable activity and a revenue earner for both public and private sectors;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to identify more tourist spots in the country and promote them abroad through their tourist offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) According to a World Tourism Organisation Report, tourism is one of the five top export categories for 83 percent of the countries and the main source of foreign currency for at least 38 percent of them. International tourism receipts and international fare receipts account for roughly 8 percent of the total export earnings on goods and services world wide and is the highest among all international trade categories.

As far as India is concerned, a new Tourism Policy has been formulated which broadly aims to position tourism as a major engine of economic growth and to harness the direct and multiplier effects of tourism for employment generation and economic development.

(c) and (d) During the 10th Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism proposes to identify six tourism circuits and one Destination in each State/UT in the country annually and develop the facilities in these circuits/sites. During the current year following six circuits have been identified for development in consultation with the State Governments:

(i) Buddhist Circuit: Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda-Varanasi.

(ii) Himalayan Circuit:

Route I - Chandigarh-Bilaspur-Kullu-Manali-Rohtang La-Key Long-Sarchu-Upshi-Leh.

Route II - Shimla-Sangla-Kaza-Chatru-Keylong-Sarchu- Yashi-Leh.

(iii) Central Circuit- (Heritage, Nature & Wildlife Circuit): Gwalior-Shivpuri-Chanderi-Orcha-Khajuraho-Jhansi-Bhopal-Sanchi and surrounding Buddhist areas–Bhimbetka-Panchamari-Kanha Jabalpur (Bhedaghat).

(iv) Western Circuit - (Konkan Riviera Circuit): Bombay-Alibagh (Mandva) - Muradjanjira-Ganapatipule-Vijaydurg-Mithibad-Kunkeshwar-Motchetmad-Sindhudurg-Tarkarli-Shiroda-Savantwadi-Amboli-Goa- Coastal Karnataka-Bekal.

(v) Southern Circuit - (Backwater and Beach Circuit): Cochin-Kumarakom-(Backwater) - Kottayam-Quilon-Trivandrum (Kovalam)

(vi) Eco-Tourism Circuit: Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga - Tezpur-Bhalakpung-Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh) - Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima

In addition to the above, development of tourism 'Hubs' has also been initiated in which elements of culture, tourism, clean civic life, efficient and effective management and healthy environment are synthesised.

Eco-Development Schemes

2142. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is a demand to develop Eco-

Development Schemes for development of different sanctuaries as well as protection of human's interests residing in and around the sanctuary areas in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details indicating the steps taken to suggest or develop Eco-Development Schemes for the purpose State-wise; and

(c) the funds made available for the purpose during the last two years and current year as well, sanctuary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Eco-development is an integrated component of Central Sector Schemes that are implemented throughout the country including Andhra Pradesh, for insitu conservation of wildlife. The component provides for mitigating the mutual impact of people and wild animals arising out of man-animal interface in and around National Parks and, Sanctuaries. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for taking up activities under Eco-development based on their proposals and availability of funds. Steps have been taken to constitute Eco-development Committees for planning and execution of Eco-development activities. Details of the funds provided to the States for taking up Eco-development activities, during the last two years and current year upto 25-11-2002, in National Parks and Sanctuaries are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Amount in Lakhs

				2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2		3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	i)	Kinnersani	-	-	1.50
		ii)	Mahavir Haseena Vansathli	-	8.00	1.10
		iii)	Manjira	-	5.30	0.40
		iv)	Kawal	-	4.00	3.00
		v)	Pranahita	-	4.30	0.92
		vi)	Nellapattu	-	4.00	1.80
		vii)	Nagarjuna Sagar	25.00 8.548	23.50	-
		viii)	Papi Konda	-	3.995	-
		ix)	Sri Venkateshwara	-	4.00	-
		x)	Krishna	-	2.00	-
		xi)	Pulicat	-	6.65	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	i)	D-Ering	3.13	4.031	-
		ii)	Mouling	1.50	1.60	0.40
		iii)	Pakhui	12.00	4.09	-
		iv)	Itanagar	3.35	10.00	-
		v)	Kamlang	1.60	-	-
		vi)	Mehao	1.80	4.00	0.30
		vii)	Namdapha TR	-	4.484 5.248	-

1	2	3		4	5	6
	Arunachal Pradesh	viii)	Tale	1.95	4.70	9.70
		ix)	Eagle Nest	1.00	5.00	-
		x)	Sessa Orchid	1.00	-	-
		xi)	Dibang	4.50	2.00	-
3.	Assam	i)	Dibru-Saikhowa	2.85	-	-
		ii)	Garampani	1.45	-	-
		iii)	Pobitara	5.25	7.50	-
		iv)	Orang	5.60	4.50	-
		v)	Gibbon	3.66	4.00	-
		vi)	Nameri	3.50	11.05	22.30
		vii)	Chakrasila	2.60	-	-
		viii)	Barnadi	3.70	2.50	-
		ix)	Sunairupa	4.65	-	-
		x)	Laokhowa	4.10	4.50	-
		xi)	Panidhing	2.80	-	-
		xii)	Burachapri	5.35	2.60	-
		xiii)	Kaziranga	-	2.16	-
		xiv)	East Karbi Anglong	-	5.00	-
		xv)	Padumani Bharjan	-	-	1.00
4.	Bihar	i)	Dalma	2.99	-	-
		ii)	Gautam Buddha	8.00	-	-
		iii)	Valmiki TR	18.00	-	-
		iv)	Vikramshilla	-	7.00	-
		v)	Bhimbandh	-	10.70	-
		vi)	Kaimur	-	16.16	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	i)	Pamed	-	10.00	-
		ii)	Bhalramgarh	-	6.70	-
		iii)	Gurughasi	-	8.00	-
		iv)	Tomarpingla	-	-	6.10
		v)	Udanti	-	-	0.20
		vi)	Barnwapara	-	-	1.00
		vii)	Gomarda	-	-	1.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	i)	Chail	13.00	10.00	-
		ii)	Naina Devi	12.00	5.00	-

1	2		3	4	5	6
	Himachal Pradesh	iii)	Bandli	15.00	19.45	-
		iv)	Shikaridevi	10.00	5.27	-
		v)	Kibber	4.00	18.00	-
		vi)	Pinvalley	8.00	13.55	-
		vii)	Kais	4.00	3.45	-
		viii)	Churdhar	-	9.95	-
		ix)	Talra	-	4.90	-
		x)	Manali	-	3.24	-
		xi)	Rupi Bhaba	-	5.00	-
		xii)	Nargu	-	12.136	-
		xiii)	Khokan	-	2.74	-
		xiv)	Majathal	-	5.30	-
		xv)	Tirthan	-	6.73	-
		xvi)	Sainj	-	6.63	-
7.	Jharkhand	i)	Dalma	-	7.51	-
		ii)	Mahuadanar	-	5.05	-
8.	Karnataka	i)	Bhadra TR	12.00	31.50	-
		ii)	Bandipur TR	30.00 20.60	25.00	--
		iii)	Cauvery WLS	12.00 6.00	25.00	-
		iv)	Shettihelli WLS	10.00	13.82	1.625
		v)	Chamarajanagar	12.50	-	-
		vi)	Daroji	12.50	17.70	1.386
		vii)	Bannerghatta	40.00	50.00	-
		viii)	Dandeli	4.22	18.00	5.90
		ix)	Talacauvery	2.10	-	-
		x)	Pushpagiri	2.85	-	-
		xi)	Bhramagiri	5.75	-	-
		xii)	Anshi NP	20.00	28.82	11.45
		xiii)	Ranebennur	18.50	17.20	1.82
		xiv)	Ghatprabha	-	23.00	-
		xv)	Gudavi	-	11.00	-
		xvi)	Sharavati	-	15.50	1.125
		xvii)	Arabithittu	-	9.65	0.90

1	2	3		4	5	6
	Karnataka	xviii)	Mulkote	-	14.65	1.80
		xix	Attiveri	-	15.00	2.22
		xx)	BRT	-	0.96 11.04 18.00	3.50
9.	Kerala	i)	Parambikulam	10.00 6.35	10.00	-
		ii)	Thattekkad	10.80	12.90	-
		iii)	Idukki	17.42	2.28	-
		iv)	Peppara	15.60	-	1.75
		v)	Shendurney	7.93	-	0.50
		vi)	Arlam	12.52	-	-
		vii)	Neyyar	12.00 6.189	10.00 13.50	- -
		viii)	Silent Valley	10.00 9.60	10.00 14.32	-
		ix)	Wayanad	15.00 5.030	7.00 7.40	1.00
		x)	Peechi-vazhani	15.00	7.00 7.00	0.50
		xi)	Parambikulam	-	10.00 21.90	-
		xii)	Eravikulam	-	10.00 4.97	8.20
10.	Madhya Pradesh	i)	Kanha TR	50.00	40.00 31.62	40.00
		ii)	Kunopalpur	20.00	30.00 10.00	-
		iii)	Bandhavgarh TR	25.00	8.00 3.65	-
		iv)	Achankmar	9.50	-	-
		v)	Indravati TR	13.30	-	-
		vi)	Panna Tiger Reserve	8.73	5.00 6.65 5.00	23.35
		vii)	Madhav	-	3.414	3.40
		viii)	Kerara	-	1.64	-
		ix)	Ratapani	-	40.00	-
		x)	Neoradehi	-	40.00	1.00
		xi)	Kenghariyal	-	7.00	-

1	2	3		4	5	6
11.	Maharashtra	i)	Tadoba Andheri TR	5.00	8.00	-
		ii)	Melghat TR	15.00	15.00	72.50
		iii)	Pench TR	7.00	14.50 8.90	-
		iv)	Gautala Autramghat	-	-	0.90
		v)	Yawal	-	-	0.15
		vi)	Chandoli	-	-	0.05
		vii)	Nawegaon	-	-	1.00
		viii)	Radhanagari	-	-	0.20
		ix)	Narnala	-	-	0.50
		x)	Tansa	-	-	0.40
12.	Manipur	i)	Keibul Lamjao	8.675	-	7.60
		ii)	Yangoupokpi Lakchao	12.77	9.15	10.33
13.	Meghalaya	i)	Nokrek NP	10.00	-	8.47
		ii)	Balphakram NP	7.68	10.666	1.20
		iii)	Nonghkyllem	3.84	6.44	1.95
14.	Mizoram	i)	Dampa TR	10.00 7.10	15.00 6.78 35.00	32.66
		ii)	Lengteng	7.00 6.80 4.70	20.00 8.25	-
		iii)	Ngenpui	12.20	10.00 24.85	24.00
		iv)	Khawnglung	10.00 8.00 2.40	15.00 6.15	8.80
		v)	Murlen	10.00 4.90	15.00 6.65	12.05
		vi)	Phawngpui	10.00	18.70 12.20	26.05
		vii)	Tawi	12.00 7.70 5.25	20.00 13.25	20.10
		viii)	Thorangtalang	-	-	7.80
15.	Nagaland	i)	Fakim	10.25	2.40	-
		ii)	Intaki	8.00	8.05	-
		iii)	Puliebadze	5.00	4.55	-
		iv)	Rangapahar	-	13.45	11.70

1	2		3	4	5	6
16.	Orissa	i)	Similipal TR	35.00	10.00	19.25
		ii)	Bittarkanika	10.96	-	6.00
		iii)	Sunabeda	10.20	10.00	4.50
		iv)	Gahirmatha	-	6.00	2.00
		v)	Chandaka Dampara	-	7.00	4.00
		vi)	Chilka	-	9.60	2.25
		vii)	Debrigarh	-	-	6.00
		viii)	Satkosia	-	-	2.375
17.	Punjab	i)	Bir Motibagh	-	2.00	-
		ii)	Bir Aishwanes	-	7.00	-
		iii)	Harike	-	3.272	-
18.	Rajasthan	i)	Sariska	-	30.00 28.20	47.60
		ii)	Bharatpur (Keoladeo)	-	22.00	-
		iii)	Mt. Abu	-	-	0.25
		iv)	Pjulwari Ki Nal	-	-	2.00
		v)	Darrah	-	-	0.125
19.	Sikkim	i)	Singba Rhododendron	7.05	8.85	1.20
		ii)	Maenam	5.60	-	11.00
		iii)	Kyongnosla	8.95	2.50	3.32
		iv)	Fambonglho	8.00	6.875	6.90
		v)	Barsey Rododendron	-	8.00	17.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	i)	Grizled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary	6.30	-	1.00
		ii)	Konthankulan	-	6.38	-
		iii)	Indira Gandhi NP	-	-	4.30
		iv)	Point Calimere	-	-	0 60
		v)	Pulicat	-	-	2.00
		vi)	Karikili	-	-	2.00
		vii)	Vedanthangal	-	-	3.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	i)	Dudhwa TR	15.00	10.90 14.165	12.75
		ii)	Chandraprabha	5.68	11.15	6.00
		iii)	Bakhira	11.90	6.90	-
		iv)	Sohagibarwa	10.00	-	6.04

1	2	3		4	5	6
	Uttar Pradesh	v)	Binog Mountain	12.00	-	-
		vi)	Rajaji N P	13.50	-	-
		vii)	Sonanadi WLS	10.00	8.00	-
		viii)	Ranipur	2.00 10.00	10.00	2.20
		ix)	Kaimur	20.00	8.875	7.80
		x)	Vijayasagar	3.66	6.80	5.78
		xi)	Sohelva	-	10.00	-
		xii)	Mahavir Swami	-	6.00 2.00	3.45
		xiii)	Parvati Bird Sanctuary	-	8.00	-
		xiv)	Katarniaghat	-	16.20	-
		xv)	Nawabgunj	-	-	1.35
		xvi)	Samapur	-	-	3.80
		xvii)	Sur Sarovar	-	-	2.425
		xviii	National Chambal	-	-	1.20
22.	Uttaranchal	i)	Corbett TR	-	15.00	54.50
		ii)	Rajaji N P	-	20.00 30.00	-
		iii)	Govind Pashu Vihar	-	7.00	-
		iv)	Binog Mountain	-	10.00	-
23.	West Bengal	i)	Sundarban TR	30.00 18.00	25.00 -	- 60.50
		ii)	Jaldapara	25.00	14.016 9.05	18.20
		iii)	Senchal	15.00	8.00 4.68	17.275
		iv)	Mahananda	25.00	9.62 9.30	13.80
		v)	Garumara	25.00	14.977 11.23	21.575
		vi)	Singalila	15.00	-	9.50
		vii)	Neora Valley	-	6.08 5.00	6.70
		viii)	Lothian	-	5.00	-
24.	Tripura	i)	Trishna Roa Sepahijala	20.00	23.346	20.85 (Trishna)
		ii)	Gumti	-	10.00	-

Cities facing Ecological Disaster

2143. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the cities in the country which are facing ecological disaster;

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

(c) the action initiated to maintain ecological balance in those cities?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Considering the nature and extent of pollution, 24 problem areas have been identified in different parts of the country. A State-wise list of these areas is enclosed.

(c) Action plans for improvement of environment have been prepared and are in various stages of implementation.

Statement

S.No.	Name of City	Survey conducted	Status of Action Plan
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Patancheru-Bollaram	Yes	Under Implementation
2.	Vishakhapatnam	Yes	Under Implementation
Assam			
3.	Digboi	Yes	Under Implementation
Delhi			
4.	Najafgarh Drain Basin	Yes	Under Implementation
Gujarat			
5.	Ankleshwar	Yes	Under Implementation
6.	Vapi	Yes	Under Implementation
Himachal Pradesh			
7.	Kala-Amb	Yes	Under Implementation
8.	Parwanoo	Yes	Under Implementation
Jharkhand			
9.	Dhanbad	Yes	Under Implementation
Karnataka			
10.	Bhadravati	Yes	Under Implementation
Kerala			
11.	Greater Cochin	Yes	Under Implementation
Maharashtra			
12.	Chembur	Yes	Under Implementation

1	2	3	4
13.	Tarapur	Yes	Under Implementation
Madhya Pradesh			
14.	Korba	Yes	Under Implementation
15.	Nagda-Ratlam	Yes	Under Implementation
Orissa			
16.	Talcher	Yes	Under Implementation
Punjab			
17.	Govindgarh	Yes	Under Implementation
Rajasthan			
18.	Jodhpur	Yes	Under Implementation
19.	Pan	Yes	Under Implementation
Tamil Nadu			
20.	Manali	Yes	Under Implementation
21.	North Arcot	Yes	Under Implementation
West Bengal			
22.	Durgapur	Yes	Under Implementation
23.	Howrah	Yes	Under Implementation
Uttar Pradesh			
24.	Singrauli	Yes	Under Implementation

CGIT-cum-Labour Courts

2144. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has not set up new CGIT-cum-Labour Courts during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether various cases under industrial disputes and labour courts are pending for disposal in the absence of the same; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the disposal of the cases at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour has set up 5 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-labour Courts during the 9th Five Year Plan period.

(c) and (d) The pendency of industrial disputes depends on many factors other than number of Courts. There are at present 17 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts functioning in different parts of the country. However, the Government is taking appropriate steps from time to time to reduce pendency in the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts. Proposal to set up five more Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts has also been approved.

[Translation]

Funds for Development of Fisheries in U.P.

2145. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated funds

to Uttar Pradesh for the development of fisheries during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the increase in fishery production as a result thereof during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have released funds to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for development of fisheries under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Development of Freshwater Aquaculture' and pilot projects on Water-logged Areas, Utilization of Saline Soils and Inland Capture Fisheries. During the last three years (1999-2002), the State Government has been provided Rs.907.36 lakh as central share.

(c) The fish production in the State of Uttar Pradesh has increased from 1.93 lakh tonnes in 1999-2000 to 2.25 lakh tonnes in 2001-02.

Engaged Agricultural Scientists

2146. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of scientists engaged in the field of agriculture and the total amount spent thereon during the last two years;

(b) the details of inventions/discoveries made by them during the said period; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The total number of scientists engaged in the field of agriculture is 5324. Besides their salaries, the total amount spent on research was approximately Rs. 549 and Rs. 684 crores during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02, respectively.

(b) Salient achievements are enclosed as statement.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Salient Achievements

2000-2001

More than 135 high yielding and disease resistant varieties/hybrids of various field and horticultural crops were released for various agro-ecoregions and production systems of the country. This was supported by the generation of the appropriate agro-techniques including more remunerative cropping systems having economic viability in different agro-ecoregions. A total of 2,413 tonnes of breeder seed was also produced, which included, about 55 tonnes of vegetable seed. More emphasis was given on the development of farm machinery and post-harvest technology, and on-farm and off-farm value-addition, processing and storage. Significant achievements included development and evaluation of farm equipment - till plant machine; seed-cum-fertilizer drill; lowland rice drum seeder; pneumatic seed planter; sugarcane sett-cutter planter; potato planter; mechanical vegetable transplanters; aeroblast sprayer; sprayer attachment for coconut and arecanut crops; boom sprayer; pigeonpea and sunflower threshers; vegetable washing machine and sugarcane trash shredder.

In the livestock and poultry improvement and management, livestock census databank was integrated with information system on Animal Genetic Resources of India and made available on CD medium, a data information system on the feed and animal resources of India was developed, and efficient techniques for micro-satellite DNA markers monoclonal antibody kits, diet supplements and semen preservation were developed. In the fish improvement and management, Indian catfish was successfully crossbred with African catfish, besides development of various fish production and processing techniques.

Establishment of 40 Agricultural Technology Information Centres, remandating of 53 Zonal Research Stations to function as Krishi Vigyan Kendras and expansion of Institution village Linkage Programme (IVLP) have been Council's priorities for strengthening transfer of technology. The capacity of different State Agricultural Universities was increased through the establishment of new branches and with the improvement upon the existing infrastructure. The Rural Agricultural Work Experience (RAWE) was also introduced in the agricultural curriculum.

2001-2002

More than 84 high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties/hybrids of various field crops, and 78 varieties/hybrids of horticultural crops including fruits, vegetables and

floriculture, were released for various agro-ecoregions and production systems of the country. This was supported by the generation of the appropriate agro-techniques. Promising major crop-based cropping systems, having economic viability in different agro-ecoregions, have been evolved, keeping in view the resource availability and its efficient utilization. Under plant genetic resources, 16,597 accessions comprising cereals, millets, minor millets, psuedocereals, pulses, oilseeds, fibres, vegetables, fruits, medicinal and aromatic plants, spices and condiments and others were collected. A total of 15,876 samples of diverse crops from 40 countries and 50,230 samples of international trials were introduced. Through quarantine clearance, 41,229 samples were imported and 2,693 exported. Soil map of country on 1:1 million scale, state map on 1:250,000 scale and several district soil maps on 1:50,000 scale have been prepared. Soil degradation map of the country on 1:4.4 million scale has also been prepared. Twenty agro-ecological regions and sixty agro-ecological sub-regions of the country were delineated based on the physiography, soil, climate, length of growing period etc. Water-use efficient irrigation schedules and methods (including micro-irrigation) for major crops were evolved that resulted into considerable saving of irrigation water and increase in crop yields. More emphasis was given on the development of farm machinery and post-harvest technology, and on-farm and off-farm value-addition, processing and storage.

In the livestock and poultry improvement and management efficient techniques for micro-satellite DNA markers, monoclonal antibody kits, diet supplements and semen preservation were developed. In the fish improvement and management, identification and cataloguing of potential ornamental fish species, health assessment index for rapid evaluation of fish condition in field, sprawing Asian catfish spontaneously, and domestication of tiger shrimp were achieved. Strengthening of eight Zonal Coordinating Units and 29 Directorates of Extension Education at the State Agricultural Universities by providing modern IT facilities, and approval for the start of four new Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATICs) are significant under Innovations in Technology Dissemination programme of the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP).

Successful advances have thus, been made in research, extension and education in crops, horticulture, natural resource management, livestock, and fisheries to address the multiple and interwoven problems associated with food and nutritional security, such as enhancing productivity, sustaining production, protecting environment, conserving natural resources and improving profitability of farming as an occupation.

[English]

Share of Agriculture in GDP

2147. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share of agriculture sector in the total GDP and employment generation has declined over the last one decade;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether most of the States are dependent on agriculture for generating employment;

(d) if so, the estimated decline in agriculture sector registered for GDP in the country specially in the States of Tamilnadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The share of Agriculture including Animal Husbandry in GDP at current prices has declined from 28.4 percent in 1993-94 to 24.0 percent 1999-2000; and in the year 2000-01 it had reached the level of 22.7 percent. According to the quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the percentage of males employed, by usual employment status, in the rural areas in agriculture out of the total employed males in the rural areas was 74.1 in 1993-94 and 71.4 in 1999-2000. The corresponding percentages in respect of females in the rural areas were 86.2 for 1993-94 and 85.4 for 1999-2000. The decline in the share of agriculture in GDP and percentage of persons employed in agriculture over the years takes place in the process of economic development.

(c) Though agriculture has the major portion of employed persons so far, the decrease in the proportion of persons employed in agriculture over the years indicates higher employment generation potential in the non-agricultural sector.

(d) The share of agriculture including animal husbandry in the State Domestic Product of the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat for the years 1993-94, 1999-2000 and 2000- 2001 are as under:

Percent share of agriculture in State Domestic Product at current prices

Year	Tamil Nadu	Maharashtra	Gujarat	All India
1993-94	21.2	19.4	22.6	28.4
1999-2000	14.8	14.4	14.7	24.0
2000-01	13.7	11.5	12.4	22.7

(e) To increase contribution of agriculture to GDP in absolute terms by increasing production and productivity of agricultural commodities in the country, the Government have launched various initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price, Procurement by public agencies etc. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States so as to give flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements.

[Translation]

Revision of Fare by IA

2148. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines increased its fares by 10% recently which became operational in November 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this would adversely affect number of passengers undertaking Air travel;

(d) if so, the Extent of loss likely to be incurred;

(e) whether other Airlines have proposed a similar hike;

(f) whether these exists any Regulatory Authority for Civil Aviation on the lines of IROA, SEBI, TRAI etc.; and

(g) if not, the measures taken to protect the interest of passengers against the monopoly of airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines had last increased its fares, across the board on the domestic network, in October, 1998. Thereafter, in view of overall increase in the input costs over the years, an across the board increase of 10% on domestic sector has been effected from 10th November, 2002.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have also increased their fares by about 10% in November, 2002.

(f) and (g) Fares on domestic sector are not regulated. All airlines operators are free to charge any fare based on their cost input and the competitive market environment.

[English]

ESI Hospitals

2149. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more ESI hospitals in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The opening of ESI Hospitals in the country is a continuous process; which is based on the approved norms for setting up of new hospitals. No such proposal is presently pending with the ESIC.

Increase in Aerobridges

2150. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any plan to increase the number of aerobridges at various Airports in the country; and

(b) if so, names of the airports identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has plans to provide additional aerobridges at Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Trivandrum, Gaya, Guwahati, Calicut, Varanasi, Ahmedabad and Amritsar airports.

Production of Ginger and Turmeric

2151. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of Ginger and turmeric at present in the country, area-wise and quantity-wise;

(b) whether ginger cultivation is improving in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether ginger farmers are in difficulty due to low price for their produce especially in Kerala;

(e) if so, the details of prices of Ginger during the last three years, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to fix price for Ginger and Turmeric every year;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a separate Trade Centre for the sell of said products in the States, particularly in Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) whether the Government have any scheme of providing assistance to the farmers of Krishi Vigyan Kendra area of Orissa for growing ginger and turmeric; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per latest available statistics, ginger and turmeric is grown in the country over an area of 0.78 lakh ha. (1998-1999) and 161.4 lakh ha. (2000-2001) and the production is 2.63 lakh tonnes and 6.66 lakh tonnes respectively, for the same period.

(b) and (c) The area under ginger cultivation has increased from 0.66 lakh ha. in 1995-96 to 0.78 lakh ha. in 1998-1999. The production during the same period has increased from 2.10 lakh tonnes to 2.63 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e) The average annual prices of ginger in important markets in the country are given below:

(Rupees per qunital)

Year	Kozhikode - Kerala (Dry)	Kolkata - West Bengal (Wet)	Chennai - Tamil Nadu (Red)	Guwahati - Assam (Wet)
1999-00	6689	3013	8587	2340
2000-01	5236	2017	8323	1952
2001-02	3124	1269	5692	1305
2002-03*	2399	1224	4907	911

* Upto October, 2002

(f) and (g) There is no proposal under consideration to fix prices for ginger and turmeric every year. However, Market Intervention Scheme is implemented on the request of the State Government for procurement of horticultural commodities, including ginger and turmeric, at mutually agreed prices, if the State Government is ready to bear 50% losses in the procurement operations. No request from any State Government including Kerala, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh has been received so far, for implementing Market Intervention Scheme for ginger or turmeric.

(h) and (i) There is no proposal under consideration of this Ministry to set up separate Trade Centre for the sale of ginger and turmeric in the States of Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. Government of Orissa is, however, assessing exportability of the products by creating Agricultural Export Zone for which a study has been approved.

(j) and (k) There is no specific scheme to provide assistance to farmers of Krishi Vigyan Kendra areas of Orissa for growing ginger and turmeric. However, assistance is

available for production & distribution of planting material, area expansion, pest & disease management, field demonstration for development of spices including ginger and turmeric under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementing/ Complementing the State Efforts through Work Plans". The scheme provides flexibility to State Government to prioritize the crops and interventions as per the need.

[Translation]

Flight Loss Making Routes

2152. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to direct some of the private airlines to operate on those routes which are incurring losses to Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the routes on which the private airlines are operating as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. All scheduled airlines, including private airlines are free to operate on all domestic routes subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

(d) The details of the routes operated by Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Routes Operated by Jet Airways

1. Bangalore-Coimbatore-Bangalore
2. Bangalore-Cochin-Bangalore
3. Bangalore-Goa-Bangalore
4. Bangalore-Mangalore-Bangalore
5. Bangalore-Chennai-Bangalore
6. Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Mumbai
7. Mumbai-Vadodara-Mumbai
8. Mumbai-Bhuj-Mumbai
9. Mumbai-Bhopal-Mumbai
10. Mumbai-Bhavnagar-Mumbai
11. Mumbai-Bangalore-Mumbai
12. Mumbai-Calicut-Mumbai
13. Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai
14. Mumbai-Coimbatore-Mumbai
15. Mumbai-Cochin-Mumbai
16. Mumbai-Delhi-Mumbai
17. Mumbai-Diu-Porbandar-Mumbai
18. Mumbai-Goa-Mumbai
19. Mumbai-Hyderabad-Mumbai
20. Mumbai-Indore-Mumbai
21. Mumbai-Mangalore-Mumbai
22. Mumbai-Aurangabad-Mumbai
23. Mumbai-Jaipur-Mumbai
24. Mumbai-Jodhpur-Mumbai
25. Mumbai-Chennai-Mumbai
26. Mumbai-Nagpur-Mumbai
27. Mumbai-Pune-Mumbai
28. Mumbai-Rajkot-Mumbai
29. Mumbai-Trivandrum-Mumbai
30. Mumbai-Udaipur-Mumbai
31. Mumbai-Udaipur-Jaipur-Delhi

32. Kolkata-Guwahati-Kolkata

33. Kolkata-Guwahati-Imphal-Guwahati-Kolkata

34. Kolkata-Guwahati-Jorhat-Guwahati-Kolkata

35. Kolkata-Hyderabad-Bangalore-Hyderabad-Kolkata

36. Kolkata-Bagdogra-Kolkata

37. Delhi-Ahmedabad-Delhi

38. Delhi-Vadodara-Delhi

39. Delhi-Bangalore-Delhi

40. Delhi-Kolkata-Delhi

41. Delhi-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi

42. Delhi-Hyderabad-Delhi

43. Delhi-Indore-Delhi

44. Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Delhi

45. Delhi-Chandigarh-Delhi

46. Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar-Delhi

47. Delhi-Leg-Delhi

48. Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Delhi

49. Delhi-Lucknow-Delhi

50. Delhi-Chennai-Delhi

51. Delhi-Pune-Delhi

52. Delhi-Srinagar-Jammu-Delhi

53. Delhi-Udaipur-Delhi

54. Delhi-Varanasi-Khajuraho-Varanasi-Delhi

55. Hyderabad-Bangalore-Hyderabad

56. Hyderabad-Vizag-Hyderabad

57. Chennai-Bangalore-Pune-Bangalore-Chennai

58. Chennai-Kolkata-Chennai

59. Chennai-Coimbatore-Chennai

60. Chennai-Cochin-Chennai

61. Chennai-Hyderabad-Chennai

62. Chennai-Madurai-Chennai

63. Chennai-Port Blair-Chennai

64. Chennai-Trivandrum-Chennai

Routes Operated by Sahara Airlines

1. Chennai-Bangalore-Chennai

2. Delhi-Mumbai-Delhi

3. Delhi-Bangalore-Delhi

4. Delhi-Kolkata-Delhi

5. Delhi-Lucknow-Delhi

6. Delhi-Patna-Varanasi-Delhi

7. Delhi-Goa-Delhi

8. Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi

9. Delhi-Pune-Delhi

10. Delhi-Chennai-Delhi

11. Mumbai-Bangalore-Mumbai

12. Mumbai-Goa-Mumbai

13. Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai

14. Mumbai-Lucknow-Patna-Kolkata-Patna-Lucknow-Mumbai

15. Mumbai-Pune-Mumbai

16. Kolkata-Hyderabad-Bangalore-Hyderabad-Kolkata

17. Kolkata-Guwahati-Kolkata

[English]

S.E.Z. at Mumbai Airport

2153. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to transform Mumbai Airport into a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) as recommended in Bombay Chambers of Commerce and Industry's white paper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to abolish the mandatory 15 per cent inland air travel tax levied on domestic airlines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to make air travel in the country more affordable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No proposal has been received to transform Mumbai Airport into Special Economic Zone.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

(f) The domestic airlines have announced different promotional schemes for air-travel at concessional rates, making air-travel in the country more affordable.

Excessive Use of Chemical Fertilisers on Paddy Land

2154. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge areas of prime paddy land has turned barren due to excessive use of chemical fertilizers;

(b) if so, whether Directorate of Rice Research, Rajendranagar have developed self-tolerant varieties of paddy that can grow on waste and fallow lands, besides giving higher yields; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. There is no scientific evidence of conversion of paddy land into barren land due to use of chemical fertilizers which is still at a low level (around 90 kg per/ha). However, non-judicious and imbalanced use of inorganic fertilizers over years may result into deterioration of soil fertility/health. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is recommending integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to prevent such degradation.

(b) and (c) The Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad has identified and developed rice varieties that can grow in low productive soils such as:

Low in soil Phosphorous (P) fertility - Rasi IET 15353, Vikrarnarya Suraksha, IET 12067

Low in soil Zinc (Zn) fertility - Vikas, Rasi

Salinity/alkalinity- CSR 10, CSR 13, CSR 27, CSR 30, Vikas

These varieties have consistently shown higher productivity. CSR 10 has been used as substitute or with least application of soil amendments depending upon the level of salt stress or degradation. Recently released CSR 30 is the salt tolerant basmati type rice.

Upper Tunga Project

2155. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received against construction of Uppar Tunga Project by the Karnataka Government violating Bachawat Tribunal decision; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to stop the works at the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. Shri Kalava Srinivasulu, Hon'ble Member of Parliament has expressed apprehension about construction of the Upper Tunga Project by the Government of Karnataka in his letter dated 13th August, 2002.

(b) The proposed utilization of 12.24 thousand million cubic foot by the Upper Tunga Project of Karnataka is in accordance with the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award. There are no adequate grounds on the basis of which it could be considered reasonable to stop clearance to the Upper Tunga Project once this issue related to forest and wild life are sorted out.

[Translation]

Dangers of Climatic Changes

2156. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are working on any plan to face the dangers of the climatic changes;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed work plan; and

(c) the time period to implement the said

programme and the improvements likely to take place as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The developed countries have specific commitments to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions under the, Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Delhi Declaration, an outcome of the Eighth Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC, specifically enjoins upon the developed countries to advance the implementation of their commitments. There are no corresponding obligations imposed on the developing countries including India to adopt any mandatory cuts in the emissions of greenhouse gases. The existing legal and policy framework in the country, supported by several initiatives to protect and improve the environment, addresses the concerns of climate change. The measures adopted by the Government include efficient utilization of fossil fuels, promotion of renewable energy technologies, abatement of pollution and conservation of forests.

[Translation]

Encroachment of Forest Land by Tribals

2157. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the tribal people are being harassed in the name of encroachment of forest land in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Central Government is aware of the problems being faced by the tribal people regarding disputed claims over the forest land. In this regard, it may be mentioned that there is no change in the policy of the Ministry of Environment and Forests with regard to regularization of pre-1980 eligible encroachments and the commitment with reference to Forest-Tribal interface on the disputed settlement claims. In respect of disputed claims of eligible encroachments of the tribals for want of first offence report/non-settlement of rights etc., directions have been issued to the States that they may consider setting up of Commissions/Committees at the level of District involving Revenue, Forest and Tribal Welfare Department for their settlement provided other conditions are fulfilled. Further, the States have been directed that in such identified cases, the States should submit their proposals to the Central Government so that final decision can be taken in a time bound manner.

[English]

Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Mumbai

2158. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any water supply and sanitation project in Mumbai for clearance of the Central Water Commission (CWC); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted the feasibility report for construction of Middle Vaitrna Dam Project for water supply and sanitation in Mumbai to Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(b) The clearance of project depends on the promptness with which the State Government complies with the observation of Central Water Commission.

Burnpur based Steel Plant

2159. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of revival package plan to sustain the operations at the Burnpur-based steel plant under Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO); and

(b) the present state of affairs of the said steel plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) A rehabilitation proposal for Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) is currently under examination of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency (OA) of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(b) Burnpur Works of IISCO is not in a good condition due to technological obsolescence, ageing of plant and equipment, outmoded technology and lack of necessary capital inputs etc. Its saleable steel production has come down to 302 thousand tonnes per annum in 2001-02 as compared to 387 thousand tonnes per annum in 1991-92 and its accumulated losses as on 30.9.2002 are Rs.897.48 crore.

Production of Junk Food by FPIs

2160. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Food Processing Industries in the country are producing junk food which is harmful;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to put a check on these food processing units, particularly that of MNCs through quality check etc.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to discourage food processing units which are engaged in producing junk food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Manufacturing and sale of food products are regulated by Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules made thereunder, Fruit Products Order, Milk and Milk Products Order, Meat Products Order and other regulatory Acts and Orders. Any violation of the standards and safety parameters renders the manufacturers and sellers liable to various penalties and, in certain cases, prosecution. As such, food permitted for sale has to conform to standards set under various laws and regulations.

[Translation]

Report of S.P. Gupta Committee

2161. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of Shri S.P. Gupta Committee constituted by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this report has suggested to remove all kinds of restrictions imposed on agricultural products in the Tenth Plan; and

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

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

(b) It deals with different programmes and policies aimed at creating employment opportunities for fifty million persons covering different sectors including agriculture sector during the Tenth Plan. The committee interacted with various ministries and attempted to recommend appropriate macro and sectoral policies and programmes in specific areas needed to generate the aforesaid employment during the Tenth Plan. The basic objective is to absorb all new entrants to the labour force over the Tenth Plan period by gainful, high quality employment, and to remove unemployment by the turn of this decade.

(c) and (d) The report suggested removal of all restrictions on movement of agricultural produce through a central legislation. It also suggested removal of all restrictions and licensing of processing of agricultural produce. Work for implementing the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee has already been initiated by the Planning Commission in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments.

[English]

Promotion of Magic

2162. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government promotes various cultural activities including magic show through schemes and Zonal Cultural Centres;

(b) whether magic as a cultural activity is currently on decline in India; and

(c) if so, steps being taken to popularise Indian magic both within the country and abroad?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Details of various Schemes being operated by Department of Culture for promotion of various cultural activities are reflected in the enclosed statement. Further Details can be obtained from the "Samarthan", Brochure which is available in Parliament Library and website of Department of Culture "www.indiaculture.org". Under the Scheme of Financial Assistance to Professional Groups and individuals, grants are given for production of magic shows. The Zonal Cultural Centres have been promoting magic by providing opportunity to various magicians during cultural programmes organised by ZCCs in their respective regions.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

List of Schemes being dealt in Deptt. of Culture

1. Preservation and Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas.

2. Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture.

3. Preservation and Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Culture and Art.

4. Scheme for Building Grants to Cultural Organisations.

5. Financial Assistance to Professional Groups and Individuals for Specified Performing Art Projects.

6. Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Celebration of Centenaries/Anniversaries.

7. Development and Maintenance of National Memorials.

8. Scholarships to Young Workers in different Cultural Fields.

9. A ward of Senior/Junior Fellowships to Outstanding Artists in the field of Performing, Literary and Plastic Arts.

10. Award of Senior/Junior Fellowships to outstanding Artists in New Areas.

11. Award of Emeritus Fellowships to most eminent Artists in the field of Performing, Literary and Visual Arts.

12. Kumar Gandharv Fellowship.

13. Financial Assistance to persons distinguished in letters, arts and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances and their dependents.

14. Research Support to Voluntary Organisations engaged in Cultural Activities.

15. Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums.

16. Setting up of Multipurpose Cultural Complexes including those for Children.

[Translation]

Increase in Temperature of Earth

2163. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research has been undertaken to study the rise in the Earth's temperature;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether researchers have pointed out that carbon monoxide emanating from China has resulted in global warming affecting environment of China and India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to the Third Assessment Report of the Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change published in 2001, it is estimated that the Earth's surface temperature has risen by 0.6±0.2ºC over the twentieth century. The report also states that there is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming over last fifty years is attributable to human activities.

(c) to (e) Carbon monoxide is not a greenhouse gas and is consequently not involved in global warming. Several measures, however, have been taken by the Government to tackle global warming, which include efficient utilization of fossil fuels, use of renewable energy technologies, abatement of pollution and conservation of forests.

[English]

Criteria for Financial Help to Krishi Vigyan Kendras

2164. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for providing financial help to Krishi Vigyan Kendras, being set up by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research in each district;

(b) whether the standing committee on Agriculture has expressed its apprehensions on the issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The criteria for providing financial help to an institution to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) include availability of adequate cultivable land, previous experience in implementation of agricultural programmes, viability of the institution, and willingness to implement the KVK activities as per the guidelines of Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) to (d) The guidelines of Lok Sabha Secretariate stipulate that the proceedings of the sitting of the Agriculture Committee cannnot be quoted any where nor made use of it in any manner.

Tourist Cottage and Jungle Lodges in Karnataka

2165. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance sought by the Government of Karnataka to set up Jungle Lodges and resorts in the State and construction of tourist cottage and guest house at Pajaka, Udupi; and

(b) the details of the proposals received from the State Government; and

(c) the amount allocated/released to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/spots is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned. Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides financial assistance for the identified tourism projects in consultation with them.

On the basis of the proposals received from the State Tourism Department of Government of Karnataka, during the last three years 65 projects including projects of Jungle Lodges and Resorts were sanctioned for Rs.1635.00 lakhs for development of tourism in the State of Karnataka.

An amount of Rs.49.00 lakhs was sanctioned for construction of Tourist Home at Pajaka Kshetra.

During the current year 2002-2003, the Department of Tourism has identified Hampi under Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development Scheme; Kokkare Bellur under Rural Tourism Scheme and Coastal Karnataka under the Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits Scheme. Besides, an amount of Rs.40.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for Beugle Rock Garden at Basavanagudi, Bangalore.

Fix up Minimum Support Price for Copra

2166. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the MSP of fair average quality of milling copra and ball copra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NAFED have procured copra from the market;

(d) if so, whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to start procurement; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Government has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milling and Ball copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Rs. 3300 and Rs.3550 per quintal respectively for 2002 season.

(c) Yes, Sir, the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has undertaken procurement of copra under Price Support Scheme (PSS) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Goa.

(d) and (e) The Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to start procurement for 2002 season under the existing guidelines. Agencies nominated by the State Government of Kerala could not commence procurement on account of their inability to follow various guidelines fixed in the procedure. However, during the period the credit line was available to NAFED, the market prices of copra improved and are currently ruling between Rs.3900 and Rs.4050 per quintal.

[Translation]

Relaxation in Labour Laws

2167. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to state:

(a) whether the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (ICCI) has requested to the Government to relax labour laws in respect of exclusive economic zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Labour have not received any such request from the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries.

[English]

Steel Plants

2168. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of manpower, production, profit or loss of all steel plants in Public and Private sectors during each of the last three years, plant-wise;

(b) the cost of production of steel in each plant

during the said period and contribution of raw material, energy, depreciation, interest wage as its percentage;

(c) the details of productivity, energy consumption, coke rate in each plant during the said period;

(d) the comparative figures, percent-wise in the countries like UK, USA, Germany, Russia, Japan and China regarding production, cost of production, productivity, energy consumption and coke rate;

(e) whether there is a steady improvement in technical performance of steel plants in India in the last decade with steady deterioration of financial performance; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Details of manpower, production, profit/loss of steel plants of the primary producers during the last three years are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) The cost of production is classified information and its disclosure is not in the commercial interest of the organisations concerned.

(c) Details of Blast Furnace productivity, energy consumption and coke rate in respect of individual steel plants in the public sector during the last three years are given enclosed statement-II.

(d) Information relating to manpower, financial performance, cost of production, technology parameters etc. of the individual private sector steel plants are not monitored by the Government. However, operating parameters of EAF based steel plants in India and abroad are as under:

Country	Furnace Size tonnes	Tap to Tap time, minutes	Power Consumption kwh/tonne billet	Electrode consumption kg/tonne billet
Japan	80	71	378	-
Germany	60	60	410	2.2
USA	160	80	430	2.4
India (old plant)	20-25	180	700-750	3.5-4.5
India (new plant)	50-55	95-120	600-700	2.5-3.5

(e) and (f) There has been an improving trend by and large in blast furnace productivity, energy consumption and coke rate during the last decade. Profitability in the steel sector has registered a general decline in recent years as a result of slow down in the economy resulting in stagnation in steel consumption.

Statement-I

Unit	1999-2000			2000-01			2001-02		
	Man-power	Production ('000 T)	Profit (+)/ Loss (-) (Rs. in crores)	Man-power	Production ('000 T)	Profit (+)/ Loss (-) (Rs. in crores)	Man-power	Production ('000 T)	Profit (+)/ Loss (-) (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Bhilai Steel Plant	44730	3410.6	92	44060	3307.2	342	42158	3382.8	477
Durgapur Steel Plant	21039	1402.0	-651	20633	1495.8	-236	19641	1527.1	-262
Rourkela Steel Plant	28301	1170.3	-704	27651	1294.4	-445	26052	1353.7	-1036
Bokaro Steel Plant	43401	3246.2	120	42597	3312.7	49	40025	3200.1	-459
Alloy Steels Plant	3846	83.2	-260	3793	78.6	-184	3340	84.4	-149

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Salem Steel Plant	1550	148.4	-142	1538	129.3	-155	1466	62.5	-153
Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant	4679	69.1	-91	4399	85.0	-68	3325	86.7	-103
Raw Materials Division	7014	9529.9	-84	6490	9703.0	-32	6172	9697.3	-22
Central Coal Supply Organisation	*	250	-1720	224	277	-729	217	302	-1707
Central Marketing Organisation	3172	-	-210	3131		-187	3032		-180
Research & Development Centre for I&S	865			856			827		
Centre for Engineering & Technology	390			383			370		
Management Training Institute	116			112			111		
Corporate Office	737			754			769		
Growth Division - KOL	36	-		35			33		
Environment Management Division	48			47			47		
Safety	16	-	-	16			16		-
SAIL	159940	-	-	156719			147601		-
IISCO	24724			23670			22767		

There are large number of steel plants in the private sector in large, medium and small sectors. The production of private sector steel plants during the last three years is as under:

(in million tonnes)

1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
12.802	13.273	13.982

Statement-II

Productivity Trend

Crude Steel/tonne/man/year

Plants	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4
Bhilai Steel Plant	121	129	137
Durgapur Steel Plant	88	100	108
Rourkela Steel Plant	55	60	67
Bokaro Steel Plant	105	115	116
SAIL	96	105	111
IISCO	33	37	39

Energy Consumption

(Gcal/tes)

Plants	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4
Bhilai Steel Plant	7.16	7.25	7.07
Durgapur Steel Plant	7.48	7.43	7.25
Rourkela Steel Plant	10.26	9.97	9.34

1	2	3	4
Bokaro Steel Plant	8.24	8.09	7.96
SAIL 4 PL	7.96	7.90	7.69
IISCO	10.46	9.67	9.37

Coke Rate

Kg/thm

Plants	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Bhilai Steel Plant	534	544	524
Durgapur Steel Plant	587	586	580
Rourkela Steel Plant	668	656	647
Bokaro Steel Plant	548	552	549
SAIL 4 PL	564	568	557
IISCO	752	760	784

Housing Loans to Beedi Workers

2169. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to provide housing loan from the EPF under the New Housing Policy for Beedi Workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria laid down in this regard; and

(c) the rate of interest likely to be charged for such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Trustees, EPF which is a tripartite body, at its 158th meeting held on 22.10.2002 has, in principle, approved launching of a housing scheme for EPF subscribers. However, no specific proposal is being considered to provide housing loan to beedi workers.

Growth of Rural Farm Sector

2170. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the rural and farm sector information technology such as providing on line information on modern farm practices, integrated pest management, curing and grading techniques, post-harvest product management and prices prevailing in global markets and at the auction centres to the farmers.

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to involve the NGO's and Self Help Groups to implement other innovative technologies to further speed up the growth of the rural farm sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) To provide on line agricultural information to the farmers and agriculturists, the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with National Informatics Centre have initiated following programmes:

(i) A NICNET based Agricultural Informatics and Communication Network (AGRISNET) connecting the National, State and District Headquarters.

(ii) Agricultural Marketing Information System (AGMARKNET) to facilitate generation and transmission of prices and arrivals information from agricultural produce markets.

(iii) A Computerized Registration of Pesticides (CROP), a package for registration of pesticides and dissemination of Information to safeguard farmers against losses in crop production due to pests and diseases.

(iv) Three Websites have been launched:

(www .agricoop.nic. in, www.dare.nic.in, www .nic.in/dahd)

These websites are linked with other agricultural related institutions/organization State Agricultural Universities to provide comprehensive information on agriculture and allied sectors.

(d) The involvement of NGOs and Self Help Groups in dissemination of innovative technologies have been proposed to accelerate public-private partnership in agriculture extension during Xth Plan.

Foreign Assistance for Water Resource Projects

2171. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of external assistance for water resources projects, received by State Govts. during the last two years up to March 31, 2002;

(b) whether there are many on-going projects with

external assistance from World Bank, European Economic Community and Japan;

(c) if so, whether any of the Karnataka's project has received any foreign funding; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The amount of external assistance received by State Governments during the last two years is given in Statement. There are a number of ongoing projects with external assistance as shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) There is one ongoing water resource project receiving foreign funding in Karnataka. The agreement for the project "Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project" has been signed on 06.06.2002 for World Bank assistance of SDR 80 million. The project is scheduled for completion by 31.1.2009.

Statement

Details of ongoing externally aided projects during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002

A. World Bank

S.No.	Name of Project	Date of Agreement/ Completion	Assistance amount in Million US $/ SDR	Assistance received (Disbursement) Million US$ During		Status
				2000-2001	2001-2002	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project-III Cr. 2952-IN Ln-4166-IN	03-06-1997/ 31-01-2003	US $ 325 Credit US$ 150.00 Loan US$ 175.00	27.10	23.14	Ongoing Recommended for extension for two years beyond 31.1.2003
2	A.P. Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation component) Ln - 4360-IN	30.01.1999/ 31.03.2004	US $ 142	12.63	10.62	On going IRDB Loan
3	Haryana Water Resources Consolation Project CR-2592-IN	24.06.1994/ 31.12.2001	US$ 258	41.50	52.93	Completed
4	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project	06.06.2002/ 31.01.2009	SDR 80	0.00	0.00	Ongoing
5	Orissa Water Resource Consolidation Project Cr.2801-IN	05.01.1996/ 31.03.2004	SDR 290.90	29.26	16.63	Ongoing
6	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project Cr.3603-IN	15.03.2002/ 31.03.2008	SDR 110	0.00	5.00	Ongoing Credit Effective from 27.03.2002

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	UP Water Sector Restructuring Project Cr.3603-IN	08.03.2002/ 31.10.2007	SDR 117	0.00	5.00	Ongoing credit Effective from 22.3.2002.
8	Tamil Nadu Water Resource Consolidation Project Cr.2745-IN	22.9.1995/ 31.03.2003	US$ 282.90	32.34	20.36	SDR 20 million cancelled.
9	Hydrology Project Multi-States	22.9.1995/ 31.03.2003	SDR 75.1	15.79	9.55	Ongoing
		Sub Total		158.62	143.23	

B. European Economic Community

S.No.	Name of Projects	Date of Agreement/ Completion	Amount of Assistance Million EURO	Assistance received (Disbursement) (Million EURO) During		Status
				2000-2001	2001-2002	
1	Kerala Minor Irrigation Project (Kerala)	21.5.1992/ 31.12.2000	ECU 11.80	0.62	0.00	Completed
2	Sidhmukh & Nohar Irrigation Project (Rajasthan)	7.6.1993/ 31.12.2001	ECU 45.00	0.00	5.715	Completed
3	Orissa Minor Irrigation Project (Orissa)	3.7.1995/ 31.12.2004	ECU 10.70	0.64	0.00	Ongoing
4	Modernisation of Tank Irrigation System (Pondicherry)	21.2.21997/ 21.2.2003	ECU 6.65	0.00	0.817	Ongoing
5	Saline Land Reclamation Project Phase-II (Maharashtra)	11.7.1995/ 31.12.2005	ECU 15.50	0.00	1.229	Ongoing
		Sub Total		1.26	7.761	

C. Bilateral Projects

S.No	Name of Projects	Funding Agency	Date of Agreement/ Completion	Assistance amount in Million DC	Assistance received (Disbursement) (Million DC) During		Status
					2000-2001	2001-2002	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Rajasthan Agricultural Drainage Project (Rajasthan)	CIDA, Canada	13.3.1990/ 31.12.2000	CAD 14.99	0.062	0.00	Completed
		Sub Total			0.062	0.00	

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	Hydroplus Fusegate System (Gujarat)	France	17.5.1999/ 31.12.2001	FF 34.74	3.53	2.28	Completed
3	Ground Water Exploration Project (Manipur)	France	23.11.1998/ 31.12.2001	FF 4.62	3.09	0.62	Completed
		Sub Total			6.62	2.90	
4	Modernisation on KC Canal project (Andhra Pradesh)	JBIC Japan	25.01.1996/ 26.03.2003	Yen 16049.00	1483.64	2225.07	Ongoing
5	Rajghat Canal Project (Madhya Pradesh)	JBIC, Japan	25.02.1997/ 31.03.2004	Yen 13222.00	1377.51	1921.77	Ongoing
6	Rengali Irrigation Project (Orissa)	JBIC, Japan	12.12.1997/ 05.12.2003	Yen 7760.00	900.10	839.28	Ongoing
		Sub Total			3761.25	4986.12	
7	Maharashtra Minor Irrigation Project (Maharashtra)	KfW, Germany	21.12.1998/ 31.12.2006	DM 45.00	0.37	1.96	Ongoing
8	Lift Irrigation Project (Orissa)	KfW, Germany	19.02.1993/ 30.6.2003	DM 55.00	2.68	2.02	Ongoing
		Sub Total			3.05	3.98	
9	AP-WELL Irrigation Project (Andhra Pradesh)	Netherlands	14.11.1994/ 31.03.2003	NLG 26.847	0.45	0.93	Ongoing
10	Community Irrigation Project (Kerala)	Netherlands	17.12.1993 / 31.3.2002	NLG 2.328	0.046	0.00	Completed
11	Bundelkhand Water Resources Management Project (Uttar Pradesh)	Netherlands	12.06.1996/ 31.05.2001	NLG 2.79	0.00	0.00	Completed
		Sub Total			0.596	0.93	

Promotion of Agriculture Mechanization for Agro-Climatic Zone

2172. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a long term suitable strategy for promotion of agriculture mechanization for each Agro-Climatic Zone in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study is being carried by ICAR in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the study has been completed and report presented; and

(e) if not, by when the study is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The Government have decided to formulate a long term mechanization strategy for each agro climatic zone. For this purpose, the Government have entrusted a study for 'Formulation of Long-Term Mechanization Strategies for each Agro-Climatic Zone' to the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute under ICAR. The study is likely to be completed by June, 2003.

Maintenance of Forest Land Records

2173. SHRI AMBAREESHA:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

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

(a) the State Governments who have not maintained their records pertaining to forest land in proper form alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) whether mess of records of State Governments have been the main cause for depletion and non-vacation of forest land by encroachers;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation;

(d) whether the Central Government propose to computerise the records of forests land in the country;

(e) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(f) the time likely to be taken to complete the job?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The forest lands after due survey and demarcation under Indian Forest Act, 1927/ State Forest Acts are notified by the State Governments in their Gazettes as forest lands and the records are also maintained by them.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) The records pertaining to forest lands are solely maintained by the State Governments and there is no proposal by the Central Government to computerise the forest land records in the country.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Literacy Campaign for Labourers

2174. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to launch literacy campaign for labourers:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government and non-Governmental labourers are likely to be benefited under the said scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The Central Board for Workers Education (CBWE), an autonomous organization in the Ministry of Labour, has been conducting Functional Adult Literacy Programmes for the working class in general and that of mines and plantations areas in particular.

(b) The basic approach of Functional Adult Literacy Programmes is to meet the implicit and explicit literacy needs of workers with specialized programmes so that the workers can have continuing access to written words and a minimum level of literacy and numeric skill throughout their life. The classes under these programmes are conducted for a period of six months, one hour per day and for 5 days in a week.

(c) Functional Adult Literacy Programmes normally cover all the illiterate workers engaged in organized as well as in unorganized/rural sectors besides plantation and mining areas.

(d) Illiterate workers numbering 2,58,596 have been benefited from Functional Adult Literacy Programmes since their inception in 1979-80 till March, 2002.

Non Payment by AAI for Police Guards

2175. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has not reimbursed the expenditure of Rs.2.32 crores incurred on the deployment of police guards at various airports of Madhya Pradesh as on October 31, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which reimbursement is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The settlement of police guards bills is a continuous process and the bills are settled by Airports Authority of India after verification of the claims. So far, Rs. 92.00 lakhs has been released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as against Rs.2.32 crores outstanding.

Flight Simulators in Airports

2176. YOGI ADITYA NATH:

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to instal flight simulators in certain airports of the country;

(b) if so, the details indicating the objective behind installation of these flight simulators; and

(c) by when these are likely to be installed in all the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, Indian Airlines has the following simulators installed at the Central Training Establishment, Hyderabad for training purposes:-

B-737	1
A-320	2
A-300	1

[English]

New Slaughter Houses

2177. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new slaughter houses licensed in the last three years;

(b) the names and location of these slaughter houses;

(c) the names of the owners of these slaughter houses; and

(d) the capacity of these slaughter houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) This is a State subject. The licensing of slaughterhouses is done by the concerned Municipal body, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Urban Development Department at the State level.

Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Scheme in Orissa

2178. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development implemented in Orissa; and

(b) the assistance provided by the Union Government for the preservation, development of animal breeds and eradication of the animal diseases in the district of Cuttack, Khurdha and Puri during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The names of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes are given below:

(1) Systematic Control of Livestock Diseases during the 9th Plan.

(2) Animal Disease Surveillance

(3) Professional Efficiency Development

(4) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication

(5) National Ram/Buck Production Programme

(6) Integrated Dairy Development Project

(b) The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying releases funds to the State Government for the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Funds are not released district-wise but according to the viable proposals received from State Government. A statement indicating the funds released to the State of Orissa during last three years for Animal Husbandry sector is enclosed. There is no Integrated Dairy Development Project in the district of Cuttack, Khurdha and Puri.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Schemes	Central release made during the year (District-wise funds are not released under any of the schemes)		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Systematic Control of Livestock Diseases during the 9th Plan	-	18.00	-
2.	Animal Disease Surveillance	-	-	2.00
3.	Professional Efficiency Development	2.75	-	1.50
4.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	23.33	11.67	20.00
5.	National Ram/Buck Production Programme	-	2.75	2.54

Change of Course of Ganga from Rajmahal to Malda

2179. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the change of course of Ganga from Rajmahal to Malda might affect Malda district in West Bengal in future; and

(b) if so, the preventive measures being considered by the Government to avoid such situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) used the satellite imageries of Ganga in Malda district upstream of Farakka Barrage Project for studying the change in flow pattern of the river between Rajmahan and Farakka Barrage Project and have observed that channel on right bank essentially centralizing the flows downstream of Rajmahal is steadily developing stage and is likely to fully develop in coming years and carry the major share of the discharge thereby reducing the attach on left bank near Panchnandpur region in Malda district. They have suggested two or more seasons observations on channel development and hydrographic survey of the mouth of the channel and one or two locations along the channel after the flood season to arrive at any conclusion regarding the necessity or efficacy of the dredging.

(b) Does not arise at present.

Misbehaviour by Airport Officials

2180. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints of misbehaviour and harassment of foreign passengers at the hands of officials and employees at Amritsar Airport have been received;

(b) if so, steps being taken by the Government to ascertain the views and grievances of the affected persons;

(c) measures taken to discipline the erring employees; and

(d) the condition of passenger facilities at the Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No complaint of misbehaviour and harassment of foreign passengers at the hands of officials and employees at Amritsar Airport has been received in recent times. However, suggestion / complaint boxes have been provided at airports. Besides, Public Grievances officers are designated at airports for redressing the grievances of passengers.

(c) Suitable disciplinary action is initiated against the erring employees, in case of default, negligence etc.

(d) The condition of passenger facilities at the Amritsar airport is satisfactory.

Production of Stainless Steel

2181. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the private and public sector steel plants producing stainless steel in the country annually;

(b) the annual turnover of those steel plants;

(c) whether any of those plant is directly exporting stainless steel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) Details of production, turnover and direct export of the public sector steel plants producing stainless steel for the year 2001-02 are given below. Government does not maintain details in this regard in respect of private sector units.

Unit	Production (Tonnes)	Turnover (Rs. crores)	Export (Tonnes)
Alloy Steels Plant	4694	199.20	-
Salem Steel Plant	33529	334.58	4855
Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant	463	262.80	

Schemes under Co-operative Sector

2182. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Agriculture in its Report No.6 of 1999-2000 has stated that the Planning Commission has not approved new Schemes of Ninth Five Year Plan under the Co-operative Sector viz. strengthening of Co-operative Sector, Janata Personal Accidental Insurance Scheme for Labour Co-operatives, Development of Reservoir for fisheries through Co-operatives and development of wool processing and industrial Co-operatives;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to resolve the reservations expressed by the Planning Commission urgently and to pursue the matter vigorously for early clearance of the Schemes?

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

(b) and (c) The proposed new schemes for Ninth Plan under the Co-operative sector were dropped as Planning Commission did not approve these schemes on the ground that these activities have already been covered under similar schemes of other Departments, like Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Fisheries, Central Wool Development Board, Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Labour etc. The dropping of these schemes will not affect the development of cooperative sector adversely as assistance for these activities will continue to be available under various schemes of the different Department/Ministries as above and under the proposed restructured Central Sector schemes of this Department in 10th Five Year Plan. After recent amendment of the NCDC Act, some of these activities will now be financed by the NCDC in cooperative sector.

Sun Flower Crop Affected by Disease Necrosis

2183. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Sun Flower Crop in most parts of Karnataka has been severely affected by the disease Necrosis;

(b) whether this disease has affected said crop in the State four years ago too; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the remedial steps contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) During 1999-2000, Necrosis disease was reported from Raichur, Belgaum and Chitradurga districts of Karnataka. However, no serious incidence of this disease has been reported this year.

(b) In 1997, the Necrosis disease was reported from Bijapur, Belgaum, Gadag, Bagalkot, Gulbarga and Koppal districts.

(c) On the recommendations of the Directorate of Oilseeds Development, Hyderabad, the State Governments were advised to follow the following disease management practices:-

(A) Pre-sowing practices

(i) Remove the weeds and self sown crops, in and around fields.

(ii) Sow sorghum (3 to 4 rows) as a border crop.

(iii) Treat the Seeds with Imidacloprid @ 5g/kg of seed to protect the crop from insect vectors during early stage of the crop.

(B) Post-sowing practices.

(i) Keep the plots weed free throughout the growing period.

(ii) Monitoring the fields frequently (every alternate day) for the incidence of the disease.

(iii) Carefully uproot and destroy by burying the infected plants as and when noticed in the field.

(iv) Prophylactic sprays (3 to 4) at 15 days interval, starting from 15 days old seedling to 50 per cent flowering stage with systemic insecticides like, Phosphamidon (0.1%) of Imidacloprid (0.1%) or Metasystox (0.2%) to control the insect vectors.

In addition to above, the Government of Karnataka took action to get the disease identified by the scientists of the Agricultural Universities. A detailed survey was undertaken in the disease affected areas to ascertain the severity of the disease. The farmers were informed about the disease and control measures through newspapers and pamphlets.

Functioning of Central Labour Commissioner

2184. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the functioning of the regional offices of the Central Labour Commissioner;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether dismissed and temporary bank employees have been unable to get appropriate action from the Regional Labour Commissioners across the country;

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to activate such offices; and

(e) the objectives of having such Regional Labour Commissioners in the context of their in-activity and lack of initiative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The performance of the regional offices working under the Chief Labour Commissioner (C) is monitored on a monthly basis, and if any deficiency is noticed, corrective measures are taken and appropriate advice given.

(c) and (d) The offices of the Regional Labour Commissioners (C) take appropriate action on the grievances of the dismissed and temporary bank employees throughout the country on receipt of industrial disputes. The officers of the CLC (C) organization who have been declared as Conciliation Officers under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 intervene in the industrial disputes raised collectively by the workmen of the banks through their Unions. Industrial disputes pertaining to termination of service of an individual workman is also seized in conciliation by the Conciliation Officers. Settlement, if arrived, during the conciliation proceedings is binding on the parties to disputes and in case of failure, the Conciliation Officers submit the failure reports to the Central Government with recommendations to refer or not to refer the disputes for adjudication.

(e) Does not arise in view of answers to parts (c) & (d) above.

Subarnarekha Inter-State Project

2185. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Subamarekha Inter-State project;

(b) the target date when the project is likely to be completed; and

(c) the funds allocated and actual amount spent on the project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The present status of Subarnarekha Inter-State Project is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Approved cost (Year)	Tenth Plan Outlay	Outlay for 2002-03	Expenditure upto 3/2002
1.	Subarnarekha Multipurpose Project, Jharkhand	1428.82 (1990)	205.73	53.00	855.59
2.	Subarnarekha Irrigation Project, Orissa	1013.68 (1993)	100.30	30.00	452.84
3.	Subarnarekha Barrage Project, West Bengal	595.34 (1996)	375.00	6.00	33.92

Irrigation projects are planned, investigated, implemented and funded by the State Governments as per their own priorities and completion of the project depends upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.

Promotion of Tourism in Singapore

2186. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singapore Tourism Board has expressed willingness to join hands with India for joint promotion of tourist destinations of both countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has not received any such proposal from Singapore Tourism Board for consideration so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Special Assistance to Drought Affected States

2187. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:

SHRI SURESH KURUP:

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States who have requested for more Central assistance to counter the drought; State-wise;

(b) whether the amount so far provided is not sufficient to help the drought affected people;

(c) if so, whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Governments of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan for special drought relief assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) by when the assistance is likely to be released;

(f) whether the Government also propose to release said special assistance to other drought affected States;

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

(h) whether the Government are aware that the farmers are facing serious problems to raise Rabi-crops; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (i) Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh had submitted Memoranda for assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for drought. A total assistance amounting to Rs. 1999.14 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was approved by the High Level Committee for the drought affected States, subject to adjustment of available balances in the CRF of respective States for all the above States except Jammu & Kashmir and Kerala. Relevant details are given in the enclosed statement-I. In addition, 19.25 lakh MTs of foodgrains have so far been allocated to the drought affected States under the "Special Component" of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for relief employment (Statement-II). The Report of Central Team of Jammu & Kashmir is under process and a Central Team is visiting Kerala shortly for assessment of the drought situation. Adequate attention is being paid by the State governments to undertake Rabi sowing and cultivation.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Demand and Amount approved by High Level Committee (HLC) for Drought Affected States

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	Demand by State	Amount approved by HLC, subject to Deductions of Balance in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1210.90	174.61
2.	Chhattisgarh	880.66	92.73
3.	Haryana	1895.98	109.65
4.	Himachal Pradesh	155.86	39.45
5.	Jharkhand	1467.25	42.06
6.	Karnataka	1562.85	221.46

1	2	3	4
7	Madhya Pradesh	790.38	125.89
8.	Maharashtra	1730.61	20.00
9.	Orissa	871.40	120.18
10.	Punjab	3529.44	125.41
11	Rajasthan	7519.76	207.68
12.	Tamil Nadu	1545.76	228.30
13.	Uttaranchal	401.81	10.62
14.	Uttar Pradesh	7539.79	481.10
	Total	31102.45	1999.14

Statement-II

Quantity of foodgrains approved under "Special Component" of sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) to drought affected States

(Lakh MTs)

State	Quantity approved (Special Component of SGRY)
Andhra Pradesh	3.00
Chhattisgarh	0.50
Haryana	0.25
Himachal Pradesh	0.10
Jharkhand	0.40
Karnataka	2.00
Madhya Pradesh	1.00
Orissa	2.00
Rajasthan	7.00
Tamil Nadu	0.50
Uttaranchal	0.50
Uttar Pradesh	2.00
Total	19.25

Technical Education in Rural India

2188. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any scheme to award cash prize to villages excelling in technical education, country wide;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of incentives being provided by the Government to the villages for encouraging technical education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) As per the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development dealing with Technical Education, there is no scheme to award cash prize to villages excelling in Technical Education or any incentives to villages for encouraging Technical Education.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Revival of Naga Culture

2189. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the rich and traditional heritage, culture and customs of the Naga race are vanishing at an alarming pace;

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

(c) remedial steps taken by the Government for the revival of Naga culture?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The rich traditional heritage and culture of the Nagas is not vanishing at an alarming rate. The process of acculturation in the Naga society is going on like all other communities/tribes/ethnic groups on account of modernization and developmental activities, as well as the spread of print and electronic media.

(c) The Government of India has set up the North East Zonal Cultural Centre at Dimapur, Nagaland which has been given the responsibility for the promotion and preservation of tribal and folk art and culture. Besides this,

the Government of India under its scheme for promotion and dissemination of tribal/folk art and culture, provides financial assistance to voluntary organisations and institutions etc. engaged in the preservation and promotion of tribal/folk art and culture on recurring or non-recurring basis.

Connecting Domestic and International Airports at Mumbai

2190. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some MP's have requested his Ministry to start shuttle bus services between Domestic and International Airports in Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is considering the proposal positively; and

(c) if so, the details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) There are coach services already plying between domestic and international airports in Mumbai for the passengers on the city side.

Funds to States for Tourism Development

2191. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds granted/released to various States and Union Territories for the promotion of tourism in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the States have utilized these funds allocated to them; and

(c) if not, the names of States and the amount unutilized during the last three years alongwith reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations sanctioned 967 projects during last three years i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 involving an amount of Rs.239.00 crores. An amount of Rs.112.41 crores of this sanction has been released to all the States for development and promotion of tourism in the country.

(b) and (c) State Governments have completed 252 projects and utilized funds in these projects. Remaining 715 projects are at various stages of implementation.

[Translation]

Farmer Assistance Centre in Rajasthan

2192. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Farmer Assistance Centres functioning in Rajasthan at present location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such more centres in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the districts of the State in which such centres are proposed to be set up; and

(e) the time by which such centres would start functioning in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No such Centres are functioning in Rajasthan under any programme of this Ministry. However, ICAR has established 31 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), remandated one Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) at Sriganganagar, established three Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATICs), one each under Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur, Rajasthan Agricultural University (RAU), Bikaner and Maharana Pratap University of Agricultural and Technology (MPUAT), Udaipur and four Institution - Village-Linkage Programme (IVLP) Centres under National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) in order to create a single window support system for availability of technological products, diagnostic services and technology information to the farmers and other end users. A list of KVKs established by ICAR in the State of Rajasthan is given in the enclosed statement-I.

Besides, 4271 Kisan Sewa Kendras (KSKs) have been established at each Agricultural Supervisor Head Quarter by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan, where problems of the farmers are to be solved and technical know-how is given to them regarding their farming. District-wise list of Kisan Sewa Kendras established in the State of Rajasthan by the Agriculture Department is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(b) The Union Ministry of Agriculture and the State Government has no proposal to set up new Farmer Service Centres in Rajasthan.

(c) to (e) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

List of KVKs established by ICAR in the State of Rajasthan

1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Teachers Colony, Gupteswar Road, Dausa - 303303 (Raj.)	Vice-Chancellor, Rajasthan Agril University, Bikaner - 334001	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, B-33, Man Nagar, Jhunjhunu (Raj.)	-do-	1989 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fodder Farm Village Beechwal, Bikaner - 334002 (Raj.)	-do-	1983 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Post Box No. 16, Swaimadhopur-322001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station, Tabiji Farm, NH 08, Ajmer-305001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Old City, Dhaulpur (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
7	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fatehpur, Sekhwati, Sikar-332301	-do-	1976 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Keshwana, Jalore-342001 (Raj.)	-do-	1985 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vill. Navgaon, Alwar (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kisan Vidyapeeth, Near Sarag Guest House, Kumher, Bharatpur-321001 (Raj.)	-do-	1988 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 46, Jaisalmer - 345001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sanjay Colony, Nagaur (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonera, Deepak Bhawan, Dabla Road, Kotputli-303108, Jaipur	-do-	1989 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Badat Mat, Sastri Colony, Dungarpur-314001 (Raj.)	Vice Chancellor Agril University, Udaipur	1992 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borwat Agril Research Station, Banswara-327001 (Raj.)	-do-	1983 S

16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Station Road, Anta Baran - 325202 (Raj.)	-do-	1994 S
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kolar Farm, Ambasweiji Gate, P.O. Palri, Sirohi-307001 (Raj.)	-do-	1989 S
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittorgarh-312001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bokhera Farm, Kota-324001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittarapura Road, Bundi (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talai P.Box 16, Jhalawar-326001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhoinda, Rajasmand-313342 (Raj.)	-do-	1994 S
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Res. Station, Amajia Farm, Gandhinagar, Bhilwara-311001 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 S
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P. Tankadra, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	The Secretary, Pragati Trust, Chomu, Jaipur (Raj.)	1992 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Tonk-304022 (Raj.)	The Secretary, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Banasthali, Tonk, (Raj.)	1992 O
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001 (Raj.)	The President, Vidya Bhawan Society, Badgaon, Udaipur-313001	1983 N
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sardar Shahar, Churu-311401 (Raj.)	The Registrar, Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardar Shahar, Churu	1992 N
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gayatri Shanti Pith, Barmer-344001 (Raj.)	The Secretary, Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer (Raj.)	1992 N
29.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	The President, Keshyanand Memorial Trust, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Raj.)	1989 N
30.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur-342003 (Raj.)	The Director CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur-342003 (Raj.)	1983 I
31.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, CAZRI (ICAR), Pali-Marwar-304401 (Raj.)	-do-	1992 I

Statement-II

District-wise list of Kisan Sewa Kendras established in Rajasthan by State Agriculture Department

S.No.	District	No. of Kisan Sewa Kendra
1	2	3
1.	Jaipur	223
2.	Dausa	125
3.	Ajmer	177
4.	Sikar	118
5.	Jhunjhunu	98
6.	Bharatpur	174
7.	Alwar	276
8.	Dholpur	89
9.	S. Madhopur	103
10.	Karouli	121
11.	Kota	30
12.	Baran	81
13.	Jhalawar	122
14.	Tonk	152
15.	Bundi	47
16.	Bhilwara	232
17.	Chittorgarh	234
18.	Rajsamand	144
19.	Udaipur	338
20.	Dungarpur	177
21.	Banswara	148
22.	Jodhpur	63
23.	Pali	152
24.	Nagaur	163
25.	Jalore	89
26.	Sirohi	71
27.	Barmer	37
28.	Jaisalmer	7
29.	Ganganagar	232
30.	Hanumangarh	176
31.	Bikaner	65
32.	Churu	7
	Total	4271

[English]

Promotion of Coir

2193. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are to pay Rs. 34,597 for 1994-95, Rs. 3,40,76,875 for 1997-98, Rs. 3,16,07,303 for 1998-99 and Rs. 4,68,85,137 for 1999-2000 to Kerala as 50% rebate as per recommendations of the Planning Commission for sale of coir and coir products in the co-operative sector/State sector for enabling the coir co-operative societies and State coir development corporation to liquidate the accumulated stock and also to promote the consumption of coir yarn and coir products throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the broad features of the scheme alongwith the present status with regard to the above said payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The budgetary support for rebate on coir and coir products was intended to be restricted on the basis of the ceiling imposed by the Planning Commission. As such, there should not have been any build up of arrears of rebate claims with the State Governments. Moreover, during 1997-98, an additional rebate of Rs. 3 crore was allowed at the Revised Estimate (RE) stage which was a one time measure

for the payment of rebate arrears. In view of this no further financial support can be given by the Government of India in this regard. Now the rebate scheme has been replaced by the Market Development Assistance Scheme with effect from 2000-01.

[Translation]

Law for Protection of Livestock

2194. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the consistent loss of livestock in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any policy and to enact a law for the protection of livestock;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the Livestock Census estimates, there is no decline in the livestock population. The figures are as under:

Year	In million Nos.
1982	419.59
1987	445.29
1992	470.86
1997	479.93 (Provisional)

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Benefits of Kyoto Protocol

2195. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that India may not be in a position to get benefits of Kyoto Protocol in the absence of coordination between certain departments as reported in the Hindustan (Hindi Edition) dated September 29, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the hurdles and get maximum benefits of Kyoto Protocol?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol and supports early ratification and entry into force of the Protocol in accordance with the Bonn Agreement, Marrakech Accord and Delhi Declaration. Within Government of India, the Ministry of Environment & Forests is nodal authority on the subject of climate change and it works in close coordination with other concerned ministries/ departments including Ministries of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Coal, Power, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Science & Technology etc. An example of the good coordination among various government departments is the successful conduct of the Eighth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in New Delhi from 23rd October to 1st November, 2002 in which all Departments/Ministries participated in the main and side events. The Conference has enhanced the profile of the country in global environmental statesmanship, has brought out its resilience in organizing such a major event as well as its capacity to hold its ground in pursuance of national goals. The Conference adopted the rules of procedure of Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism as well as simplified modalities and procedures for small scale Clean Development Mechanism projects which will be of interest to developing countries, including India.

[English]

Development of Tourism in Rural Areas

2196. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any, comprehensive plan for development of tourism in rural areas having rich potential, especially in Thar region i.e. Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and seven sister States of North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have constituted any working group for development of rural tourism in the country which remained neglected so far; and

(d) if so, the composition and the main aspects proposed to be covered by the working group for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has

formulated a scheme for development of rural tourism during the 10th Plan. Under this scheme, 10 rural tourism projects are to be taken up in the country every year in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Constitution of Committee under Acharya Rammurthi

2197. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Acharya Rammurthi to go through the working of Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Committee have been received by the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Committee includes two members from NGOs, one Vice-Chancellor of State Agricultural University, one Assistant Director General, and one Zonal Coordinator as Member-Secretary.

(c) and (d) The report of the committee has been received during September, 2002. The recommendations have been examined and classified including issues and implications.

Hyderabad Cargo Complex to A.P. State Trading Corporation

2198. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government were requested by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to entrust the custodianship of the New Perishhable Cargo Complex at Hyderabad Airport to Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Commissioner of Customs and Central Excise has approved custodianship for the Centre for Perishable Cargo to Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation at Hyderabad International Airport w.e.f. 14.8.2001.

Reduction of Fare by IA and AI

2199. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India have decided to cut business/executive/club class fares on international routes by about 40 percent;

(b) if so, the details of new fares announced or likely to be announced by these airlines;

(c) whether Indian Airlines plans to operate No-Frills flights at cheaper tickets;

(d) by when such flights are likely to be operational; and

(e) sectors on which they will operate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Use of Neem

2200. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medicinal and cosmetic application of neem has been underutilised in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase and popularise the use of neem in the above and other fields; and

(c) measures taken for proper growth and sowing of neem trees?

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

cosmetics and other applications of Neem have not been fully tapped in the country. The measures taken by the Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur and the Indian Council of Forest Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun to popularize the use of neem for various purposes including forestry are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Use of Neem

Measures taken by the Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur and the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun to popularize use of Neem are as follows:

1. Organized meetings of the International Neem Network in 1993 and 2001 at Jodhpur to formulate guidelines and evaluate the performance of the international neem provenance trials.

2. Efforts made to control swarming of Locusts through the application of neem seed extracts in the desert areas of Jodhpur in 1993.

3. Organized six training courses for the 300 farmers at Jodhpur to popularize the techniques of propagation of Neem and its uses.

4. Under the FAO Neem Network, 1995, the field-trials of 18 International Provenances on Neem have been carried out at Jodhpur, Jaipur, Jablapur and Coimbatore.

5. The provenance trials of Neem from 39 seed sources collected from all-over the country were laid out in 1992 for assessment of the oil and *azadirachtin* contents.

6. Five hundred & thirty-seven Candidates Plus Trees of Neem in various parts of the country have been identified.

7. Twelve Hectare of Seedling Seed Orchards of Neem have been raised at Jodhpur and Jaipur as a source of good quality seeds of Neem.

8. Model Plantation of Neem over an area of 15 hectare established at Jaipur, Jodhpur, Himmatnagar and Pali to demonstrate the plantation techniques.

9. Three lakh seedlings of Neem have been raised by AFRI, Jodhpur for distribution to the farmers.

10. Clonal propagation techniques of Neem have been standardized at AFRI, Jodhpur for mass multiplication of seedlings of Neem having superior genetic characteristics.

11. Organized a National Seminar on 'Popularizing Theme Trees among the People including Rural & Urban Forestry Industry' at Dehradun by ICFRE on 24-25th September, 1998.

Cold Storages

2201. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many of the Cold Storages are geared or designed for a particular product which are kept for a limited period of time only;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modify the existing Cold Storages with many chambers for utilizing the full capacity throughout the year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have evaluated the actual requirement of the cold storage and the need to have more number thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (f) It is true that prior to 9.6.2000 most of the cold storages in country were single chambered and commodity specific only. However, since then National Horticulture Board (NHB) under its scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of cold storages and storages for Horticulture Produce", provides back-ended capital investment subsidy for creation of multi-chambered, multi-purpose cold storages. NHB has provided back-ended capital investment subsidy, till 31.10.2002, amounting to Rs.192.81 crores to 604 projects creating fresh capacity of 27.37 lakh tonnes.

The High Level Expert Committee on Cold Storage and Storage in its report submitted, in February 1999, to the Ministry of Agriculture had identified creation/expansion of 12 lakh tonnes during next five years and also to rehabilitate/modernize 8 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity lying closed. Based on the recommendations of the Committee report the aforesaid scheme of the NHB was formulated and is under implementation.

Vacant Land at Airports

2202. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether C&AG in its Report No.4 of 2002 (Commercial) has brought out the fact that 14 plots of land measuring 19553 sq. mts. are lying vacant at different pockets of Mumbai Airport from August 1996 onwards;

(b) if so, what is the present status of those plots;

(c) whether the responsibility and accountability has since been fixed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the land can be utilized only for aviation related activities, action for utilization of these plots is taken based on the demand from airlines/ cargo operators. Further, since the availability of land, at airports is limited, it has to be utilized optimally.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Medicinal and Herbal Plants

2203. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers supplying medicinal and herbal plants for the global herbal medicine and cosmetics industry are facing problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the agencies and institutions involved in encouraging farmers to use latest technology for better and quicker yields of these plants and help them sell the produce in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the Task Force on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants constituted by the Planning Commission, the farmers involved in the medicinal plants sector are facing problems like reduced availability from the wild due to over harvesting, lack of awareness on stage of maturity, inadequate storage facilities, lack of information on marketing and trade, poor marketing facilities, lack of quality standards and poor coordination between stake holders.

(c) The following agencies are involved in encouraging the farmers to use the latest technologies for getting higher yield and higher income;

(i) The National Research Centre on Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Anand, Gujarat under the I.C.A.R.

(ii) Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, U.P. under the C.S.I.R.

(iii) Deptt. of Agriculture & Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing developmental programmes on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants through the State Agricultural Universities.

(iv) National medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

[Translation]

Emission of Green House Gases

2204. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether as per the report of the USA's Centre for Global climate change India has substantially reduced the emission of green house gases during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of the measures which have brought down the emission of green house gases;

(c) the scheme-wise amount spent by the Government to bring down the emission of green house gases during each of the last three years; and

(d) the amount out of the abovesaid expenditure received from foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The USA's Pew Centre on Global Climate Change brought out a report entitled "Climate Change Mitigation in Developing Countries: Brazil, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, and Turkey" in October 2002. The report tries to document the climate mitigation in six developing countries, including India and states that significant reductions in carbon dioxide emissions over the last decade have been brought about in these countries

through environmentally friendly policies and renewable energy programmes. If not for these efforts, the report concluded, emissions in the six countries under reference could be about 19 per cent higher than they are today. The steps taken by the Government to address climate change related issues include measures relating to energy efficiency, energy conservation, power sector reforms, renewable energy programme, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and conservation of forests, efficient utilization of coal, reduction of gas flaring, installation of heat recovery systems in oil and power sector, standardization of fuel efficient irrigation pump sets and better cultivar practices. There is no one or more specific scheme(s) against which the expenditure can be related to lowering of greenhouse gases.

[English]

Dangers of Ozone Destruction

2205. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of awareness camps held by the Government on the dangers of destruction of Ozone during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(b) the plans of the Government in this regard for the next six months;

(c) whether any NGOs have requested for Governmental action to create more awareness on the Ozone and its destruction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) 27 awareness camps have been held by the Government on the dangers of destruction of ozone during the last three years in 22 States and 5 Union Territories.

(b) In the next six months, awareness camps are planned in the remaining 5 States and 2 Union Territories.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion of Agricultural Biotechnology

2206. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to take up any steps to promote research in agricultural biotechnology;

(b) if so, the financial outlay earmarked for the development of agricultural biotechnology during 2002-2003;

(c) whether all research institutions are availing the grants for conducting research in this field;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) steps the Government is initiating to create a pool of technical skill which is *sine qua non* to capitalise the spin offs of the scientific advancements in the field of agricultural biotechnology?

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

(b) National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi with financial outlay (2002-03) of Rs.100.00 lakhs and National Research Centre on DNA Fingerprinting, New Delhi with outlay (2002-03) of Rs.70.00 lakhs are exclusively conducting research on agricultural biotechnology in the ICAR. Besides, ICAR Institutes on food, fodder, fibre and horticultural crops, and annual and fisheries improvement and management are also engaged in research on agricultural biotechnology for which need based grants are being provided to different institutions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Scientists are being imparted training both in the country as well as abroad on the biotechnological aspects relating to plant, animal science and fisheries to enhance their competence and update their technical skills. Such programme will continue in future also.

Cattle Races

2207. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cattle races are banned under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960;

(b) if so, whether cattle races are taking place in Punjab, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Cattle races per se are not banned under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

(b) Cattle races do occasionally take place in Punjab and Maharashtra.

(c) The State Governments are expected to take action as and when the instances of cruelty involving unnecessary pain or suffering to the animals come to their notice.

Rourkela Steel Plant

2208. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rourkela Steel Plant has taken any step for the peripheral development in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rourkela Steel Plant has been undertaking various development activities like providing drinking water, health care, education, recreation, infrastructure and economic development. Total amount spent for undertaking these activities from 1974-75 to 2001- 02 is Rs.7,94,63,116/-.

Tiger Reserves

2209. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of Tiger Reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the details indicating the areas selected for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are unable to fund needed activity for the existing number of Tiger Reserves across the country;

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government are to take care of new reserves; and

(e) the details regarding funding pattern for the purpose?

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

(b) Government of India proposes to increase the area of Tiger Reserves by 4914 sq.km during the Xth Five Year Plan period, and the following proposals have been received:

(1)	Anamalai - Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary	-	Kerala - Tamil Nadu	-	1430 sq.km
(2)	Satkosia Gorge & Baisipada Wildlife Sanctuary	-	Orissa	-	988 sq.km
(3)	Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary	-	Chhattisgarh	-	1580 sq.km
(4)	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary		Chhattisgarh	-	552 sq.km
(5)	Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary	-	Maharashtra	-	364 sq.km

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Adequate amount of Central Assistance based on budget allocation is being provided to the Tiger Reserves under 'Project Tiger', which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry, wherein funding support is provided for Non Recurring (100%) and Recurring (50%) items of work. Demands of the Tiger Reserves are assessed after careful scrutiny of their Annual Plan of Operation, and any emergent needs are met based on the State Government's proposal and field assessment.

Diversification of Crop Pattern

2210. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to diversify cropping pattern in the drought affected States and particularly in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received from various States including Orissa by the Centre; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) As a part of national policy, the Government has been emphasizing crop diversification keeping in view the soil health problems being encountered by growing exhaustive crops like cereals followed by cereals. This is intended to conserve the natural resources with sustainability in agriculture. No specific proposal for diversification in the

context of drought has been received from Orissa or any other state.

Reduction in Import Duty on Non-Coking Coal

2211. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has forwarded a proposal to Finance Ministry to reduce import duty on non-coking for metallurgical purposes bringing it at par with coking coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) is planning to set up a coal based sponge iron plant; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Non-coking coal is an essential raw material for coal based sponge iron units and COREX process for production of Hot Metal. Quality of domestic non-coking coal is not up to the mark, making it unsuitable for DRI and COREX plants. Therefore, Ministry of Steel has recommended that customs duty on non-coking coal used for manufacture of sponge iron and hot metal be reduced from 25% to 5%. Such a measure will bring the duty on non-coking coal at par with that on coking coal of ash content below 12%.

(c) No specific time frame has been indicated by the Ministry of Finance.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A proposal to set up a coal based Sponge Iron Plant is at the initial stage of consideration but no firm decision has taken as yet.

Flood Prone River Basins

2212. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has identified the flood prone river basins and the rivers in Bihar, West Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, whether any short term and long term measures have been taken to control the flood menace specially in reference to Brahmaputra Valley of Assam, Indo-Nepal border of Bihar and flood prone districts of Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda and Murshidabad of West Bengal; and

(c) if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred for the purpose in the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) constituted by the Central Government in 1972 and the Brahmaputra Board in 1982, have prepared Master Plans for Ganga and Brahmaputra & Barak basins respectively. The Master Plan for the Ganga basin interalia includes the State of Bihar and West Bengal whereas the State of Assam is covered by the Master Plan prepared for the Brahmaputra & Barak basin. These Master Plans interalia have identified the flood prone river basins and the rivers in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam.

(b) and (c) Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning funding, executing and operating of flood control schemes primarily rests with the concerned State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

However, the Central Government, in addition to constituting GFCC and Brahmaputra Board also set up Rashtriya Barh Ayog in 1976 besides setting up a number of Expert Committees to study and examine the problems relating to floods in the country which have made recommendations for both short term and long term measures for implementation by the respective State Governments.

A National Flood Forecasting and Warning System has been established by Central Water Commission which issues flood forecasts at 159 stations in the country which also includes the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam. In addition a scheme namely "Flood Forecasting and Warning System on rivers common to India and Nepal" has also been in operation since 1989 to provide forecasts in the State of Bihar on the rivers flowing from Nepal.

For dealing with the problems of inundation in the vicinity of India - Nepal border, a Standing Committee on Inundation Problems between India and Nepal is also functioning since 1986. So far, twelve meetings have been held in which various issues have been sorted out.

A model draft bill for Flood Plan Zoining was also prepared and sent to the State Governments.

The Government of India have also been providing central assistance to various States. A total outlay of Rs. 342 crore towards central assistance has been proposed during the 10th Plan to take up critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States including West Bengal and for implementation of flood management schemes benefiting North Eastern States including Assam.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 820 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2002 recognising the laboratories mentioned therein as environmental laboratories to carry out the functions entrusted to the environmental laboratories issued under sections 12 and 13 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6163/2002]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O.727 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 2002 seeking to amend Notification No. S.O. 83 (E) dated the 16th February, 1987.

(ii) S.O. 1200 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2002 seeking to amend Notification No. S.O. 83 (E) dated the 16th February, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6164/2002]

(3) A copy each of the following of the Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O. 728 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 2002 seeking to amend Notification No. S.O. 84(E) dated the 16th February, 1987.

(ii) S.O. 1199 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2002 seeking to amend Notification No. S.O. 84 (E) dated the 16th February, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6165/2002]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English version) issued under section 23 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O. 729 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated the 11th July, 2002 regarding delegation of powers to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board subject to certain conditions.

(ii) S.O. 730 (E) published in Gazette of India, dated the 11th July, 2002 regarding delegation of powers to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board to issue directions to any industry or any local or other authority for the violation of the standards and rules relating to hazardous waste, bio-medical waste, hazardous chemicals, industrial solid waste, municipal solid waste including plastic waste notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6166/2002]

(5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 536 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th May, 2002 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 884 (E) dated the 19th December, 1996 issued under sub-section (3) of section (3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6167/2002]

(6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 38A of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960:-

(i) The Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 267 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2001.

(ii) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Transport of Animals on Foot) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 268 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2001.

(iii) The Transport of Animals (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 269 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2001.

(iv) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

(Slaughter House) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 270 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2001.

(v) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment and Regulation of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 271 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2001.

(vi) The Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 1256 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 2001.

(vii) The Performing Animals (Registration) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 35 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 2002.

(viii) The Experiment on Animals (Controls and Supervision) (Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 732 (E) in Gazette of India dated, the 28th August, 1998.

(ix) The Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 1074 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1998.

(x) The Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Amendment Rules 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 134 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6168/2002]

(7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

(8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) (Amendment) Rules, 2002 published in Notification No. S.O. 1088 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2002.

(ii) The Environment (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 2002 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 371 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th May, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6169/2002]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 2000-2001 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 2000-2001.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6170/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Victoria Memorial, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Victoria Memorial, Kolkata, for, the year 2000-2001.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6171/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table–

(1) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) on ILO Conventions No. 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 182, 183 and 184 and their accom-

panying Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 87th, 88th and 89th Sessions respectively, held in Geneva

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6172/2002]

(2) A copy of the Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 713 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2002 under section 44 of the Emigration Act, 1983.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6172A/2002]

12.03 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A 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 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6173/2002]

(b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-1999.

(ii) Annual Report of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-1999, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6174/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Employees Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 296 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2002 under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6175/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1997-1998.

(ii) Annual Report of the Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6176/2002]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6177/2002]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1992-1993.

(ii) Annual Report of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the

year 1992-1993, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6178/2002]

(d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6179/2002]

(e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-1997.

(ii) Annual Report of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-1997, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6180/2002]

(f) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 1998-1999.

(ii) Annual Report of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 1998-1999, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6181/2002]

(g) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6182/2002]

(h) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Akola, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Eight statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6183/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Oil Seeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Oil Seeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6184/2002]

12.04 hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

Fifth Report

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (SAGAR): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.04 ½ hrs.

MOTION RE: FORTY-THIRD REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 29th November, 2002."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 29th November, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, In the beginning, when I drew the attention of the hon. Speaker, he asked me to raise the issue during the 'Zero Hour'. The entire Parliament, irrespective of political affiliations, not once, but twice, extended support to this Government in one voice to fight cross-border terrorism. There is no division in the House insofar as fighting terrorism is concerned. The Leader of the House, hon. Prime Minister has made a statement in Shimla yesterday. Also, he had stated before 13th December 2001 in Mumbai that Parliament might be attacked and it did happen that the Parliament was attacked. Later on, they could not give any satisfactory answer as to how the intelligence worked in spite of having advance information.

After the incidents at Akshardham and Raghunath Temple. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether this issue is under discussion. ...*(Interruptions)* What is going on?

[English]

Is it a matter to be raised during the 'Zero Hour'?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This matter was raised by him just at the start of the Question Hour. He was told that he could raise it during the 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Our Prime Minister had said in Shimla two very important things. The first was accusation against the previous Governments. Shri Vajpayee said that the previous governments at the Centre had neglected defence because of world pressure and that the international community tried to put pressure on the Government in 1998 also when preparations had been made for the Pokhran nuclear tests.

Secondly, he further added that terrorists might target more temples. If it was a natural perception of a common man, I do not say anything. But, when the Prime Minister says that terrorists may attack more temples and further adds that the previous governments did not give due attention to the issue of defence under world pressure, it is a positive and a very serious charge that the country's security was not attended to in the manner it should have been. Whereas the Prime Minister, who was an Opposition Leader at that time, is on record having said in this very House as to how in the 1971 conflict, the 1965 conflict and even the 1948 conflict, the people of India and the Government were together. ...*(Interruptions)*

Fighting terrorism is not the individual task of either Shri L.K. Advani or of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): It is not the individual task of Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi also.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The entire nation is committed to fighting terrorism irrespective of political party affiliation. For the last one week, our Deputy Prime Minister, instead of sharing his perception in the House, is trying to make defence an issue.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: You are allowing what is talked in Gujarat during the elections. Should statements made during an election campaign be explained in the Parliament? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Please allow me to raise the question of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's speech at the Islamic Centre. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is not for the Opposition. The Government is not speaking in one voice. The Minister of Defence in his reply said that deployment of Army reduced infiltration, while the *Videsh Mantralay*. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What is he discussing? Every Ministry? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We have not come here to the Parliament just to sit as onlookers. If the Government cannot manage their own situations within, they cannot accuse us. *Videsh Mantralay* is telling infiltration is high; the Defence Minister is telling infiltration is down; the

Home Minister is telling the time has come for the fourth war; and the Prime Minister is telling earlier governments did not take any step to maintain defence. Where do we stand? This is not an issue to be taken so lightly. ...*(Interruptions)*

The Prime Minister ought to have been present in the House. This is n t a light matter. It pertains to the security of India. He cannot level charges against governments of the past in the matter of defence.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Whatever he has said that the earlier governments were not serious about defence is totally correct. This is not the way how this debate should be going on. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Our hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said that this House cannot take up every statement made during the election campaigns. I believe he said something to that effect. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Allow us to raise the question of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's speech at the Islamic Centre and also Shri Vaghela's statements to the newspersons. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We will let the speech of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's speech tabled in the House. Let the Prime Minister come and say how the speech of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi at Oxford hampered India's interest. ...*(Interruptions)* I demand the Leader of the House to come here and clarify the matter. ...*(Interruptions)* Without any sense of knowledge of what she spoke and what happened in the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, they are talking* everyday on the advice of the VHP. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, Shri Dasmunsi's total speech is. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The hon. Prime Minister's speech in Shimla was not made during the election campaign. ...*(Interruptions)* I am trying to meet the point made by the hon. Minister. The point is, the House is in Session now. Can an important announcement be made by the Leader of the House outside the House when the House is in Session? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What is that announcement? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Secondly, on the plea of the election campaign, what is happening in this country? ...*(Interruptions)* We strongly protest against the speech made on the basis of religion and we demand that the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister should come and clarify the points. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have a list of 24 hon. Members with me. I now call Shri Hannan Mollah to speak. He has given notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (KANPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we demand that hon'ble Prime Minister should come out with a statement in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* There is nothing wrong in it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Speaker gave an assurance in the Question Hour that he might take up the matter during the 'Zero Hour'. So, I have permitted you to speak. Now, I am calling those Members who have already given notice. Shri Hannan Mollah.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We cannot allow the ruling party to play to the gallery without taking the House into confidence. This is not the culture. The ruling party has not got the monopoly to play to the gallery ignoring the House. How can they do so? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is 'Zero Hour'. You have taken up the matter. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. I cannot compel the Government to give a reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, you were given an assurance and you have taken up the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: They cannot treat this House as a secondary institution. It is a supreme one. The Prime Minister will announce something outside the

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Parliament, the Defence Minister will say something outside the House and the House will be sitting like this! ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already taken up the matter. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here and he has taken note of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Prime Minister should come and share his views in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot assure you when he is going to come here.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's speech at Oxford should be placed on the Table of the House for discussion. For the last one week, BJP leaders have created controversy on her speech, therefore, they should accept this challenge and there should be a discussion in the House on her speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Did the Prime Minister share information with the State Government without trying to put a collective effort regarding the attack? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: We want that hon'ble Prime Minister should clarify why he is giving such irresponsible statements. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, you are a senior Member. You have taken up the matter after an assurance given by the hon. Speaker.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: But the Government is sitting quietly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to give a reply. I have to conduct the House. About 24 hon. Members have given notices to raise their points in the 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We would like to know whether the Prime Minister has shared such things with the Chief Minister. And what steps are taken in this regard? ...*(Interruptions)* It is a serious matter. It is not a light matter. ...*(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister must ensure whether he has shared his perception with the State Government when the House is in Session. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: We are not satisfied. You please call Prime Minister in the House. ...*(Interruptions)* He is giving the statements as to which temples are on the target of militants and when the Parliament might be attacked. Such irresponsible statements are being made. We want assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, will you please resume your seat?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): He has stated that terrorists might attack more temples. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, will you please resume your seat?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this problem should be solved. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (GOLAPGANJ): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are speaking against Prime Minister but not saying anything about Shrimati Sonia Gandhi who gives such statements in other countries. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, will you please resume your seat? What is this? Shri Raghunath Jha, will you please allow me to say something?

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's statement should be placed on the Table of the House. ...*(Interruptions)* and discussion be held on it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not a matter of politics. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to give the reply now. I have to proceed with other notices given by the hon. Members. As many as twenty-four Members have given notices, including some of your own Party Members.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. I have already said that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Hannan Mollah may please speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please cooperate with me.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can not compel him for the reply in 'Zero Hour'.

* Not Recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, please allow me to conduct the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Hannan Mollah may please speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, will you please resume your seat now?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, will you please allow me to conduct the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, I told you that this is 'Zero Hour'. You have already mentioned what you have to mention. The hon. Minister has already heard it. If the hon. Minister is not responding, the Chair cannot compel him to do so. As many as twenty-four Members have given notices.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, will you please sit down? Will you please hear me. Let me complete. This is 'Zero Hour'.

I am calling one by one. Will you please cooperate with me?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a serious problem faced by the North-Eastern State, Tripura. You know that the Assembly elections in the State are round the corner. At the same time, extremist activities in Tripura have

* Not Recorded.

increased manifold. There is an Indigenous Nationalist Party of Tripura, the INPT, which is an old extremist organisation. It is a mask of the terrorist organisation, the National Liberation Front of Tripura, the NLFT.

You know, Sir, in the last few months, the extremists are getting training from Bangladesh. They are headquartered in Dhaka. They are getting training in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh. Two women extremists, who have surrendered in Tripura, have revealed that training is going on and before elections, those extremists would come in a big way and attack the democratic people of Tripura. Already, dozens of people had been killed. Everyday, people are being killed. The extremists' leader Shri Bijoy Kumar Rankhal has made a speech in Geneva in a Conference saying that they are fighting for an Independent State of Tripura and they have the right to self-determination. It is quite anti-national. But this is the situation which is prevailing there. If the State is not protected, it would pose a great danger. The Chief Minister came here and demanded additional forces to protect the border and protect Tripura from the attack of the extremist forces. But the response of the Central Government is not proper. So, I demand that the Central Government should send adequate number of security forces to the State so that extremist activities can be checked and the people of the State are protected.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (KHERI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. Sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh are distressed because the rate of sugarcane is not being fixed. Very important news item has been published in the newspaper as to how the Supreme Court's order was misinterpreted and Uttar Pradesh Government was misled and how the orders issued by the State Government were withdrawn. It reflects conspiracy between the Industrialists and corrupt official in this regard. They have nexus with Uttar Pradesh Government. They pleaded the case on the basis of partial order of Supreme Court, which was interim one and there after Uttar Pradesh Government withdrew its orders. However, Supreme Court in its verdict given on 31st January, 2001 has clearly stated that the State Governments have full right to fix the rate of sugarcane. Rights of peasants of Uttar Pradesh have been ignored in this matter.

Through you, I would like to ask the Government to intervene in this matter immediately so as to save the life of crores of sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (SATNA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the incidents of dacoity and abduction are on rise in Chitrakoot area of Satna district and Sirmau and Tayonchar areas of Reeva district in Madhya Pradesh. Recently, two students of Chitrakoot Gramya University were abducted. Consequently, riots took place there. Then on 26th a person named Gupta was abducted. On 28th son of former Legislator Shri Ram Lakhan Singh was abducted.

We repeatedly wrote to Chief Minister, Home Minister and Home Secretary of Madhya Pradesh but Madhya Pradesh Government is not making any efforts to solve the dacoit problem of this area. I appeal the Central Government to contact the Madhya Pradesh Government in this regard and if required, Central Government should deploy force like Central Reserve Police Force in the area which is going to become dacoit infested area like Bhind Murenna. Central Government and Madhya Pradesh Government should make joint efforts to sort out the dacoits problem in Chitrakoot, Sirmaur and Tayonchar, adjacent areas of Uttar Pradesh.

12.25 hrs.

(i) Re: reported decision for closure of Central Govt. Printing Press in Kolkata and Gangtok

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (CALCUTTA, NORTH EAST): Sir, I raise a matter of urgent national importance. There is an acute scarcity of Central Government printed forms. A largely circulated Bengali newspaper, the Anand Bazaar Patrika today reported this matter. There are three such Printing Presses in the Eastern Region, two in Calcutta and one in Gangtok. It has been further stated that they are going to be closed by April 2003.

Sir, already there is an acute scarcity of Central Government printed forms. The other day pubic sector units were discussed here. One after another unit in the Eastern Region, particularly, in West Bengal, is being closed down by the Central Government. I want to know from the Central Government, what arrangements they have made for the supply of printing forms. Many statute and rule provide that action is to be taken by people on Forms prescribed and without those prescribed forms nothing can be done. I would like to bring this matter to the notice of the Government through you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Sir, this is a very vital issue and I thank Shri Panja for raising this vital issue.

It is not merely a question of availability of forms, but the Government printing work is being done outside when the Government Presses are kept idle and now they have

decided to close them down. There is a wonderful management over there. The workers are losing jobs. Government Presses are being closed and they are getting the work done by Presses outside. The forms are also not available.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You associate with him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is a serious matter, it cannot be taken casually. It is not the question of printing forms, the Presses are involved, they are very well run Presses. But the printing work is being done outside by private people and then these Presses are being made sick and are being closed down one after another.

I would request the hon. Minister to look into it and not to consider it as an ordinary 'Zero Hour' matter. I earnestly appeal to the hon. Minister to intervene. This is the time for the Government to Intervene. All the Ministers are away, but the Government should do something here and get something done in this regard.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should respond to this.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I cannot say that I will look into the matter because under the allocation of Business rules, I am not competent to look into the matter of other Ministries. But definitely I will, with all seriousness, take it up with the concerned Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Prime Minister had given assurance in this House on 20th November, 2002 that National River Grid would be constituted and inter linking of river would be done. It is a commendable step. Through you, I would like to say one thing in this regard. Inter river water disputes are going on in some states. Deadlines have been fixed at some places to complete a particular river by January. Government should take Punjab as an example in this regard.

[English]

During the Indus Water Treaty, out of six western rivers of the Punjab, three, that is, Jhelum, Chenab and Indus, were left with Pakistan and the other three that is Ravi, Beas and Sutlej were with India. Now the basic point is,

[Translation]

It is right that other states also need water. A scheme to constitute National River Grid is under consideration of the Government. In this regard, members of ruling party as well as opposition should be taken into confidence and a comprehensive plan should be formulated in this matter. For example, there is a matter of Satluj-Beas link canal. This matter has been superseded after the statement given by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 20th November.

On the other hand, Punjab is being asked to complete Satluj-Beas link canal by 15 January. It is hard to understand the logic of the two, since the whole issue is disputed. Therefore, as per the deadline and the order of the Supreme Court, if the Government decides to link all the rivers, then this matter becomes superfluous. Hence, Government should consider it seriously.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the accidents involving Mig-21 is increasing day by day. Newspapers are reporting a number of such cases. In the last five years 53 Mig-21 planes have crashed. 30 pilots have died, 16 civilians have been killed, property worth Rs. 1.40 billion have been damaged. In the year 1998-99, 10 Mig 21 planes, in 1999-2000 13 Mig-21 planes; in 2000-01 12 Mig-21 planes, in 2001-02 7 Mig-21 planes and in the current financial year 11 Mig-21 planes have crashed, which is a matter of concern. Government should make efforts to check such accidents occurring all over the country and the deal for AJT planes should be finalised at once and it should be inducted in the Indian Air Force. The credibility of the planes and the pilot is being questioned and all are concerned over the accidents occurring due to engine failure. Hence, Government should conduct inquiry into this matter and present the report to the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Maheshwar Singh, you want to associate with him?

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (MANDI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to associate with the important subject raised by him and would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the fact that recently on 14th November, a Mig-21 aircraft crashed half an hour after its take-off from Bagdogra and the country lost 39 year old pilot who was the first from Himachal Pradesh. Such accidents cost the nation crores of rupees and we should try to go into the reasons responsible for such accidents. As per the information received, most of Mig-21s have completed their life and the equipments in them are sub-standard. Therefore a thorough investigation should be made into. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (AMRAVATI): Mr. Deputy

Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a very serious and important issue that the practice of child marriage prevalent in Rajasthan have now started in Maharashtra also and on 19-20 and 21st November, 26 child marriages took place in Amravati district of Maharashtra wherein 9 year old girl, 12 year old boy and 12 year old girl and 15 years old boy were married in the police Commissioner's area. Government have taken no action so far. Police just looked at it while the programme kept on going for three days. The programme was organised by people of Kathwari community of Rajasthan who have settled in Maharashtra. Child marriage is banned in Rajasthan and allover the country and the people of Kathiawari community are trying to disturb law and order situation in Maharashtra. Government have taken no action even though 26 child marriages have been solemnised. The police commissioner of Amravati has admitted that such marriages have taken place there but no action was taken. Water and all other arrangements were made by them. Law and order situation in Maharashtra is serious and such incidents have become common in Maharashtra. It has been reported in all the newspapers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Anant Gudhe, you have already stated your matter.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Through you I am requesting the Government to take strict action against the guilty in this regard so that such incidents do not recur in Maharashtra. Today it is child marriage, tomorrow something else may happen. It is the Government's responsibility to check such incidents. Therefore, through you, I request the hon'ble Minister to check such incidents.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important matter, that is 'concern over adverse impact of privatisation', which has been reported yesterday in The Hindu.

A suggestion has been given by the Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in regard to the legal and constitutional protection of SC and ST employees in the private sector. The Committee has also recommended that a clause in the agreement with the private entrepreneurs must be incorporated at the time of disinvestment regarding the legal and constitutional protection for workers and also continuation of the reservation policy for the employees of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In this connection, I would like to quote article 15(4) of the Constitution:

> "Nothing in this article or in clause (2) of article 29 shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes."

I would like the Government to enact and implement a law for continuing the reservation policy for SC and ST employees in the private sector during this globalisation and privatisation era. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If your name is not there, then you will get opportunity only after the list is exhausted.

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (PHULPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards irregularities being committed in the examinations of Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission. We have read newspaper reports and watched an television about corrupt deeds in Punjab Public Service Commission and Maharashtra Public Service Commission.

Similarly, corruption is also rampant in Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission. Eligible candidates are not being selected and the higher marks of the candidates are being reduced through scaling system and thus they are not being selected. The marks of high scoring candidates are being lowered and those of low scoring candidates are being increased. Not only that but zero marks is being awarded to candidates who have appeared in the examination. Result is being declared in arbitrary manner. Allahabad High Court have stayed publication of results of these examinations. The candidates of the examination are on strike from the last two months. I demand that government institute a CBI inquiry on all the results from the year 1996 and the acts of the Chairman of the Commission and the Controller of Examination be reviewed.

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Thank you very much, Sir.

I would like to draw the attention of this august House, through you, to a very important matter. There are over six lakh *Anganwadis* in this country and over 12 lakh women are working in *Anganwadis* as workers and helpers. They are working as part of the Integrated Child Development

Scheme. The *Anganwadi* workers and helpers are doing a yeoman service to the society. The Scheme is meant for the wholesome development of mothers, pregnant women and children. Now, it is also covering adolescent girls. The honorarium given to these workers and helpers is a pittance.

During the last Budget Session, it was announced by the Government that the honorarium would be doubled or at least enhanced. Though many months have passed since the Budget Session, nothing has been done to execute this announcement. I would request the Union Government, through you, to examine the matter and execute this at the earliest with retrospective effect.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (ETAWAH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter relating to my constituency Etawah in the House. Sahaso bridge on river Chambal has not been completed even after 12 years. The pillars are still incomplete. Machines are lying idle but the bridge is still to be completed. Its budget has increased immensely because of overdelay. I have raised this issue last time also. The construction of bridge has been stopped. The bridge connects the borders of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The whole area is covered with ravines. It is used by people of both Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. In the rainy season, the whole road gets blocked. Consequently, the sick persons are not able to reach hospital. Therefore, through you, I demand that the construction of the bridge be completed without delay.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 55 years have elapsed since our country got its independence, but we still have not got out of the mentality of slavery. Hindi is our national language (Rashtrabhasha) and to promote Hindi language we also celebrate Hindi Pakhwara. But the reality is that people working in Hindi are still discriminated, insulted or even made to suffer. An air force officer Shri Jagdish Prasad Gupta was denied promotion and even removed from service because he wanted to work in Hindi. This officer was rewarded by the then President Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed for working in Hindi. It is not the question of one person, but it is the question of the dignity of Rashtrabhasha Hindi. After 55 years of freedom, only five per cent population know English, but the bureaucracy who are only two per cent of the population, try to promote working in English with a view to maintain their hold over administration. Hindi is being discouraged in this matter. Through you, I would like to request that Hindi gets its due position in practice and in this direction, both the House and the Government should put in maximum effort.

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also support the views of Chauhan ji. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have allowed you to associate only.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Sir, I also support the views of Chauhanji.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 19 Government Sugar mills in Maharashtra have violated financial rules by selling the government sugar quota in the wholesale market in the name of export, and have also caused revenue loss to the government. These sugar mills have, so far caused a loss of 20 crore rupees in excise and 60 crore rupees to sugarcane farmers of Maharashtra. Sugar mills in the states also get credit from NABARD and industrial banks besides local cooperative banks, but instead of utilising this credit in promoting exports of the country, these sugar mills are earning profits by selling sugar in the wholesale markets in the country. 19 sugar mills have so far caused a loss of 80 crores rupees.

Through you, I appeal the government to conduct a CBI enquiry into loss of rupees 60 crore to farmers as also rupees 20 crore of revenue to the government caused by these 19 mills and I would also request that the management board of these mills may immediately be dissolved.

12.42 hrs.

(ii) Re: Non involvement of local MPs in the inaugural functions organised by State Governments in respect of projects completed under MPLAD scheme.

SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG (KORPUT): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that under the MPLAD funds released for my constituency Koraput, Orissa and Jaipur city, a Kalyan Mandal was constructed in 1994-95 involving a cost of rupees ten lakh and inaugurated on 16.11.2002. But no MP was informed about that nor was I intimated in this regard. This Kalyan Mandal was inaugurated by four Ministers of the State Government and an MLA. I had, even earlier raised

*Not recorded.

this issue, but no action was taken on it. This hurts the feeling of the common people. Therefore action should be taken in this regard as soon as possible and the project be inaugurated by me again, this is my demand. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (KHAMMAM): Sir, I rise to associate with the hon. Member. We provide funds under MPLAD scheme and others take the benefit.

How are the officials also allowing this unless they are hand in glove with the ruling party? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): Sir, in Tamil Nadu, the same thing is happening. The Ministers of the State Government go and inaugurate the buildings and projects constructed through MPLADS Funds, without involving the concerned MPs. The local authorities do not inform the MP when the project is completed. When the MP asks the local authorities to fix the date for inauguration on completion of a project funded under MPLADS, they refuse to do it and simply wait for the State Ministers' instructions to inaugurate. They refuse to inscribe the name of the MP on the plaque and at the top of the gate/entrance of the building. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, if the names of the Members of Parliament are not there on the works that they have got executed, despite the ruling given by the House, then they will have to pay a penalty for it. The concerned Ministry and the other people must pay penalty. ...*(Interruptions)* They have to protect the MPs because it is one of our privileges. ...*(Interruptions)* It is trespassing on our privileges.

[Translation]

It is our privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG: Chief Minister's name has been given, but no mention of MPs is there.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister, Shri T.R. Baalu, wants to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, I am speaking personally about my MPLADS funds. I have sanctioned more than Rs. 10 lakh for the construction of the Velacherry bus stand. It was being used for the past six or seven months. My voters have gone to the court to see that my name is inscribed on the plaque of the bus stand. After a lapse of more than six or seven months, my voters have gone to the court to see that my name is inscribed there. So, please intervene to see that the names of all the Members of Parliament are written properly. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): If this is what the Cabinet Minister says, what will the MPs do? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister Shri Santosh Gangwar, you have seen the statement made by your senior Minister. Please give reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, hon. Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation Shri Vijay Goel is looking into this subject of MPLADS. I will ask him to look into the grievance of the hon. Members and also that of the hon. Minister.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: He is looking into Delhi affairs only! ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: He is the Minister in charge of MP LADS. I will ask him to look into this and do the needful, whatever is possible. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak. All of us should remember our tailors with gratitude. Really, they are the people responsible for making a modern man. A man becomes attractive due to the handiwork of the tailors. Even in Miss World contest and in the Miss Universe contest the tailors do play all important role. ...*(Interruptions)* They do play an important role. But, unfortunately, we do not consider their grievances with the seriousness that it deserves.

I would request the Government of India to bring in a legislation for the tailors' welfare fund. They are doing a thankless job. Even my brother, hon. Minister Shri T.R. Baalu also appears a handsome man because of the tailors. The tailors play an important role in making the Ministers also look good and without their help, he will appear something else.

So, please take into consideration the handiwork of the tailors. I think the Ministers of the Government of India will give a serious thought about it and bring in a legislation for the tailors' welfare fund and to look into other grievances. I strongly demand action in this regard.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, the Santhali language is spoken by more than one crore population of our county. It is one of the oldest languages. Even the languages which are spoken by less number of people than the Santhali language are recognised by the Government of India and they have been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution like Manipuri, Konkani, Nepali etc. Although Santhali language is a rich language and one of the oldest languages, still this language is not recognised and it has not been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

The Government of West Bengal has already recommended for its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and the West Bengal Assembly also had passed a unanimous resolution for its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. I demand that the Government of India should bring in a legislation to amend the Constitution so that the Santhali language is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Thank you.

SHRI M. CHINNASAMY (KARUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important matter of public importance. The menace of ragging has risen its ugly head yet again in the Santosh Medical College in Ghaziabad, near Delhi a few days back. I am sure that this is not confined to a medical college only. This has been a regular and recurring feature in innumerable number of colleges all over the country.

Sir, freshers are humiliated and tortured by senior students. This incident invariably takes the shape of a tragic incident like some freshers committing suicide. Recently, the Supreme Court has warned that if an educational institution fails to curb ragging, its affiliation to the universities and financial aid could be withdrawn. A case has been reported in the Hindustan Times on 29.11.02 that two freshers go deaf after ragging in Santosh Medical College. This ragging by senior students in Santosh Medical College has led to two freshers going deaf. Freshers were allegedly beaten black and blue by the senior students.

So, I would like to demand from the Government of India withdrawal of recognition and curbing of financial aid to the particular college.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to raise a very important question here. Recently an hon'ble court has issued an order under which, a decision has been taken to annul the need of making some alternative arrangement for the dwellers of Jhuggi-Jhonpris especially in Delhi before removing their Jhuggi-Jhonpris. This decision has been given in the context that it is being misused. I express my deep concern in this regard but I respect the Hon'ble Court. Not only in Delhi, but all over the country there are crores of people who do not have land and are living unauthorisedly in Jhonpris. Procedure is that these people are provided with some alternative to live. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request all the Hon. Members of the House in this regard as also wish to draw the attention of the Government and want your protection. The Government should bring in favour of all the poor people and get it unanimously passed in the House. Some alternative provision should be made for such poor people. ...*(Interruptions)* I demand that a law to this effect should be enacted. I want to know from the Government whether they intend to resolve the problems being faced by these homeless people. This is an important matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rai, you have already stated.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I need your protection. The Government should take it into their cognizance. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the Government wish, they can express their concern in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (MANDI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the midnight of 17th November, 135 tribal families of village Rakchham located at a height of thousands of meters in the tribal area of 'Kinnaur', being my constituency, were rendered homeless due to severe fire there. I visited this village with the Chief Minister on 22nd November. These people could only save themselves and nothing else. All stores of foodgrain got burnt and a huge loss of livestock occurred. As per the Government figures, a loss of 6 crores 31 lakhs 52 thousand and 100 rupees has been incurred. The snowfall can occur anytime in this area, which may cause danger to the lives of these people. I would request the hon. Prime Minister especially the Hon. Minister of Tribal Affairs to make some arrangements for giving protection to these people. These people would not be able to get their houses constructed quickly and the Government of Himachal Pradesh can not give more than rupees 35 thousand per family with their limited resources. Therefore, a community hall may kindly be constructed for them so that the children

and old persons could save their lives. A special grant may be given to them liberally so that these tribal people and those living in the bordering areas could save their life and property.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Banana is grown in abundance in the State of Maharashtra especially in Jalgaon and Konkan areas. And the prices of banana there are just nominal. The Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government that they may be granted subsidy and bananas may be immediately exported. I request that the matter may kindly be considered at the earliest.

SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI (BANSGAON): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Management of Fertilizer Corporation of India, Gorakhpur has issued a circular regarding VRS for its employees wherein there are a number of different types of anomalies. Out of 450 youth working in this factory, 200 belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe category who had been appointed to clear the back-log. As per this circular those who have completed 30 or more than that years of service would get benefit but others having less than 30 years of service would not get any benefit. I demand from the Government to absorb them elsewhere. Besides, V.R.S. should have option, that is, if employees want then they should avail this scheme and if they do not want to so then they should not be compelled for the same. The circular also states that VRS benefit would be given to a beneficiary only when he will vacate the government accommodation. I demand from the Government to give them one month time in this regard.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (RAJGARH): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a news item published in 'Indian Express' dt. 1.12.2002 under the caption:

[English]

"The Great Indian Bank Robbery."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one lakh 10 thousand crore rupees are lying as NPA in Banks against some industrialists. There should be a check on the manner in which nationalised banks are being looted. Hon'ble Finance Minister himself has stated about this amount:

[English]

"This is not debt, this is loot."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is his statement. Central Government have made insufficient efforts in this regard. Central Government have set up Debt Recovery Tribunals in some states. 56,988 cases are registered in D.R.T. wherein Rs. 1 lakh 8 thousand 6 hundred and 55 crores are to be recovered but only 4736 crore rupees have been recovered till March, 2002. I would like to know the reasons for this. Rs.1012 crores are to be recovered from LLoyd Group, Rs. 846 crore from Modern Group and Rs. 705 crore are to be recovered from Paras Rampuria Group. There is a long list in this regard. I demand from the Government to seize the NPA of these industrialists so that banks can recover public money. The entire NPA if recovered can be used as defence Budget for two years or we can construct one express highway in every state of the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like that a detailed discussion should take place on this important subject and would request the hon'ble Members to participate in the discussion to find a solution for this problem. A law should be enacted in this regard so that nationalised banks can recover this public money.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I associate myself with him.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is allowed to associate himself with what the hon. Member has said.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Shri Shivraj Singh, congratulate for associating yourself with Shri Lakshman Singh.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other day, I raised the issue of the plight of the poor tea and coffee growers in our country. The Ministry of Commerce has appointed a Task Force to go into various problems being faced by the growers. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government. It is the duty of the Government to take this House into confidence on this issue.

Today, during 'Zero Hour', Shri Dasmunsi had rightly pointed out as to how callous this Government is. When the House is in Session, propriety demands that these kinds of reports concerning lakhs and lakhs of agricultural workers

and farmers should be placed before the House so that each Member can go through it. The Task Force report is a very important one because it contains rehabilitation proposals and when implemented properly, it will not only give support but also rehabilitate the workers and the farmers.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I would request the Government, in all fairness, to place the Task Force Report before the House so that the Members can go through that and they can also make proper suggestions, if necessary.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, the farmers are suffering a lot. Even though the hon. Minister had promised to do a lot of things, nothing so far has been done. No banks are giving of any kind of help to the farmers, especially to the coffee producers, and the tea industry is also facing a lot of problems. About 24,000 tea workers are in distress. They do not have any work. They are not getting their salaries and the owners of the tea gardens have left the tea gardens. The people are starving. In view of this, the Government of India should take some important measures without any further delay. The report of the Inter-ministerial Task Force may be placed before this august House so that the Members of the House could go through that Report.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, this matter was brought to the notice of the concerned Minister and there was also a discussion on this in the House but nothing has materialised so far.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You also can associate yourself with Shri Chennithala.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Central Government provide 22.5% reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Many a times it creates resentment among the people of upper castes. Recently Brahmin Community has also demanded reservation. Therefore, my demand is that Brahamins which constitutes 3% of our population should also be given 3% reservation and if Brahmin employees working in various departments are more than 3% they should be retrenched.

My second demand is that SCs and STs were provided 22.5% reservation in 1950 on the basis of their population. Out of the remaining population of 77.5%, 15% belong to Muslim Community. Therefore they should be provided with 15% reservation. Hence, Central Government should provide reservation to a community according to its percentage in the remaining population of 77.5%. Dalits and Adivasis are getting several benefits, therefore, people have no clear understanding on the issue. My demand is that other than 22.5% of reservation every community should be given reservation in the remaining population of 77.5% according to their population. This issue needs to be resolved now. I request the Government to consider it.

13.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI P .H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take Matters under Rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to introduce LPG as auto fuel using replaceable cylinders to check vehicular pollution

SHRI A. NARENDRA (MEDAK): Sir, LPG for automobiles can be supplied either through dispensing stations or through replaceable cylinders. Since setting up dispensing stations is very expensive and time-consuming process, it would be better to permit replaceable cylinders to be used for introduction of LPG as auto fuel. I am given to understand that sufficient safety safeguards for replaceable cylinders have already been developed by the Automotive Research Association of India along with certain private sector companies. Conversion kits for two-wheelers and three-wheelers manufactured by the industry have been tested and certified by the statutory certification authority, viz., Vehicular Research Development Establishment. A pilot project conducted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the aegis of the Transport Department has been successful.

I request the Government to kindly give instructions to the concerned authority to implement the introduction of LPG as auto fuel using replaceable cylinders as this is a practical way of reducing vehicular pollution.

(ii) Need to prepare a comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme for the benefit of farmers.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Sir, farmers of our country remain in distress due to natural calamities. Their crops get damaged by drought, floods, hailstorm or frost at one time or another and remain indebted through out his life. Central Government have implemented Crop Insurance Scheme to provide relief to them during natural calamities. However, there is plenty of scope for improvement in this scheme. It should be replaced by a more appropriate and comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in which concessions be given in premium, it should be implemented in the entire country and all types of crops should be included in and farmers whose crops repeatedly get damaged by the heavy rains, flood, drought and other natural calamities should be covered therein. While determining compensation to improve the condition of these farmers, village should be taken as a unit.

Central Government should make arrangements to improve the condition of the farmers.

(iii) Need to review the decision to evict people from cantonment particularly in Sagar and Mahu in Madhya Pradesh.

DR. LASMINARAYAN PANDEYA (MANDSAUR): Sir, vast land is lying vacant along cantonments in the various cities of the country. Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pune, Nagpur, Sagar and Mahu are main cantonments among them. In absence of Board or anything displaying reserved areas, the local inhabitants, farmers or labourers etc. occupy this land; colonies have been developed and the facilities of electricity and water have also been provided there. Even farmers are using this land for cultivation. These activities have been undertaking for years and without any obstruction but now these people are being forced to evict these lands in Sagar and Mahu. It has created difficulties for the farmers and local people. Farmers have constructed 'pucca' wells and tubewells there and people have established colonies there. This has been going on for years. Even today the areas adjacent to the cantonments are probably not in use.

Therefore, I demand from the Hon'ble Defence Minister to look into to the matter before taking any action for eviction and give a chance to the affected persons to present their side so that thousands of people should not be evicted from there without any appropriate reason.

Therefore, the Government should consider the decision before implementation.

(iv) Need to shift Doordarshan relay centre to Akashvani Bhawan in 'Dhule' Parliamentary Constituency and also to start telecast of Metro Channel from there.

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT (DHULE): Sir, the Doordarshan Relay Centre with the broadcasting capacity of 25Km. was started in my Parliamentary Constituency Dhule in Maharashtra in 1984. After sanction of the Government to start telecast of Metro Channel, all the equipments have already been provided there. However, this Doordarshan Relay Centre is functioning in a rented building, it has paucity of space, and the building has become very old and lot of money is spent on its repair again and again. Therefore, if both the Doordarshan Relay Centre and Akashvani Kendra remain in one building, that is, Akashvani Bhawan, Dhule, it would not only save the government expenditure but would be convenient for the employees of the Department and the common people.

Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Information and Broadcasting Ministry to take appropriate action for the shifting of Doordarshan Relay Centre to the complex of Akashvani Bhavan and to start the telecast of Metro Channel from there without any further delay.

(v) Need to include the Satnami Community in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in the List of Scheduled Castes

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (BILASPUR): Sir, in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh Satnami Caste has been mentioned in Schedule 14 of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward class list of welfare department in which there is mention of Chamar, Chamari, Ahirwar, Mochi, Raidas, Bhangi, Mehtar, Ram Nami, Suryavanshi etc. castes. People belonging to Satnami Community are demanding that the Satnami Caste should be excluded from Scheduled 14 and should be included in Scheduled 14(a) of Scheduled Castes. A proposal regarding this has been submitted to the Central Government by the Chhattisgarh Government.

So, keeping in view the sentiments of the people of Satnami Caste I urge upon the Central Government to exclude Satnami Caste from Scheduled 14 and should be included in schedule 14(a) so that the said Satnami Caste people may feel proud.

(vi) Need to introduce Hari Prayag Express between Allahabad and Dehradun via Lucknow and Haridwar

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (PRATAPGARH):

I urge upon the Government to introduce a Express Rail Service between Allahabad and Dehradun via Lucknow and Haridwar. It will connect two Pilgrimage places of Prayag and Haridwar. Presently, Pilgrims visiting these places have to travel by buses and have to face many difficulties. With the introduction of this rail service Lucknow, the Capital of Uttar Pradesh and Dehradun, the capital of Uttranchal will be connected and it will be convenient for the officials and officers of both the states to travel to these places. Trains running on this route come from Howrah and are already crowded. Due to this the passengers travelling to these place have to face a lot of difficulty.

Through this House, I would like to urge upon the Government to introduce Hari-Prayag Express rail service between Allahabad and Dehradun via Lucknow and Haridwar at the earliest.

(vii) Need to take necessary steps to solve the issue of distribution of water of Indira Gandhi Canal among Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (BARMER): I represent a part of Barmer-Jaisalmer and Jodhpur district in the House. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards receiving and distribution of water through Indira Gandhi Canal Project in Bikaner and Jaisalmer district. The farmers of sixteen districts of Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana had purchased agricultural land along Indira Gandhi Canal. But due to non-supply of its share of water to Rajasthan the farmers there are facing the problem of scarcity of water for irrigation for the last three-four years. As a result thereof the crops there were destroyed in the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003. This problem has aggravated due to drought situation in Rajasthan continuously for the last four years as there is no water for drinking and irrigation purposes. The main reason of scarcity of water is that the 8.6 (M.A.F.) i.e. 52.7 per cent share of Rajasthan was not given to Rajasthan for which the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan agreed before the Prime Minister in a meeting held on 31.12.1981. In this connection please refer to clause I of Ravi-Vyas. No decision has been taken on the outcome of the meeting of three Chief Ministers which was held on 20-30 July, 1992 and 6 April, 1992 under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Water Resources which was referred to Government of India for final decision.

Therefore, I would like to request the Prime Minister to intervene in this matter on the following points:

1. This long pending problem should be resolved by calling a meeting of Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan at the earliest possible.

2. Rajasthan should be given its share of 8.6 MAF of water from the surplus water of river Ravi and Vyas as per the 1981 agreement.

3. In order to protect the crops of Rajasthan from destruction sufficient water should be released immediately.

(viii) Need to take over certain ancient temples in Dhenkanal Parliamentary Constituency, Orissa by the Archaeological Survey of India

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): I draw the urgent attention of the Government of India for the Central Protection of five ancient temples of 12th and 13th century vintage, viz:-

(i) Kapileswar Mahadev Temple, Hatuari in Kamakshya Nagar Sub-Division.

(ii) Chandrashekher Jew, Kapilash in Sadar Sub-Division.

(iii) Annakoteswara, Latadeipur, Sadar Sub-Division.

(iv) Astha Sambhu Temple, Kualo, Kamakshya Nagar Sub-Division, and

(v) Rock Cut Anantasayan Vishnu on River Brahmanibed, Kamakshya Nagar Sub-Division.

All these temples are located in my home district and constituency of Dhenkanal. Due to paucity of funds, the State Government of Orissa is not in a position to pay proper attention and care on the maintenance and upkeep of these temples. The State Government has agreed to transfer, the land in the temple complex and a 'No Objection Certificate' to that effect has already been issued by the State six years ago. So, there is no difficulty on the part of Archaeological Survey of India to take over these temples.

In view of this, I demand that the temples mentioned above may be taken over by the Central Government immediately and take earliest steps on the protection, conservation and development of these temples without any further delay.

(ix) Need to check unauthorised cultivation of tobacco in Karnataka

SHRI Y.V. RAO (GUNTUR): The tobacco crop size originally fixed for Karnataka for 2001-02 was 42 million Kg. However, 20 million Kg. of unauthorised tobacco was being produced and the proposal for regularising 60 million Kg of

tobacco and 23,000 unauthorised barns was brought in the meeting of Tobacco Board on 2.11.2002. However, no decision was taken and the matter was deferred for next meeting of the Board fixed for 23.11.2002. Instead of waiting till 23.11.2002, the Tobacco Board took an administrative decision on 8.11.2002 for increasing the crop size in Karnataka. Again, in the meeting of the Board on 23.11.2002, the Board was made to ratify the administrative decision.

I request the hon. Minister of Commerce to look into the matter and ensure control of unauthorised crop, otherwise farmers producing authorisedly will suffer heavily. I also request the Minister to look into the matter as to whether the crop size can be revised without amending the rules in the mid crop-season.

[Translation]

(x) Need to take suitable measures for conservation of water resources in U.P. particularly in Agra.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the water crisis in the country is aggravating. Water level all over the country is falling. The water level in Agra, Firozabad and Mathura area has drastically gone down. Schemes for irrigation through tubewells were promoted during last years but scheme for recharging the groundwater were not taken up seriously and as a result thereof there is crisis of water. Though natural sources of water the availability of water is there in the country but there is problem of its utilisation. The collection of rain water is the best measure to increase the ground water level.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to implement the scheme for conservation of water resources at the national level. Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Food processing Industry together should promote the construction of ponds in the country. As per the report of a study, Rs.80,000 to Rs.1 lakh can be earned from a pond measuring one hectare of area. Construction of Kacha pond will generate the source of income for the rural people and availability of water will increase as a result of rise in ground water level.

(xi) Need to increase duty on import of cotton

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (AMRAVATI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are famous for the cultivation of cotton. There is good yield of cotton in this area. In spite of this the condition of farmers here is not good.

In Maharashtra under the monopoly scheme the farmers were paid at the rate of Rs.2100 per quintal till the last year. This year this rate has been reduced to Rs.1400 per quintal. It is on account of this that there is recession in the market. The main reason for recession is also that huge quantity of cotton is being imported from other countries. There is only 5 per cent import duty on the import of cotton. It is due to the import of the cotton that the condition of our farmers is deteriorating.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to increase import duty from 5 per cent to 25 per cent so that the farmers in the country may get good market of cotton.

(xii) Need to run proposed train between Mau Junction and New Delhi via Azamgarh in U.P.

SHRI BALKRISHNA CHAUHAN (GHOSI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a new train of North-Eastern Railways between Azamgarh and New Delhi. Azamgarh is a small railway station. All such facilities which are required for operating a new train, viz storing water in coaches, cleaning, washing, compressor machine, TXR facilities, TTE staff, sufficient rail tracks, yards etc. are not there although all facilities for operating a new train are available at Mau Junction, which is just 43 Km away from Azamgarh station. Mau Junction is connected with Gorakhpur, Balia, Varanasi, Dohrighat etc. railway routes and Mau city, being a world famous centre of production of Banarsi Sarees, is visited frequently by the people of the region. Maximum number of people would be benefited if the said train is started from Mau Junction and this would also give commercial benefit to the Railway.

It has been a demand of the local people for the last many years that the train may be started from Mau Junction via Azamgarh to New Delhi. And this step of starting the new train from Mau Junction instead of Azamgarh up to New Delhi via Azamgarh would be in public interest.

I, therefore, request the Government that the train proposed to be started from Azamgarh, may be started from Mau Junction.

(xiii) Need to exempt Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Employees Pension Fund Trust from LIC annuity scheme

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): Mr. Chairman, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to raise an important issue under Rule 377, concerning 1,25,000 transport workers in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Employees Pension Fund Trust has been formed with a view to provide pensionary benefits direct to employees. They have also addressed a letter to the Ministry of Finance for exemption from LIC annuity scheme.

The Pension Scheme is to be implemented with retrospective effect from 1.9.1998. The Pension Trust formed for administering payment of pension has to be approved by Income Tax Department. Since the LIC annuity scheme is very much expensive, the Trust wants to make payment to the pension beneficiaries directly.

I request the Government of India, especially the hon. Finance Minister to kindly pass orders to exempt this Trust from taking Annuity Scheme from LIC on the lines of NABARD, SIDBI, and National Housing Board under rule 11 of Part B, Schedule IV under the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(xiv) Need for creation of a separate State of Bodoland

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (KOKRAJHAR): Despite the holistic desire and political wisdom on the part of the Bodoland Movement leaders for getting many decades-old burning "Bodoloand Issue" resolved through peaceful political dialogues and negotiations, nothing tangible has emerged as yet. You may be aware of the fact that after Independence, precisely in the 1960s and 1970s, barring the indigenous Plains Tribal-Bodo people of Assam, who happen to be the single largest Indo-Mongoloid Tribal group, all the Hills Tribal people of the entire North-Eastern Region have already been accorded the optimum quantum of Political Right to Self-Determination within their own ancestral territories and regions either in the form of separate provincial States or separate Autonomous Districts of their own as a measure of ensuring their survival and existence. But only this unfortunate real autochthones Indo-Mongoloid Bodo Tribal group of people of Assam, have not got even the bare minimum benefit of constitutional provisions under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to take concrete political decision and to have pragmatic political wisdom to bring about a lasting and honourable political solution to the many decades old "Bodoland Imbroglio" for the greater interests of restoring peace, normalcy and congenial atmosphere so as to help facilitate all round growth and development both inside the Bodoland Territory as well as in the North-Eastern Region as a whole.

(xv) Need to restart passenger train between Andal and Chittaranjan in West Bengal.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY (ASANSOL): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Railway Minister regarding operation of one passenger train in between Andal Railway Station and Chittaranjan Railway Station via Toposi, Ikhra, Jamuria, Barabani and Sitarampur coinciding with the timings of Coalfield and Agnibina Express in the morning and Black-diamond Express in the evening at Andal Railway Station. Previously, one passenger train was operating on this railway track from Andal Railway Station to Baidyanathdham via above stations since pre-Independence period, but without reason the passenger service was withdrawn. Still the wagons with load are being plied everyday on this track. The operation of the passenger train on this Railway track is urgently needed for the passengers for Kolkata/Howrah Up and Down as the Stations of Asansol and Raniganj are twenty to thirty kilometres away from this area.

I urge upon the hon. Minister to consider resumption of the service of the above passenger train.

14.28 hrs.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for conservation of Biological Diversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

I have the proud privilege today of introducing the motion for consideration of a Bill which aims at harnessing the unique strength of our rich and diverse ecosystems. Hon. Members of this august House may be pleased to know that we account for seven to eight per cent of the whole world's flora and fauna, and therefore, are hailed as one of the megadiverse countries of the world.

Biodiversity, the variety of life on earth, as you may be aware, is an essential part of our daily life and livelihood. It constitutes the resources upon which human beings, communities, nations and future generations depend. Biodiversity is essential for maintenance of the ecological

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

balance and for sustenance of the evolutionary processes of life.

Therefore, concern for conservation of biodiversity at the global level culminated in the adoption of an international treaty, called, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in 1992. The Convention aims at conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity and equitable sharing of benefits arising from its use. At the same time, the Convention affirms the principle of sovereign rights of States over their own biological resources. India is a party to the CBD.

As a treaty, the CBD is founded upon the principle of inter-generational equity, a feature which distinguishes it from other international treaties concerning sustainable development.

In the past the biological resources of the country have been shared freely with other countries treating biodiversity as a common human heritage.

The knowledge systems and practices of the local and indigenous communities have also been accessed freely by outsiders in the past. But in the post-CBD era, this scenario has changed.

The CBD enjoins upon the Contracting Parties to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties on mutually agreed terms and with prior informed consent of the country providing these resources. Recipient country is to provide fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources transferred. Facilitation of access can be provided only through national legislation and/or regulations.

In this background, we have developed the Biological Diversity legislation. I am happy to inform this august House that we are one of the very few countries in the world and the first among the 12 megadiversity nations to develop such a legislation.

The proposed legislation primarily addresses the issues concerning access to genetic resources and associated knowledge by foreign individuals, institutions or companies and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of these resources and knowledge with the country and the people. The Biological Diversity Bill proposes:

(i) To regulate access to biological resources of the country with the purpose of securing equitable share in benefits arising out of thee use of biological resources; and associated knowledge relating to biological resources;

(ii) To conserve and sustainably use biological diversity;

(iii) To respect and protect knowledge of local communities related to biodiversity;

(iv) To secure sharing of benefits with local people as conservers of biological resources and holders of knowledge and information relating to the use of biological resources;

(v) To conserve and develop areas important from the standpoint of biological diversity by declaring them as biological diversity heritage sites;

(vi) To protect and rehabilitate the threatened species;

(vii) To involve institutions of self-government in the broad scheme of implementation of the Act through constitution of committees.

I am happy to say that the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee has taken note of the subtle nuances of the issues and provided necessary safeguards to protect the interests of local people, growers and cultivators of biological diversity as well as Indian researchers. The Committee held 26 meetings with different stakeholders over a period of a year and a half to consider the provisions of the Bill and finalise its views. During its deliberations, the Committee also received 35 memoranda containing suggestions on various provisions of the Bill from various organisations, individuals and institutions.

The Committee, while reinforcing the provisions relating to equitable sharing of benefits and role of the Central, State and Local Self-Governments has restructured existing provisions relating to penalties, appeals and cognisance of offences. Exempting the value added products from the purview of the legislation, and defining 'commercial utilisation', it takes care of the interests of the Indian industry.

Some consequential and drafting amendments have been necessitated which are included in the notice of the official amendments.

The Biological Diversity Bill also provides for checking biopiracy and realize equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilisation of our rich biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

As the Bill reflects the collective will and wisdom of the Standing Committee, I appeal for support and consensus from all sections of the House.

With these words, I move the motion for consideration of the Biological Diversity Bill, 2000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for conservation of Biological Diversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, may I read out my speech?

This globe of ours is full of bio-diversity and genetic wealth, which have been created in the laboratory of nature in periods ranging billions of years.

The bio-diversity and the genetic wealth maintain the balance in the environment and sustain the life.

Some aspects of industrial revolution, rapacity and greed of some human beings have been affecting the variety and wealth of biomass and are likely to create an impact, which may cause irreparable damage to the environment and the life.

To contain this mindless and greedy utilisation of the nature's wealth, thinkers of the world, and representatives of the peoples have met at different places of the globe and have evolved policies which can be adopted by different countries, to protect and preserve, and use in sustainable manner, the bio-diversity and genetic wealth.

India, which has the fortune of always thinking comprehensively, holistically and futuristically has agreed to enact laws to implement the policies evolved for protecting the balance and variety in the nature. Fortunately for our country, the environment, the soil, the water and the geographical location of India, have contributed towards bio-diversity. The bio wealth should be protected, preserved and used in an equitable manner for all of us in India, and the world, so that we, in India, benefit from them and the process of developing the technologies for using them for all human beings is not retarted, but accelerated in correct, just and scientific manner.

To achieve these objectives, this Bill is framed and presented to the Parliament. It aims at creating national bio-diversity management machinery and committees. It speaks about their functions, rights and duties, about the funds that can be given to them, about the manner in which the accounts can be maintained, about the posts created to manage the activities of the authority, the Boards and the Committees. It deals with the research and the development, that can be done in these fields, about the patents that can be obtained to protect the Intellectual Property Rights of the persons and bodies which are involved in producing new technologies and varieties.

Some of the countries of the world are rich in genetic wealth, and bio-diversity. Some other countries have developed genetic technologies. The countries which are rich in genetic wealth are not necessarily rich in genetic science and genetic technologies, and the countries which are advanced in genetic knowledge, science and technology are not rich in genetic wealth. The countries of the north of the globe are advanced in genetic science and genetic technologies, but as their soil is covered with snow for a longer part of the year, they have not been able to produce genetic wealth and bio-diversity which is done in the countries of the south of the globe. If the humanity has to benefit out of the wealth of the nature, the genetic wealth, and genetic technologies should not be denied to those who need them for common weal of the humanity. They should be used in a manner which endorses the policy that they should be used as the common heritage or mankind. At the same time they should not be exploited, and misused by one, to gain advantage over the other. The just and scientific attitudes in these respects would be in fact useful and beneficial to all in the world. This Bill is an attempt to protect the interests of India in this respect, as well as to see that the genetic wealth is not denied to those who want to discover more knowledge for the benefit of one and all in the country and the world.

This Bill has certainly been examined by the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has approved the Bill sent to it by the Government. But we are not going to accept the recommendations of the Standing Committee as they were made. There are certain areas to which the Standing Committee should have paid attention and should have suggested some amendments. Having that not been done, it is necessary for us in the Plenary to discuss the provisions of the Bill in such a manner as to see that it can be improved upon. I am going to touch upon those things now.

My objection is to the title itself. What is the title? It is called the "Biological Diversity Bill." It does not convey any meaning. There was a Bill moved by the Department of Electronics and the title of that Bill was also defective. The title of this Bill is also defective. What should the title of a Bill indicate? It should indicate as to what the Government wants to do through this Bill. The essence of the contents of the Bill should be reflected in the title. The Biological Diversity Bill, 2000 does not reflect anything. It should have been different. What kind of a title should this Bill have? I think it could have

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

been called "The Biological Diversity, Protection, Preservation and Sustainable Utilisation Bill of 2002."

In the olden days, laws were made by the Government. Their titles conveyed the meaning. For example, take the Prevention of Atrocities Bill. It indicates as to what the Bill is aiming at. But the title of this Bill does not indicate that. It just gives a name which is meaningless. This could have been avoided. My submission is that the Government should accept this title for this Bill as: "The Biological Diversity, Protection Preservation and Sustainable Utilisation Bill." It conveys the meaning of the contents of the Bill. It exposes the contents to the readers and to those who want to use it, to the administrators, to the lawyers, to the judges and to the persons coming from India and outside also as to what this Bill is going to convey.

This Bill deals with a subject which has acquired importance world over and is going to dominate the activities of human beings in the present and future centuries. Therefore, it could have been drafted in a very careful, unambiguous, lucid and elegant manner. After reading the Bill, one comes to the conclusion that no serious thoughts have gone in framing it. It has been drafted in a casual manner. The substance and the objectives of the Bill are of great importance and acceptable. But the form is clumsy and devoid of lucidity and elegance.

The explanation to clause 13 (1) of the Bill gives the definition of "agro-bio-diversity ." It could have been given in Chapter-I as a part of the clause giving definitions of other words and phrases used. This fact goes to show that it was done at the time of deciding on the contents of clause 13. In fact, it could have been shifted to Chapter-I, also, without causing any disfigurement and change into Chapter-I and clause 13.

The manner in which clause 8 has been drafted, which deals with the establishment of a National Bio-diversity Authority, is not very scientific, lucid uncomplicated, and happy.

I have quoted these two instances only. It is possible to say by quoting other instances also that the Bill is not happily worded and diligently drafted. Clause 8 (iii) of the Bill provides that the Head Office of National Bio-diversity Authority shall be at Chennai. Why should it be at Chennai? I would like to ask the hon. Minister.

Has Chennai many bio-technology labs established in and around it? Is it situated in an area of India, which is rich in bio-diversity and genetic wealth? In fact, bio-diversity and genetic wealth are found in Himalayas, in the North-Eastern States, in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and also in Eastern and Western Ghats to some extent. In Kolkata and some other cities in the Gangetic belt, there are laboratories and agricultural universities, which study biology, genetics and many such other subjects.

One has to look from this angle. So, it would have been better to establish the Headquarters of NBA in Kolkata. It has many other facilities required for these purposes. It is at a close distance from Himalayas, the North-Eastern States and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and sea also. We can have the Headquarters of Coast Guard in Chennai, but to suggest that the Headquarters of NBA should be there, does not occur scientific and logical but appears politically motivated.

If you want to do scientific developments through devices which are of practical and political nature and which have no relation to scientific facts, we should not be able to achieve good and speedy results. It is better to bear these facts in mind and then take decisions. We are indeed very perplexed to see that this Bill suggest a place for the Headquarters of NBA which is not best suited for the purposes. We expect the Government to act in the national interest, in the interest of research and development in biomass and genetics and not in the interest of their party and the coalition of the parties which form the present Government.

The hon. Minister has to explain, why the Headquarters is going to be at Chennai.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chennai is also part of India.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, Chennai is also part of India and Kolkata is also part of India, which is nearer to Himalayas. Chennai is very much part of India and you would be very happy to send our Coast Guard Headquarters at Chennai.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): Why are you against having it in Chennai?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have explained that. I have nothing against Chennai or the Minister or the Chairman. But we shall have to consider that these things should not be decided in this manner. This Authority is going to be a very important authority. It is going to be a more important authority than anything done for the atomic science at Mumbai or at other places and yet Chennai is not the place because at Chennai you do not have the genetic wealth.

Where is the genetic wealth in India? India is one of

the most wealthy countries as far as gene-mass is concerned. But if you take this laboratory to Chennai and not have this laboratory near Himalayas, foot-hills of Himalayas or North-Eastern States, then it would not serve the purpose fully. Guwahati would have been better, Kolkata would have been better and our friends would have been very happy to have it in Patna also. But taking it to Chennai really does not convince us. There is nothing against Chennai. Chennai is a place where there are very enlightened persons living and there are some scientists also and yet we do feel that this decision of the Government and that too mentioning as to where the Headquarters of NBA should be, in the law itself, is not correct.

This is never done. Why should you do it? You have not left any elbow-room for yourself to change the decision if it is required. If you want to have the Headquarters at any other place, you shall have to go to the Standing Committee, come to Lok Sabha, come to Rajya Sabha, and then go to the President to get it changed. This kind of a thing is not done. It should not have been done.

Chapter 7 speaks of the duties of the Central and State Governments. The Constitution of India does not use the words 'Central Government'. Generally, we use the words 'Union Government'.

There are persons in the society who want to take up economic development and solve their economic problems, paying not enough attention to the problems of protecting and preserving the environment, bio-diversity and genetic wealth. They are more for the present, and less for the future.

There are others who think that the present generation has a duty to protect and preserve the balance and diversity and genetic wealth in the environment, and has no right to endanger the future of the coming generations. They have long-term perspective and are futuristic in their attitudes. Generally, it is found that those who are in the industry, trade and commerce and agriculture, and in the business of money-making, want that the problems of the present should be tackled in an effective manner, and the present should not be sacrificed for the future and think that the issues relating to the environment should be handled in realistic and practical manner, and should not be allowed to assume proportions which look faddistic.

Those who are in the business of creating knowledge and science and technology and do not attach much importance to money-making, stand very firmly for using the bio-diversity and genetic wealth in a careful and sustainable manner.

It is also discovered that some of the State Governments are more inclined towards tackling the problems of the present and do not wish to be shackled by the chains of environmental concerns, and the issues of the days to come. The Union Government takes a view, which is more inclined to long-term issues and problems and care more for the environment and the generation to come.

It is found that many times there has been bad blood between them on the issues of this nature. In some cases, some projects have been not allowed to be constructed by those in public who say that they attach more importance to the issues of environment.

Therefore, the policies have to be made in such a manner that they help to solve the problems of protecting the environment and the problems of development of economy. The balance attitude is necessary. Taking an extreme stand is easy but taking a balance stand is not always easy. The extreme stands have staunch supporters or opponents but the balanced approach finds itself without enthusiastic supporters, and suffer.

The provisions contained in clause 36 (3) (i) (ii) are too intricate to be easily enforceable. The skill and expenence of the Government would be tested in the implementation of these provisions.

The State Governments are empowered to declare areas as bio-diversity heritage sites under clause 37 (1). We apprehend that, they would not attach enough importance to this duty, and as a result of it, the bio-diversity heritage sites are likely to be damaged. As per the schemes that exist at present under the Constitution, it is a correct thing to do. But it is not likely to produce as satisfactory a result as it would have produced if it could have been done by the Union Government.

The provision contained in clause 38 empowers the Union Government to declare a species as endangered species, which is a correct thing to do.

But declaring an area as bio-diversity heritage site is more important than declaring a species as endangered species. That is why, it is felt that it would be better if this duty, that is, the duty of declaring a bio-diversity heritage site is done by the Union Government.

I am trying to be very correct. You are allowing the Union Government to declare which is an endangered species but you are not allowing the Union Government to declare which is a bio-diversity heritage area. This duty is given to the State Governments. I am sure that the State Governments have

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

all the good intentions. They want to reduce poverty, help people, construct dams and construct roads. They meet the immediate requirements and demands of people, but taking decisions in this respect requires a long-term, futuristic approach. This is not likely to be done in all cases because we have seen that the Union Government and the State Governments are at loggerheads in many cases where the Union Government would say, 'This is a forest; you should not touch it' and the State Government would say, 'We have to construct the dam. You should allow us to construct the dam.' A dam could be constructed at any place but bio-diversity and genetic wealth cannot be created in ten years' time or a hundred years' time. It takes millions of years in some cases. The wealth given to us by nature, which cannot be easily created even in a million years, would be destroyed. Once destroyed, it would not be available. Unless that approach is there, I am afraid, bio-diversity heritage areas would not be correctly declared. If it were correctly done, we would be very happy, but it would not be done. This law is giving that right to the State Governments. This law is giving the right to declare a species as endangered species to the Union Government. It should have been the other way round. It would have been easier to do it if it was the other way round but this is not done. This is one of the biggest lacunae of this Bill. This will create problems for you in implementing this Bill.

I am not suspecting the intelligence or the intentions of the State Governments but they are so much pressurised by people for constructing dams and roads and things like that that they give in. Once they give in, the wealth that was given to you, to us and to the humanity by nature and was created over a period of millions of years would be lost. Once lost, it would not be available to you easily. So, here, you should have been a little more careful.

Now, clause 41(1) provides:

> "Every local body shall constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and micro organisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity."

So, what kind of duties are you giving, to these local bodies? In fact, bio-diversity is spread throughout the length and breadth of this country. It has therefore to be protected everywhere and the local bodies and the Biodiversity Management Committees can play a very important role. They are at the cutting edge of protecting the bio-diversity and the genetic wealth. They are also expected to maintain records and advise the State and Bio-diversity Boards on using bio resources and matters relating to it.

14.59 hrs.

(SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL *in the Chair*)

The intention is laudable but can it be acted upon? Are these Committees going to have the vision, the expertise, the knowledge and the managerial and administrative skills? If they are required to perform all these duties cast upon them for this purpose, the funds and finances available with them may not suffice to carry on these duties. It seems, the Government has not applied its mind to this aspect properly. It has created the authority to allow the foreigners to use the biomass and genetic wealth of this country and to share the benefits. While doing so, they might have felt that they should create some machinery to protect and preserve bio-diversity and genetic wealth and hence they might have included these provisions in this Bill.

15.00 hrs.

But it is not a correct way to deal with this problem. It must give it power, funds, expertise and machinery to function as it is expected to. And, as the things stand that is not going to happen. It should have done these things in a better manner and not like this. It appears like an eyewash, which is not going to help.

Because of this, it can be said that the Government is willing to share its bio-diversity and genetic wealth with persons and companies coming from outside the country and in the country, but it is not equally enthusiastic to protect and preserve the bio-mass and genetic wealth in the country and hence, what is done appears to be more commercial and money oriented and made to meet the demands of globalisation and commercialisation rather than to protect the environment, bio-diversity or genetic wealth of the country.

If the Government wants to do something very real and substantial to protect the national interest of preserving the diversity and genetic wealth and knowledge, it could have created bodies at the local levels, could have given them expertise, funds, machinery to achieve the objectives, and obtained the coordination of the local bodies in these activities. The Bill expects these bio-diversity committees to earn funds. It expects that the State Governments would give them funds for this purpose. It expects that the Union Government also to extend the help to some extent. The funds that would be collected by them would be very insignificant. The State Governments are not giving them funds to discharge their main duties. That is why the *Rozgar*

Yojna is there. The funds are not given to the State Governments. The funds given to the State Governments are used for other purposes by the State Governments.

In fact, the bio-diversity management committees are most important. Yet, they are going to be the weakest link in the chain used to protect the environment. So, it is difficult to appreciate such a dubious or negligent attempt to protect the environment and bio-diversity.

We all know that the Gram Panchayats do not have enough funds to clean their roads. They do not have funds to supply drinking water to the people who are living in the villages. And to them we are giving this response and we are asking them to earn money and use that money for protecting the bio-diversity which is available in the areas of the village. Now, this is expecting too much. It is a fact that there are so many people in the villages, in the rural areas who know as to how the biological material available there can be used for helping human beings and animals also. They know that certain *jadibooti* is going to be useful against diseases from which animal suffer or human beings suffer. But they are not able to go beyond that. They are not able to analyse as to why that *jadibooti* is useful; they are not able to write down as to how that *jadibooti* has to be produced there and used and why it has to be used and, in fact, in what fashion it has to be used in all cases.

If this duty is given to the Committee at the lowest level, at the Gram Panchayat level where scientists are not going to be there, there may be one or two scientists elected to the Gram Panchayats and living in the villages, but it is not going to be the case in all the Gram Panchayats and that is why this is one of the weakest links.

You have the National Authority at the national level, you have the Board at the State levels and you have these Committees at the village levels. As far as National Authority is concerned, I think, it will be in a position to discharge its duties. I am a little doubtful about the ability of the State Boards in discharging its duties. I am very doubtful about the capacity and ability of the people at the village level in carrying out the duties which are cast upon them under this law for protecting, preserving and using the bio-mask and genetic wealth and knowledge which are available in that area.

Something more should have been done. What could have been done? My suggestion is that if there is a Committee of experts and if that Committee of experts helps them - not in administration, not in action - but helps them as to how that knowledge should be collected, collated and analysed, put in the books, made available through the books or the audios or videos or in any other manner, that would nave been very useful. The result of this act is going to be this. We would certainly control the biomass and bio-wealth going out of our country to other countries in a manner that we will be able to protect our interests. There is no doubt about it.

It does not provide full protection. But it will provide better protection. We want to protect the biomass not only for ourselves but for the entire humanity as such. We are not going to deny access to the biomass to the scientists and to the laboratories and to the industries coming from outside. We would give them the biomass; we would give them the genetic material and then, in return, we will take something from them. But as far as protecting the bio-diversity which is available in the country is concerned, it is more important than this and that is why it should be done. Unfortunately, the scheme of the law is such that this Committee at the local level may not be able to discharge its duties which are cast upon it in this law.

The Union Government has developed machinery and expertise to formulate policies and give proper directions for protecting the flora and fauna of the country to the National Bio-diversity Authority and other organisations. But it is difficult to say that the requisite kind of expertise and machinery is available to the State Governments to advise and guide the State Bio-diversity Boards. That is why efforts should be made to strengthen the expertise and machinery of the State Governments for this purpose. The bio-diversity is available in the areas which are not very advanced.

If we examine the scenario available in the world today with respect to the bio-wealth in the world, we will find that most backward areas are rich in bio-diversity because the human beings have not reached and destroyed the Bio-diversity which is available over there. So, in our country also the most backward States are rich in bio-diversity. If the bio-wealth is used properly, it can make the backward areas very rich and advanced. The bounty of nature should be used in a wise manner. It should not be wasted; it should not be exploited but it should be used in a sustainable manner. The variety should not be reduced. The real wealth lies in the variety. Mono-culture should not be encouraged. It makes the bounty trivial. Lot of attention should be paid to understand the variety. It takes years to produce bio-diversity. The State Governments should pay attention to this aspect. They should build dams and roads. But they should not, in the process, destroy what nature has produced. If what nature has produced is destroyed, the States would not be able to generate the natural wealth The directions given by the States should keep these things in view. They should do that. In my view, the Union Government is better placed to achieve this objective. Therefore, the Union Government, the National Bio-diversity Authority should pay more attention to it.

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

Biotechnology is going to dominate the present Century and the future centuries. India has bio-wealth. India should develop the biotechnology and bio-sciences. Long-term plans for this purpose should be developed. Enough funds should be made available. Necessary infrastructure should be developed. If it is necessary to cooperate with other countries and international organisations and institutions, it should be done. We failed in industrial revolution. We did something in electronic revolution; but not enough is done in electronic revolution. We should succeed in biotechnology revolution.

In fact, we should lead in this field. The individuals, the organisations, the States and the Union should co-operate with one another and co-ordinate their activities. If we fail in this, we would have done a dis-service to the future generation.

Fortunately for us, slowly, we are building the organisations. We have a Biotechnology Department of the Government of India. We have the United Nations Laboratory established in India to take care of agricultural biotechnology. Now, these things should be used in a proper manner. What is really required in this respect is that we should have a long-term plan which should be not a five-year plan, not a ten-year plan; it should be a 25-year plan or 50-year plan. There should be established departments, laboratories, institutions and in universities, the courses should be taught so that we prepare ourselves for using the bio-wealth in the country and the funds should also be made available to them. The State Governments should also be requested, persuaded to co-operate in this respect. If we do these things, we would have achieved the aims and objects which are at the basis of this Bill. I hope that this Bill does not satisfy all the requirements, yet it is going to help us in some respects. We should pass it and we will co-operate with the Government to pass it, but they should please take note of what we have said and try to amend the Bill in future at least to see that the objectives of using the bio-wealth are achieved. India is one of the richest countries in bio-wealth in the world. It is seventh in the world as far as the bio-wealth is concerned. That should be used in our country.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Biological Diversity Bill, 2000 which has been piloted by the hon. Minister. It has been a long-standing Bill which was sent to the Standing Committee. It was looked into and discussed in depth and suggestions were made. Today, eventually, the hon. Minister is piloting the Bill and I thank him for it, though belatedly.

Sir, as you know, when our country became Independent in 1947 and we got our Constitution in 1951, from 1951 till 1975, there was no environment or forest legislation or law to guide the activities for environment protection, forest protection or protection of natural habitats. So, the first law which came into being was in 1972 - the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Then, the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 came after eight years. When the Wildlife Protection Act was piloted in 1972, we had already lost 20 years. That means from 1951 to 1972, we had lost 20 valuable years to protect our environment. So, whom do you blame? We have to blame the rulers of this country at that time for they did not get any law from 1972 to 1980. After eight years, we got another law, the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and then the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991. Then, the biosphere reserve programme was initiated.

The progress of any Government or any Department for protection of environment or forest was so slow, and so much forgetfulness was there in the administration, that in this span of time, our country lost lot of forests; a lot of species became endangered; a lot of rich habitat was lost and a lot of trees were destroyed. Today, still India is one of the twelve mega bio-diversity countries in the world.

Seventy per cent of the total geographical area was surveyed so far, and we have 46,000 plant species and about 81,000 animal species. To protect these, we have got 89 national parks, 497 wildlife sanctuaries covering an area of 1.56 lakh square kilometres, and 27 Tiger Reserves with an area of 37,761 square kilometres. This is what we have done to save the bio-diversity of our country. Today, more teeth have been given to this Department in the form of this Biological Diversity Bill. A biological authority is being formed and then the State authorities are being formed for management of wildlife, for management of environment and for management of biodiversity. This will definitely play a very advanced role.

Recently, we attended the Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development. This was held ten years after the Summit at Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil. It is a sad thing to say in this august House that we have not taken any initiative, right from Rio-de-Janeiro to Johannesburg; no concrete measures were taken to save our ecology and our biodiversity. Therefore, as a developing country, it became our duty to have such a Bill so that we can control and save our natural resources, which are depleting. I would like to give you the example of *sal* seed. *Sal* tree is a very rich tree and it provides a lot of employment. Its leaves and seeds are utilised by the poor tribals of the area and today, due to

lack of propagation, that tree is slowly dying out. I had visited the Dehra Dun Forest Institute where a piece of wood, one cubic metre by one cubic metre, was on display. They told me that it contained 18 litres of water. We had this type of forest right from Nilgiris to the Himalayas, and from Dehra Dun to Terai. Today, that forest cover has gone down drastically because of lack of management of the forest.

Our forest and environment has been overexploited and I am sorry to state that there was no proper authority to control it. For example, look at the paper mills. They are polluting all our rivers and as a result, sustainable development of biodiversity, which is supposed to be preserved, is not there. For example, the paper mills located near Brahmani and Nagvalli rivers in Orissa have completely destroyed the marine life of the river system. Who depends on the marine life? It is the poor fishermen, the poor villagers, the poor agriculturists and, generally, it is the poor Indians, who constitute 60 per cent of our population and who reside in rural India, who depend on the environment and ecology of the country, and that is slowly dwindling. How do you preserve it? We have to have some law, we have to give some teeth and have administrative control over our biodiversity. More companies are coming and they are flouting our natural resources at their sweet will. How do we stop that? Today, 'turmeric' is being tried to be patented by America, and in this global scenario, in this WTO scenario, this Biological Diversity Bill is very essential to protect our natural resources. Otherwise, we will be completely swayed, we will be completely overtaken by the developed countries.

Today, have the developed countries implemented the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol? Have they implemented the provisions of the Montreal Declaration that was signed by them? They would not do so. It is because in the event of implementing the provisions of these Protocol and Declaration, their production will fall. We are ready to implement the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol but why are the developed countries not implementing them? So, for the sake of our country this type of a Bill was very much necessary. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought forward this type of a Bill.

Bio-diversity plays an important role in the human life system. We live on this Earth. We want a healthy Earth, a hazard free environment, particularly when the ozone layer of the atmosphere is depleting, such a step is necessary because we have to save this Earth if we want to survive. For our sustenance and for the very existence of human life, this type of a Bill was very much essential. I would once again congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought forward this Bill.

The hon. Member from the Opposition benches, who initiated the discussion on the Bill, mentioned regarding locating the headquarters at Chennai. I do not have any objection to that. Chennai is a part of our country. Moreover, I think, the national parks located in South India are very well maintained, particularly Bandipur, Nagarholey, Mudhumalai are one of the best maintained wild life parks in the country.

With these words, I conclude.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK (MATHURAPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. It is a very important Bill. This Bill has been brought forward in keeping with the Rio Convention of 1992. I wanted to move certain amendments to this Bill but I could not do so due to time bar. However, I would speak on my amendments here.

Sir, before I commence my speech on my amendments I would like to share certain facts with this august House. There are already lakhs and lakhs of species that have been wiped out from the surface of the Earth. Biological resources include all animals, all plants and all micro-organisms over the surface, below the water and as well as those flying in the sky. It includes all living creatures. According to the estimates by international Scientists on this subject, there are, some say, two million; some say 30 million and some say 50 million species on earth, that includes all plants, all animals and all micro-organisms. Already a few lakhs of them have got extinct and wiped out due to our negligence, unwise exploitation and greed. If we are not wise enough at least now to frame laws to conserve and preserve these natural wealth, then in the 21st century, according to estimates of scientists, 20 to 50 per cent of the species would get wiped out from the surface of the Earth. Most of these species, or I can say, all of these species are useful to the human society. According to Charaka in ancient India, there is no plant which has got no medicinal value. Every plant and every animal is useful for the existence of human life. If we want to live on Earth, then we must let live these species as well. If they do not live, then we also would not be able to live.

Sir, this Bill concentrates mainly on three things, namely conservation of bio-diversity, sustainable use of its components and for the fair and equitable share of the benefits coming out of the use of biological resources and the associated knowledge.

These are the three main items. This Bill has a limited scope only on these three aspects.

The word 'conservation' is there. It would have been better if the word 'preservation' was also added here

[Prof. R. R. Pramanik]

Conservation and preservation are necessary for sustainable use of its components. Similarly, instead of 'equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use...' it should have been 'fair and equitable' sharing of the benefits arising out of the use...' The word 'fair' is very important.

Now, the whole international community and even the rich countries are very much eager to switch over to herbal medicines. Herbal medicines are very useful. In curing the acute diseases like AIDS cancer, asthma, herbal medicines have been proved more beneficial than the allopathic medicines. In China, there is a very famous ayurvedic doctor, Dr. Chang. In every hospital in China, there is an Ayurvedic Department dealing with ayurvedic and herbal medicines as per Dr. Chang's instructions.

So, these medicinal values and the knowledge associated with it are best known to the rural people. Most of them are illiterate. For hundreds of thousands of years, they are using these drugs obtained from herbal plants etc. Though they do not know the scientific reasons, but they use them and get the benefit. Now, it is the duty of the modern scientists to go to the rural people and learn from them about the knowledge of these herbal medicines. It is, an additional knowledge. So, this Bill is meant for three purposes.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the drafting of the Bill, the language should be done in such a way that when it becomes the Act, it should be exact, it should be rigorous and must avoid ambiguity. In law, there is no place of ambiguity. Even 'comma' and 'full-stop' have got serious consequences in the law. So, language should be clear, rigorous and exact.

Here, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister Shri T.R. Baalu to the preamble of the Bill. There, they have written and I quote:

> "... to provide for conservation of Biological Diversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

So, in the preamble it is written only 'equitable sharing of the benefits...' while on the same page of the Bill, it is also written:

> "And whereas the said Convention has the main objective of conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of utilisation of genetic resources;"

Sir, here in this above para the words 'fair and equitable sharing of the benefits...' are there but in the preamble only 'equitable sharing of the benefits...' are there in the preamble the word 'fair' is omitted. Why does the preamble also not contain the word 'fair' before 'and equitable sharing of the benefits'? So, the word 'fair' should have been there in the preamble also.

So, Mr. Minister, here I want to submit that while drafting the Bill, the language of the Bill should be exact. There should not be any additions or subtractions at the whims. So, it is again my request that the word 'fair' should be included in the preamble.

While moving the Bill – as far as I remember – the hon. Minister told about resources and associated knowledge. But in the preamble the word 'knowledge; is missing. So, in the preamble, I want the word 'knowledge' to be added after 'the use biological resources'. So, it should be "...benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

Why has he omitted the word 'knowledge' in the Bill?

While the hon. Member moved the Bill for consideration, he used the words 'associated knowledge'. So, knowledge must be there: not only biological resources, but also associated knowledge, associated with the rural people. Knowledge must be there and not resources alone. If you have got resources and no knowledge, then it is of no use.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, it is there in the amendment. Let him kindly go through the amendments.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: Okay. Then, in page 2, in the short title, he mentioned as "This Act may be called the Biological Diversity Act, 2000." Why is it so? It should be 2002.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, everything is there. Let him go through the amendments. He is just wasting the time of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister says that everything is mentioned in the amendments. You may please refer to the amendments.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: Then, in Clause 2 (c), the Bill says:

> "Biological resources means plants, animals and micro organisms or parts thereof..."

But it should have been mentioned like this: 'Biological resources means all plants, all animals and all micro organisms, ...' So, he must add the word 'all' to give emphasis to that, because nothing is excluded.

Coming to another point, in the Bill somewhere it is mentioned as 'bio-diversity' and somewhere else it is mentioned as 'biological diversity, etc. My point is that mentioning only 'bio' does not mean 'biological'. There are biophysics, biochemistry, bio-diversity, etc. So, only mentioning 'bio' does not mean 'biological'. So, the Minister has to define that in this Bill, 'bio' means 'biological'. In this Bill, in clause 2, he has to define that 'bio' means the same as 'biological'. If it is done, then he can very freely use the word 'bio'. Otherwise, it will lead to confusion. For example, there are words like 'astro-physics', 'astronomy', 'astrology', etc. If we just say 'astro', does it mean 'astrology'? So, he has to define the word 'bio' as 'biological'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to clause 2(f), where he defined the word 'research'. It says:

> "Research means study or systematic investigation of any biological resource or technological application, ..."

Sir, I would like to say that 'study' alone cannot be called 'research'. Students are going to study in the primary schooi, the secondary school, the higher secondary school or even college. Does that mean that they are doing research work? So, study alone cannot be defined as research. It should be amended as 'study and systematic investigation'. Otherwise, it would mean that the students in the primary school are doing their research. So, my amendment here is that it should be 'study and systematic investigation'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up. Please conclude:

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: I have taken very little time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted to you is over.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: I am not wasting the time of the House. I am a student of Mathematics. I know the value of time. I am speaking on the points only.

Clause 8(3) of the Bill says:

> "The head office of the National Bio-diversity Authority shall be at Chennai."

Hon. Shivraj Patil has said that it should better to be in Calcutta. I come from West Bengal, but I have never pleaded for the headquarters to be in Calcutta. I am a Member of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology. I move that Chennai is not a suitable place for the Headquarters of the National Bio-diversity Authority. It should be situated in Delhi. I have never pleaded for Calcutta, but after hearing Shri Shivraj Patil saying that the best place for it should be Calcutta, I would suggest that it should be located in Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (RAMANATHAPURAM): Chennai would be the most ideal place. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. There should be no quarrel on this point.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: In this House, I plead that the Headquarters of the National Bio-diversity Authority should be located at Delhi and not at Chennai. Delhi, being the Capital of the country, is the most convenient place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: Sir, I have a point to make. Please refer to Chapter 3, clause 8, sub-clause 5. It says, 'Indian systems of medicine and homeopathy'. It should be amended to read as, 'Indian systems of herbal medicine; ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: How much time have I taken?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 15 minutes. The time allotted to you was only 11 minutes. Please conclude now.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: Chapter 3, clause 13 speaks about agro-biodiversity. Shri Shivraj Patil has rightly said that it should come in clause 2, under definition. You are here defining the word agro-biodiversity. So it should come under clause 2.

Now, come to Chapter 3, sub-clause 16. It says:

> "The National Biodiversity Authority may, by general or special order in writing delegate to any officer of the National Biodiversity Authority or any other person subject to such condition, if any, as may be specified in the order. Such of the powers and functions under this Act"

So, it is the delegation of power. I would request the Minister to delete this portion, as it will be misused. If this is there, then some incompetent, inefficient persons may be delegated this power. He must be a competent and efficient person. So, this should be deleted because it has a scope for appointment of incompetent and inefficient persons.

[Prof. R. R. Pramanik]

I now come to Chapter 6, clause 22, sub-clause 4 (b). It says, "Not more than five ex officio Members to be appointed by the State Government to represent the departments of the State Government". I would say that instead of this it should read as, "Not more than five ex-officio Members to be appointed by the State government to represent the related and concerned departments". It should be the related and concerned departments so that they can actively take part, otherwise any person from any department could go there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. Please conclude.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: It should be from concerned and related department. Otherwise, by manipulating, any person could go there.

Last but not least, this Bill is to protect the interest of the people living at the lowest level, that is the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, who are in possession of these medicinal plants and who also have the knowledge of it.

Now, the multinationals will come with dollars. They will exploit this wealth and make huge money. But these poor people will be deprived of their legitimate claim. Therefore, fair and equitable sharing must be protected for the tribals, the aboriginal, rural people, illiterate people, and poor people. It should not be that the multinationals would become more richer and our people would become more poor. We must safeguard the interest of the poor people.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (KHERI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Biological diversity Bill, 2000. It is a very important Bill. As is evident, reforms of a comprehensive nature were required to be made in the old laws regarding environment protection, which have been introduced by the hon. Minister through this, Bill. The hon. Minister has introduced this Bill for giving a wider base for the purpose of conservation.

One more matter of concern before us alongwith this is the process of globalisation which is taking place. The big multi-national companies, having strong financial muscles, technical muscles are having their eyes on the big gene pool of India which they intend to exploit. With the new patent laws, it seems that all these companies want to have patents and wish to work through an unrestricted monopoly over the entire globe. And the greatest effect of this would be the outflow of capital from developing countries like India to these multi-national companies in the developed countries.

The provisions introduced by him are no doubt, quite elaborate. I wish to say that the objective of 'conservation' is very wide. The Dudhwa National Tiger Reserve Park and one bio-sphere reserve fall in my constituency. We are, very deeply connected with it. Its aims and objectives are very significant. But I do not think that any details with regard to the administrative machinery or the execution part, as to how would this be improved, has been prepared. I am of the view that 'conservation' as such is not a problem, but the administrative machinery involved in conservation is a problem, which is actually administrative mis-performance.

Today, the situation is that the working of administration has given rise to conflict with the local people. I have, many a times, held meetings in this regard, and have met authorities. I have always said that the common people should be associated with the objective of conservation and there should be no conflict.

I am sorry to say that presently nothing has been done in this regard. Only those have become a prey to stringent laws who live in close vicinity of forests. This is a matter of deep concern which I am putting before you. When we are elaborating the objective of conservation, we should also see that there should be a separate cadre of the administrative or the executive machinery involved in it and this cadre should work in accordance with it. These local people may not become victims of the working of administrative machinery of our country.

As a comprehensive Bill has been introduced by him, I feel that many aspects have been covered under it, and one special aspect worth mentioning is that there is provision for local bodies, local representatives of the people, local bodies of suburbs have a role to play in it. But I am concerned about one thing that when such a Bill has been formulated and when such a law is going to be passed, then there should be an important working agenda for it as we do not have much time. Conservation of WTO would be completed after the year 2005 and the process of liberalisation would start. If, within these three years we are not able to increase peoples' participation in local bodies or are unable to have their full-fledged contribution, or do not train them and educate them with regard to the importance of conservation, then I am sorry to say that we will not be successful in achieving our aim.

Just now hon. Patil ji said one thing that not only the gene pool but the human behaviour is also involved in this regard. Agriculture is one such big form of human behaviour, human enterprise which is almost completely associated with it. Our gene pool is in one way or the other, getting depleted by the agricultural practices adopted by us. We have observed that the condition of our forests 15 years back does

not prevail in the present times. How would the mechanism of monitoring the biotic pressure exempt on it would be made, although they have experts with them, He has said that he would appoint experts on this but how would the biotic pressure be monitored at the local area level. How would the rural technology be delivered. It is a very comprehensive subject and we will not be able to do justice with it if we adopt a static and singular approach. I feel that our Government should have a clear and definite working agenda when this Bill gets passed. We should at least reach to the local areas, the local bodies to be involved or whose capacity is to be built up and they should be told about the financial resources and are also required to provide ample information with regard to the economic exploitation that would be done with the increase in the business of gene pool on the entire globe and medicines to be prepared on this. Actually, this law has been introduced a little late. As far as I know, multinational companies have patented a number of Indian fruits, flowers and vegetables. They constitute the gene pool of our country. Though Government did make efforts in the case of Basmati patent, but ultimately it lost the case as sufficient funds were not available for legal proceedings and the multinational company got the patent. I am yet to know whether the Bill makes any provision to rectify the mistakes that we have already committed.

I would like the hon'ble Minister to explain this matter to us while giving his reply as we in the Parliament are accountable to the people. The losses that we have already suffered courtesy the earlier patent law and our genes already patented by the multinational companies, how these losses are to be made up by this Bio diversity Bill and to what extent they would be able to take effective action and whether we need to create any other authority in this regard?

Most importantly, since it is so comprehensive, having such a wide range, I believe that it would require education and orientation in large measure. Whether the Government, who have brought this Bio diversity Bill, are committed to make each and every person in this country aware about the theme of conservation and about using our resource for our own betterment to the maximum extent possible through proper education and proper orientation within the prescribed time limit? Whether it will be able to make each and every Indian aware about our wealth and we have to protect it?

I thank you for giving me opportunity to express my views on this important issue.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): Mr. Chairman Sir, I have been told by the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Minister to cut short my speech because the Supplementary Railway Budget is coming.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought this Biodiversity Bill out of the cold storage. I was listening to the profound views of the hon. Members that side. It was the Rio Conference held in 1992 that made all the countries to think about biodiversity. Therefore, there was no way someone could have thought about it in 1950 or 1951. Incidentally, the Constitution of India was adopted in 1950 and not in 1951.

So, we could not have anticipated the Rio Conference 42 years earlier. But all the same, it has been languishing since 1997 when Shri Saifuddin Soz, the distinguished former Minister for Environment had brought the Bill and it was introduced in the Thirteenth Lok Sabha on 13th May, 2000. I do not know why the hon. Minister wants to take the privilege of pulling it out of the cold storage. Is it a knee-jerk reaction or is it a pressure from the United Nations or the WTO? It is because we are signatories to the Ramsay Commission, we are signatories to TRIPS under the WTO. So, these are certain points I wish, he would like to take us into confidence. There is a reason as to why I am talking of taking us into confidence. I would have spoken on all the clauses if I were to speak elaborately. But since I have been told to be brief, I have to do so.

In the original Bill, there was no clause on confidentiality. This Government takes pride on calling itself a smart Government. Smart Government means simple, moralistic, accessible, responsive and transparent. I do not know why a new clause has been gone into to make it confidential from States or from its own citizens or local bodies. I think the hon. Minister would like to clarify this point.

I agree with the Deputy Leader of my Party, Shri Shivraj Patil. I am not a lawyer. I am a simple soldier. I never had done it. But in my perception, it is a very badly drafted and hasty Bill. There are a lot of faults. Otherwise, the hon. Minister, after two years, would not have come with 61 amendments. This was circulated to us alongwith yesterday's parliamentary papers and so, we did not even have the time to file our amendments. Therefore, we cannot move our amendments. There are 61 amendments. Maybe, some of them are to incorporate some recommendations of the Standing Committee. This is in clause 57. Again, I would like to compliment Shri Shivraj Patil as he was the innovator of the Standing Committees. I am glad that the hon. Minister has responded to some of the provisions of the Standing Committee. But a lot of paradoxes still remain.

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

One is on consultation. It is mentioned about wide consultations. But to my knowledge, I would like to be proved wrong. The Ministry of Agriculture has not been consulted. Maybe, some individuals, in their individual capacity, had appeared before the Standing Committee. It is said that a large number of persons have appeared before the Standing Committee. It is there in pages 15-17. Someone from IARI has appeared in his individual capacity. The Ministry of Agriculture which is the most important Ministry for us has not been consulted. This is my impression. I would like to be proved wrong.

Shri B.K. Deo was mentioning that forest authorities like the Forest Research Institute and many other Government of India institutions in this field have not been consulted.

Again, fish and fisheries do not find a place here. It is another important part of agriculture which includes marine and amphibian life. I would not like to go into the nomenclature. The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill has given enough of what is biodiversity, although there is no definition of biodiversity in the Oxford dictionary. It is a new terminology. As has been rightly pointed out, why was it only biodiversity and other things are left delightfully vague? Why not conservation or protection or enhancement of the degradable laws? One of the former Secretaries of the Ministry of Environment, Dr. M.K. Ranjit Singh has said that it is biodegradable law.

It is a bio-degradable law which, probably, is going to be responsible for the destruction of bio-diversity instead of preventing the destruction of bio-diversity which is already depleted. There are two or three things on which I would like the hon. Minister to take the House into confidence. I would like to know whether various State Governments, Departments and Corporations can themselves extract minor forest produce, like timber, bamboo, soil seeds, soil leaves, etc., because some States, like ours, derive sustenance from these things and forest royalty, from the forest for commercial and community purposes without the approval of State. Bio-Diversity Boards or National Bio-Diversity Authority? I would be grateful if the hon. Minister clarifies this point.

Secondly, as far as utilisation of reserved forest and protected forest which are there in the Forest Act of 1927 - many of the old States outside the British India all had 545 different Forest Acts which were enforceable - how will it affect that? Will it be governed by working plans and schemes of the Forest Department which is totally under the DFO, as you know, Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, you had been an administrative officer in Maharashtra. Will it be controlled and coordinated by DFOs or by the State Bio-Diversity Boards or the National Bio-Diversity Authority? Clause 18 and clause 23 (b) are a little vague. There is dichotomy. There is a little bit confusion.

I have mentioned about fishing. In amendment No. 27, he talks of secrecy and confidentiality. On this, we could be taken into confidence. It is not a defence secret or any such secret. Now-a-days everything is available in website. So, why should there be secrecy and confidentiality?

What does he mean by 'promotion' of bio-diversity? There is no such thing as 'promotion'. It has to be enhancement or it has to be converting bio-degradable thing to a better form of environment or an improved form of environment rather than 'promotion' of environment. Amendment No. 38 talks of directions from the Central Government. It will not be useful unless there is time limit for abiding and implementing the directions of the Central Government. The Central Government has residuary rights under the Constitution for directing anything to the States or even to an officer of the State. Unless there is a time limit or a time period, such directions are meaningless. It will have no purpose. The environment and the entire bio-sphere or the ecology would have been damaged beyond repair.

I would like to compliment him for amendment No. 54. It is a very good amendment. It says:

> "The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of the provisions in any other law, for the time being in force, relating to forests or wildlife."

Otherwise, it would have created a hell. There are various Acts like the Forest Act, 1927, the Environment Act 1980 and the Forest Conservation Act, which would have worked at cross purposes. This very Parliament has passed these laws. It has got designated authorities. There is no coordination. The left hand does not know what is the right hand doing. The hon. Minister may kindly give us a clarification on this.

This bio-diversity legislation reflects India's obligation under TRIPS, and WTO. Therefore, the only apprehension that we have in our minds, which the hon. Minister who is very articulate and a good person would dispel, is that we should not suffer from bio-piracy.

16.00 hrs.

What is bio-piracy? Bio-piracy, under IPR, under WTO has led to certain things. It means:

> "The process by which the rights of indigenous cultures to resources and knowledge are extinguished through

monopoly rights under Intellectual Property Rights regime, resulting in a system in which people have to pay royalties for the use of bio-diversity and knowledge that was first stolen from them. The examples are *neem*, *haldi* and *basmati*."

With these words, I conclude. I thank you very much forgiving me the time and opportunity to speak on this Bill.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bio-diversity Bill has been introduced after much delay. Rio de Janeiro convention was held in 1992, and in 1993 we had resolved that the bio diversity that we have in our country should be properly conserved, promoted and used.

Sir, hon'ble Minister has claimed in his speech that India is one of the 12 richest countries in terms of bio diversity, but it seems that we are the most backward in this regard. Our ancient religious books mention 84 lakhs yonis but our survey conducted on 70 per cent of 2.4 per cent area of the world reveal only 46000 plant species and 81000 animal species. Whereas our religious books mention 84 lakhs yonis. We have discovered only 81000. Where are the remaining 83 lakh 19 thousand? When they will be explored and discovered? Researches are being conducted by multinational companies also but our religious books including Ram Charit Manas mention 84 lakh species - "Yoni Bahumat Laksha Chaurasi" and "Ishwar Ansh Jeev Avinashi". Up till now, we have discovered only 1.25 lakh species while our traditions say that there are lakhs and crores of species. For example, we have sheep. We have three varieties - one that is found on high mountains and which have wool, second one is found in south India which have no wool and the third found in my region whose wool is used in making blankets. The Indian breed sheep gives birth to two-three lambs. There is a variety of she-goat which gives birth to three-four kids every six months. The skin, and meat of that goat is the best in the world. We have 26 varieties of goats. Only the milk of foreign cows is useful while its calf is useless but our cow not only gives adequate milk but its calf is also useful. There is a variety of cow, which has good calf but no milk and there is another having adequate milk but useless calf and the third one has adequate milk as well as useful calf. My submission is that we need to protect all types of cows, otherwise they will become extinct. It is true in other things also. For example there are cereals. There are two type of cereals one is backward cereals and other is forward cereals. Four cereals - wheat, paddy, gram and barley - were created by Lord Brahma.

While Muni Vishwamitra created backward category grains such as Sama, Kodo, Kauni, Cheena Radi and Uradi which are now becoming extinct. There is Marua which is considered anti-diabetic. Similarly there is maize which is rich in protein. Such commodities which are available here should be conserved and promoted. Government have introduced a Bill in this regard, but that is fraught with danger. Shri Arun Ghosh is a scholar. He has written that "Bio-diversity Bill: The Great Hoax". He has further stated on Bio-diversity that:

> "That was the objective of the Convention of Bio-diversity. That also has to be the *raison d'etre* and the purport of any new legislation in India, on the issue of protection, conservation and use of the country's rich biodiversity. The Bill presented to the Lok Sabha effectively negates the basic objectives (clearly put on the agenda by the CBD), and purports to appropriate these resources - and all knowledge thereto - by corporate bodies with the approval of the Government. It does not require too much imagination to realise that:
>
> (a) the corporates likely to benefit from the legislation would be MNCs;
>
> (b) the Government qua Government (in India) today is best described as an unholy alliance between bureaucrats, a few technocrats (turned bureaucrats) and greedy politicians without a conscience, subserving the interests of private industrial capital, including the MNCs; and
>
> (c) the natural fallout of the proposed legislation would be the appropriation of the rich biodiversity by MNCs (like Monsanto) through the connivance of Government functionaries."

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

16.08 hrs.

[Translation]

He has mentioned the name of Monsanto company. I would like to know about the measures being taken by the Government on the apprehensions raised. India is the richest country in bio-diversity. Harar - Bahera - Aaonla and Arjun Ki Chhal has been mentioned in Charak - Sashruta Samhita, which is used to cure heart patients, is a common plant in our country. Harar-Bahera, Sinai, Methi etc. should be conserved and promoted and their uses should be publicised among the people. I have heard that turmeric is being patented by a multi national company. Government ought to conserve and promote those commodities which have been described in our religious books by our Rishis-Munis and which are being used even today in our villages. We have

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

been using Neem bark and leaves for thousands of years but now they are being patented by multinational companies. What action is being taken by the Governn.ent in this regard?

How we will get protection from WTO, TRIPS, GATT, the Government should give assurance in this regard. I apprehend that this Bill would encourage the Multi-national companies. Therefore, we should protect and promote bio-diversity of plants and animals. Everybody knows that Tulsi has many medicinal properties. There is a need to identify all of them, conduct research and apply them. This Bill does not contain enough provisions to give them full protection.

The National Bio-Diversity Authority proposed to be set up is neither independent, nor autonomous nor democratic. In these circumstances how can it function properly?

The question of Chennai has been raised over here. I would like to ask three questions in this regard. Have all experts recommended Chennai as the headquarter or it has been recommended by Swaminathan Saheb, the old scientist who has formulated this bill or it is because the hon'ble Minister belongs to that place. There must be one of these reasons. The secret should be revealed. In speech, it is said that it should be in Kolkata. This will give rise to dispute between Kolkata and Chennai, but the matter will be settled in Patliputra or Patna, because it is the historical place. The hon'ble Minister should keep in view of all these things.

In the end I would like to know from hon'ble Minister whether the damage was caused due to construction of Chittoni - bagaha rail line or Rahua - Kutrah rail line. Your department gave clearance to the Railway department and Railway Department acquired it. This caused water-logging resulting in ruining of all forests. Who will protect them?

There were many medicinal herbs in Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary. The Government handed it over to the people having vested interests. The State Minister had tried to contact Baaluji but he was busy in formulation of this Bill. I am sending his written representation to the hon'ble Minister. Two points should be taken into consideration and protection be provided to it. This Bill would be passed in papers, but in practice there would be manipulations which is not appropriate. The Bill on Bio-Diversity may not become meaningless.

It has been demanded to keep a record of bio-diversity. 17 per cent of survey work has been completed. The survey of entire area from north to south and from east to west should be carried out. All should have the access to laboratories and the specific areas to contribute for the protection and conservation of bio-diversity. Bio-diversity cannot be protected by multi-nationals. Multinationals are having eyes on it. The Government will not be able to protect bio-diversity from multinationals. It should give assurance in the House that bio-diversity would be protected from multi-nationals, WTO and TRIPPs agreement, people would be benefited and bio-diversity would be protected. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Thank you, Sir. While I am broadly supporting the aims and objects of this Bill, I am raising some important and pertinent questions with regard to this Bill.

Yes, it has been overdue. It could have been enacted earlier. But the Bill must be comprehensive, precise and must be written in unambiguous terms.

All these are lagging behind. So, I think, this Bill is not sufficient.

Yes, our country is one of the 12 mega-diversity countries of the world. Our country is equally rich in traditional and religious knowledge. This is very correct. But in the present WTO scenario, the present scenario of the so-called globalisation, the multinational companies are grabbing our knowledge, grabbing our indigenous production, our indigenous traditions and even our experiences also.

Many hon. Members have raised certain points in regard to patents, *haldi*, *karela*, *neem*, *basmati* and other products. These are all our indigenous products. So, the important Bill like this is very much required. The aims and objects of this Bill are all right. This Bill falls short of the basic requirement in some aspects and promotes the biological resources that must be thought over by the hon. Minister himself.

I think, this Bill is exclusively as good as a police law, emphasising and regulating, restricting and prohibiting the predators engaged in the destruction and mindless exploitation of our resources for private gains. But there is also a need to give adequate representation to different aspects. In the aims and objects of this Bill itself, it is written about the interest of *vaidyas* and *hakims* but there is no scope for including any representatives from Ayurvedic practitioners.

So far as bio-agro diversity is concerned, there is no scope for including any representatives from the agricultural sector.

In regard to the members, it is mentioned that there is

a scope to co-opt the members but the co-opted members have no right to vote. So, there is a discrimination. Some first-grade members are there and some second-grade members are there. What is this type of discrimination? Not only that, in may clauses, some terms are very ambiguous and not clear. Even the hon. Deputy Leader of the principal Opposition Party, Shri Shivraj V. Patil has correctly mentioned many points and I subscribe to them. In this important Bill, in many clauses it is written as "the Central Government'. We are sorry. So, Sir, it is written lightly. The aims and objects of this Bill are very serious but they do not reflect in the Bill itself.

So, generally I support your ideas and your aims and objects but this Bill should be precise, it should be unambiguous, it should be clear and it should be comprehensive.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing in this Bill to this august House. This Bill has been pending since 1994. After India became a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the thinking on this Bill had been started. A series of consultations were held by the Ministry with NGOs and experts. I also came to know that an expert committee had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. The Swaminathan Committee had submitted its Report. It is a good gesture that important recommendations of that expert committee have also been included in this Bill. The only thing is that certain recommendations made by the Departmentally-Related Standing Committee have been omitted, but I would come to that later on.

This Bill is one of the very important Bills. Biological diversity is a matter of concern to all and at present the following Acts deal with aspects relating to bio-diversity: The Indian Forest Act, the Wildlife Protection Act and the Forest Conservation Act. Besides these Acts, now this new bill would give more powers to regulate the activities and give more teeth to the authorities to check poaching and other related aspects.

The term bio-diversity encompasses the variety of all life on Earth. It encompasses the whole range of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects and other invertebrates, fungi and other micro-organisms like bacteria and viruses. The importance of bio-diversity has not to be explained; everybody knows about it. Biological diversity affects all of us and bio-diversity is a part of our daily life. It constitutes resources upon which families, communities, nations and future generations depend. Biological diversity has direct consumptive value in food, agriculture, medicine and industry. Approximately 80,000 edible plants have been used at one time or the other in human history, of which only about 150 have been cultivated on a larger scale. Today, a mere 20 species provide 80 per cent to 90 per cent of food requirements of the world. At one time, nearly all medicines were derived from biological resources. Even today, they remain vital and as much as 67 per cent to 70 per cent of modern medicines are derived from plants. This shows how important bio-diversity is. It is not only that but bio-diversity also provides us many other products, without which life would be very difficult. Wood, fuel, bamboo, thatch, fodder, raw material for industry are some of the examples.

Bio-diversity also has aesthetic and recreational value. Bio-diversity maintains ecological balance and continues evolutionary process. The exact number of Earth's existing species is still unknown even though many researches and investigations have been conducted. It is still unknown though the Global Diversity Assessment, 1995 estimates that it would range from 13 million to 14 million species. Today, an estimated 1.7 million species have been described. Many more species, particularly micro-organisms, invertebrates and lower plants await discovery.

Bio-diversity is not evenly disturbed among the countries of the world. Fortunately, our country is rich in bio-diversity. India is rated as one of the richest bio-diversity countries existing in the world. India is one of the 12 mega bio- diversity countries of the world. With only 2.4 per cent of land area, India already accounts for 7.8 per cent of recorded species of the world. The preservation of species and protection of species has to be given more importance in our country and more awareness has to be created among Indian people.

Among these, the forest ecosystem in particular exhibits tremendous variability ranging from temperate alpine to tropical wet evergreen forests. There are 16 major forest types in India. India is also one of the eight primary centres of origin of cultivated plants and is rich in agricultural bio-diversity.

All this shows that India is one of the countries to be noticed and also it is our bounden duty to preserve this bio-diversified nature of our country.

Sir, unfortunately, the threat to bio-diversity is more now in our country. The main threats to bio-diversity are: degradation, fragmentation and loss of habitats due to causes such as population growth, expansion of agricultural areas, jhum cultivation and deforestation, urbanisation and unplanned development; over exploitation of plants and animal species; harvesting of timber and fuelwood; forest

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

fire; poaching and hunting; introduction of exotic/alien species; pollution of soil, water and atmosphere; climate change, etc.

The threats to bio-diversity have to be taken very seriously. Over-exploitation of our nature is one of the main problems which is creating problems in our country and also ecological imbalance is creating a lot of problems. So, the people and the country are facing such hazards every year. The hon. Minister is well aware about that. The scientists have even identified that the global heat is going up. We are not getting enough rain and we are not getting enough sun in certain areas. The climatic condition is totally changing. So, by keeping the biological change in mind, the Government has to think more on this aspect.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, which was held in 1994, had emphasised certain very important points like - conservation of biological diversity; sustainable use of the components of bio-diversity; fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources. So, on the basis of this Convention, Government have drafted this Bill.

I will go into two or three very specific points/ recommendations put forward by the Departmentally-Related Standing Committee. The salient features of the bio-diversity legislation are well known to us. I have no objection that it is in Chennai. I am happy that it is in Chennai. You should not travel to. ...*(Interruptions)* I am supporting it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramesh Chennithala, please conclude.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: I have more interest nowadays in Chennai. So, if it is in Chennai, it is a welcome step. ...*(Interruptions)*

It is not a question whether it is in Chennai or in Delhi. I wanted to stress that the organisations too should function properly. That is the most important thing. It is not the question whether it is in Delhi, in Chennai, in Trivandrum or at any other area, but the organisation which is meant for the better co-ordination of all these activities should function properly and the persons who are selected to these Authorities are more important. We are always selecting people on political considerations. It should not be like that. There should not be any bureaucrat, but there should be persons of high eminence, those people who can contribute to this. That is the most important thing. I think, the hon. Minister will take cognisance of these facts. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, I shall conclude with two main issues.

Regarding these local bodies, as our Deputy Leader rightly pointed out; you have entrusted this work to the local bodies.

Sir, we are all aware of the plight of the local bodies. The financial constraints are there for every Government. Really the local bodies have now become inefficient because of lack of enough financial powers. Even though they have powers, there is no money. So, the local bodies cannot perform. If you are entrusting all these very important works to the local bodies, they will not be in a position to carry out this work because of financial problem. This point has to be taken care of. Regarding definitions also, I think there is a need for a change in the definition. The value-added and the commercial utilisation have to be included in that.

Regarding confidentiality, why has it become confidential? It should be known to the public. Nowadays the right of information is there. We are talking about right of information and transparency and all these big things. In a democratic set up, I think there is no need for any kind of confidentiality in this aspect. I think the hon. Minister should go into these things and bring in certain more amendments. Already the House is having the need to pass some 60 amendments. That itself shows how this Bill has been drafted. ...*(Interruptions)* I am appreciating the efforts of the hon. Minister and I am congratulating him. But the way this has been drafted, I feel he has to have a re-look on that. I think that this is also to be considered by the hon. Minister.

On the overall, this Bill is a welcome step. This will definitely give more impetus for preservation of our ecological wealth.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): Thank you, Sir for the opportunity given to me. I will be really brief because most of the issues which needed to be discussed have been touched on. Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pramod Mahajan has suddenly arrived and is looking at me like the Headmaster who does not want to waste more time. I really will not take too much time.

I think this Bill affects the lives of women in a large way particularly in the forest and rural areas. I just want to say to the hon. Minister that the definitions and creating authorities and so on is very easy for the bureaucrats to draft and for us to pass. But when it comes to the realities at the ground level, it is different. I begin with the grassroots level. You are talking about the Panchayats, the local bodies being given the authority to monitor, to raise funds for making the local biomass available and so on and so forth.

Sir, I hope the hon. Minister is aware, like we all are aware, that the expertise at that level is so rudimentary that exploitation of our natural resources is going to be the first thing that is going to happen. For a little money somebody will allow everything to be carried away; and to add to it, to give them an incentive and say that the money that will be collected by way of cess and tax will go to the local bodies, needs to be looked at. The local bodies are so starved of funds, developmental funds, these days, that you are giving them an incentive to collect money by selling away- so to say - the rarest species that are available.

Secondly, I do want to point out also that we are talking about knowledge and ancient systems which are so precious to us. There are many things which money cannot buy; but which have come down by way of tradition from generation to generation for hundreds of years. Even these can be purchased today. I am just giving you an example. I saw the other day a news item that from Tamil Nadu, China is taking a whole team of silk sari weavers to teach the technique of sari-weaving to the Chinese weavers so that they can compete with us in the international market.

Now, these are our traditional skills which we are very proud of and preserve. And so is it with traditional medicines and various systems which in the name of this Bill, you will make available for a price, to anyone to come and even take your traditional practitioners and teach it outside. There is no question of patents. These people do not know what it is all about and there will be tremendous exploitation.

Sir, the other thing I am concerned about is the question of internal security. Once you give clearance, these people can go to these remotest areas and set up their research units or whatever it is and study. What implications will it have at the local level, of these people being in these areas which have not been really opened in the past, and taking away what they think is important? Who is going to control what they are going to carry away and what research they are going to do? You specifically say here that the State Government shall take all steps to ensure that these experiments, or this work that is done, does not endanger the health of the people and that they will ensure that the plant varieties and others which are there are not damaged by these artificial interventions. What expertise do you have to ensure that what is done there does not affect the lives of the tribals, of the local people? Chemicals and other things can be used in the processes which might even destroy totally? Whole areas where this precious, if I may say so, inheritance exists.

Sir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have long been protected as ecological parks where even trees are not allowed to be cut and trees which fall are preserved in the sense that they have to decay and go back to the soil. Even the fallen and dry trees cannot be removed. This has been the type of conservation we are talking about and if all this, today, is going to be thrown open to international exploitation, to the MNCs, what will happen? Look at what has happened in Indonesia. Look at what has happened in South America. Look at what has happened to the rain forests round the world. Some of the most precious forest wealth has been destroyed and carried away in the name of international development and exploitation, and exploration for oil and other resources.

Sir, another point which I want to bring before the Minister is the clash between the local people and these kinds of experiments. We call them *kadujana* which means forest people - in our areas. We do not even call them tribals or non-tribals. They are the people of the forest and the relationship between these people and the environment and the ecological balance has been preserved not because of your Ministry, your environmental laws or your bureaucrats. Everybody is hand in glove, whether he is a forest officer or a forest guard. I do not know how many more Veerappans exist in our forests, who are exploiting and taking away the forest wealth in spite of all your systems of protection and conservation.

Sir, these people have, if I may say so, a holy relationship with nature. They worship it, whether it is a tree, it is the sun or whatever they believe in. In the name of conservation, they are sought to be pushed out and made to feel that they are in conflict with nature and access is being denied to these people, who genuinely have belonged there, to all these so-called parks and other things, thereby creating a big problem of human survival for them because they cannot survive in other situations and other environments. Even now, some order or direction has come from the Supreme Court that so many thousands of families are to be thrown out of forest areas because the Supreme Court considers them 'encroachers'. These people have not put industry there and have not explored the land for oil. They have built little houses, they are there, they are part of the forest environment and the greenery is not gone. But they are now issued orders from Delhi that by so and so date, they have to vacate it and lakhs of families are going to be thrown out in the name conservation, while MNCs, outsiders and all these exploiters are being given access to those very areas to which access is being denied to traditional forest people, whether it is in the North-East, Western Ghats or foothills of the Himalayas I am, therefore, asking that there must be a balance. ...*(Interruptions)* I am also saying that the laws are in conflict.

On the one hand, you are opening up to multinationals

[Shrimati Margarat Alva]

and you are asking them to come and pay the local bodies and exploit and do what they want. On the other hand, people who are inside and who are living on the minor produce are being told to leave the forest and get out because they are destroying the forest. I do not see how the hon. Minister is able to say both the things and to try and implement both these laws because they are in conflict with each other.

My only final appeal, Sir, is on behalf of the people living in these areas, please do not sell away your forest wealth and your biodiversity, whether it is in the sea, whether it is the animals for experiments or your original wealths for the sake of money to multinationals at the cost of the local people and their interests.

SHRI S. MURUGESAN (TENKASI): Can I speak in Tamil, Sir? I have already informed in advance about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no interpreter available. Kindly speak in English.

SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Sir, I strongly support this Biological Diversity Bill, 2000. I am privileged to inform this august House that India is a mega-diversity centre with eight per cent of the world's flora and fauna in two per cent of the land. Two out of 18 known mega-diversity centres in the world are located in India; they are the Eastern Himalayas and the Western Ghats. There is a Himalayan Research Institute at Almora to handle Himalayan biodiversity-related research and development matters. At present, in the Western Ghats, no such research and development centre is in existence. It is the need of the hour and an essential requirement to take stock of our rare plants, animals and microbes of this region and suggest methods for conserving and utilising them in a sustainable fashion by the local people.

In one of the Southern States, that is, Tamil Nadu, particularly in my constituency, Tenkasi, the Agasthyar Hills is the most ancient and important place in our area. These Agasthyar Hills are located in Tirunelveli and it is a very important pilgrim place also; besides, it is also very near to Courtallam, a very famous tourism centre. That is why, in our Tenth Plan, the Central Government allotted Rs. 1,025 crore for conserving the forests.

The biodiversity in Agasthyar Hills is very rich. It holds roughly 2,500 out of 3,500 higher plants available in the entire Western Ghats. That is why, in our area, a lot of medicinal plants are available in many areas. Therefore, the scientists of the proposed Institute should see that appropriate biotechnology is developed for conserving that area. Then only our rivers, watersheds, pasture forest habitats and valuable resources will be protected from pollution, weeds and illegal squatting of the natural localities.

Therefore, I welcome this Bill.

Sir, keeping in view the interests of the tribal people in Tamil Nadu, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has constituted self-group to protect the tribal groups and save their plants in forest areas. I also welcome the step of having the R&D Centre at Chennai. I welcome this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, please conclude in two minutes and keep your promise.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I shall be brief.

Sir, at the outset I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for having the headquarters at Chennai. Now, I have Shri Pandian sitting beside me. The hon. Minister earlier had a complaint that the police assaulted him in Chennai and now today he has a complaint that he is not allowed to write his name on the MPLAD schemes. So, he should think about these two aspects before finally taking the decision to have the headquarters at Chennai. He is the only MP whose name is not allowed to be written on the MPLAD schemes. We have no difficulty in this regard. We write our names in the schemes under MPLAD but you are not allowed to do so.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I am confused if, according to him, the Members of AIADMK and DMK are considered to be bio-diversity species!

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, it is strange that the headquarter is being proposed to be at Chennai. We have discussed so many Bills in this House and in almost all the cases, the headquarters of any institution was made in Delhi. But here is a Bill with an exception where it is proposed that Chennai will be the headquarters of the proposed institution. I think, it has become possible because Shri Baalu is the initiator of this statute.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: It is decentralisation.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, now I will come to the provisions of the Bill.

Bio-diversity has been defined in this Bill. It says, 'biological diversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources and the ecological complexes, of which they are part, and includes diversity within species or between species and of eco-systems'. But now research is going on to clone human beings and, maybe, the world would have a cloned baby by January next year. But please

do not allow cloning in India. Though there is no provision for it, yet in the days to come, we would have to share and exchange our ideas and discoveries. If the Western countries allow cloning in a particular nation and they exchange their ideas with us, then we would be bound to allow cloning in India as well. So, there must be a restriction on this principle. It is an exhaustive definition. So, I have a fear that such a thing might develop in a changed scenario.

At any rate, in the present scenario also we are facing certain difficulties in regard to patenting rights. There are cases pending before the World Court in this regard. Now, *Basmati* is an Indian variety of rice. But now we are fighting for our patenting rights of *Basmati* because of a negligent way of doing things.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): Same is the case with *Neem* and *Haldi* also.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, now we are exchanging ideas with other nations. But it should not be a practice in such process of exchange of ideas with other nations that we drain out our resources and our valued information to other nations and get back nothing in turn. We have, very rare species in our country. I can tell you that there is a plant grown in Kerala forests that can cure Cancer.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Is it!

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Yes, it can cure cancer. The research is being conducted. The Ayurvadic physicians tell us that they are treating people also. In some cases, cancer can be cured by this particular species of plant.

So, it will have to be looked into if we can conduct some research and see that an effective medicine for curing cancer is prepared.

There are other species also which are available in the forest region of Kerala which can prove to be very effective and beneficial.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, please conclude now. You have already taken six minutes.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, let him speak. I am even prepared to give him my time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On your request, I have already given him six minutes.

Shri Radhakrishnan, please conclude now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am just concluding.

My humble submission is that this is an offshoot of globalisation. In the globalisation process, India is the loser. As our Prime Minister has pointed out that the common man is not benefited and only the rich man is benefited by the act of globalisation, this also should not result in such away. The common man who is getting some medicine, some treatment, should not be lost by this globalisation process.

So, in dealing with this Biodiversity process, we should be doubly cautious, careful and take all measures by way of abundant cautions that we should not be the loser by passing this legislation.

With these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAI SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude for giving me time to speak. I am expressing my views on biodiversity. I would like to thank my colleague Alvaji for expressing her views in very good manner about the people of forest and rural areas. Every time Bill is introduced, the discussion on forests takes place, but nothing is done in this regard. Therefore, I would like to say that attention should be paid towards those people also. My colleague, Alva ji, has expressed her views in this regard in very good manner.

Sir, at the time of Congress rule, Forest Conservation Act was enacted and corrupt officers cheated the Government and cut all the forests. Earlier, it was assumed that there had been deforestation for the last 40 years. But after that legislation, deforestation occurred very rapidly at all the places. Due to this, the local people are unable to earn their livelihood because they were dependent upon forests. The forest land was acquired after deforestation. When the law was enforced, the people living in forests were considered as unauthorised occupants and they become the owner. Now, the situation has deteriorated, permission is required for providing telephone connection, electricity, construction of dam, other reform works and construction of houses for the local people. I would like to say that there should be legislation with the consultation of people living over there. These people are not being protected over there. Therefore, I would like to request that the legislation law should be enacted after keeping interest of local people in view. Raghuvansh Babu has rightly said that law should be enacted after taking views of people, but it is not so and this is not appropriate. Therefore, I strongly oppose this Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I want the Minister to reply to this point. Under this Act, you do not give the right to any individual citizen to approach the court on an issue where the law has been violated. It is only the Central Authority or the State authority that can go to court and not the individuals. How can you take away the rights of individuals, if they feel affected by the law?

Secondly, if there is a conflict between the directions of the Central Government and the directives of the State Government, who will decide?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, please sit down. I have called the Minister.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Nobody can go to court. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, your name is not in the list. You have not given your name. I have called the Minister. I am sorry. Please take your seat.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I will just point it out. Clause 59 of the Bill provides:

> "No court shall take cognisance of any offence under this Act or rules and regulations made thereunder save on a complaint made by the National Biodiversity Authority or State Biodiversity Board, as the case may be."

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, you have not given your name; I am sorry; I cannot call you now. I have called the names of all the hon. Members who have given their names to participate in the discussion. I cannot allow you now. Please sit down. Now, the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, first of all, I would like to thank all the hon. Members of this House who have participated and deliberated in the discussion to get more information. I am indebted to them.

Before going into the details, I have to thank not only the hon. Members of this august House, but also the Members of the Standing Committee of both the Houses, the State Governments who were kind enough to send their opinion in time, the experts, the NGOs, the Departments of the Union Ministries and other experts throughout the length and breadth of this country.

We should observe that we are a globalised country; we are party to WTO; we are party to TRIPS agreement. In the globalised scenario, we are also party to CBD, Convention on Bio-Diversity, which is a part and parcel of the Earth Summit held in 1992 at Rio de Janeiro.

This Bill is not the creation of the NDA Government. This was envisaged by my friends in Congress who ruled in 1994. The seeds were sown by them. It was properly nurtured and inherited by the Government in 1997 in which Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and myself were Ministers supported by the Congress. In 1998, the draft Bill was circulated by the Government of BJP and AIADMK, who ruled at that time. *...(Interruptions)* Now, I have got an opportunity; it is my proud privilege to pilot this Bill; with the support of the Members of this august House, it would be passed today.

Many of my friends have studied the Bill properly; but at the same time, here and there, they have conveniently forgotten that there are Acts like Forest Conservation Act of 1980, the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, Environment Protection Act of 1986, Ocean Development Act, Animal Husbandry Act, and so on and so forth. All these Acts will take care of conservation and protection. Here, it not only talks about conservation, protection and sustainable use, but it talks about anybody who is having access to biological diversity, germ-plasm, etc. have to share the benefits arising from the use of biological resources and traditional knowledge.

17.00 hrs.

Prof. Raghuvansh Prasad has talked about 'Tulsi'. If anyone wants to have a plant variety of 'Tulsi' from its germplasm, to get an access to that germ plasm he has to go to National Biodiversity Authority which will give him the permission. Before giving permission the NBA has to consult the man in the village who is actually having the traditional knowledge or the right of that particular variety.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: He will have to go to which village?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: For that matter, to any village where traditional knowledge exists. He will have to seek the consent of the Village Management Committee. So, this Bill seeks to give permission to a person to have an access to the germ plasm of a particular variety of the flora or fauna and the benefit accrued out of this access will have to be shared with the community at the village level. Suppose, the germ plasm is available in a particular village then the person has

to go to the Village Management Committee. If it is available in more than one State then to get the permission the person has to go to NBA. If it is available in more than two or three districts then the person has to go to the State Board. This Bill was discussed by the Standing Committee for more than one and a half years. There was a delay because of some good reasons. There were 61 amendments to the Bill because of which it got delayed. So, it was delayed so that all could derive benefit out of it. The delay was extremely in affirmative.

A senior friend of mine, in a lighter vein, has made a remark about having the Headquarters of NBA at Chennai. Shri Shivraj Patil raised this issue at the first instance and Prof. Raghuvansh Prasad supported his contention. I would request him to kindly close his eyes for some time. The Ministry has very consciously decided to have its Headquarters at Chennai. The word 'biodiversity' means, all the living organisms, except human beings.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It is only due to Shri Swaminathan or the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: First of all, you may close your eyes for some time.

All the living organisms which may be flora and fauna, which may be wild life or the animals of ocean are found in Chennai. On the right of Chennai, there is Bay of Bengal; on its left, there is Arabian Sea; behind it, there is Cape Comerin, Indian Ocean; on its right, there is Western Ghats; and on its left, there is Eastern Ghats. It is surrounded by four States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, and Karnataka wherein agro-bio-diversity is in abundant quantity. Voluminous quantities of medicinal plants are there. It is rich in bio-diversity. There is mega-bio-diversity in Ooty and Kodaikanal. It is because of all this rich bio-diversity, flora and fauna, the Ministry - not me - have consciously decided to have it at Chennai. Moreover, Delhi is far away from everywhere. Not only that, it is congested with many Government Headquarters. But at the same time, there is no ban to have it at Delhi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You have done a good thing.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: We have to see whether we are safe in Chennai or not. That is the only point. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Sir, Shri Chennithala has asked whether we are safe in Chennai or not. I would like to say that all the law abiding citizens are safe in Chennai. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the Deputy Leader of this august House has mentioned that the villagers are not having enough knowledge to tackle this issue. With very great respect, I would also agree with him but at the same time, I would say that it was none other than their late lamented leader, Rajiv Gandhi who all along his life wanted to empower the village panchayats. Do you mean to say that I should not empower the village panchayats?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Your approach is correct. This knowledge is in villages. This is with the villagers and that knowledge should be collected, it should be analysed, and it should be used. But they by themselves are not in a position to do all that is necessary for this purpose. So, there should be a body of experts who can help them. That is what I was trying to say.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I sincerely thank Shri Shivraj Patil. In fact, in our in-house discussion, the same thing had been pointed out by some of my officers. I do agree with it. Actually, the capacity of the local panchayats or the Village Management Committees has to be developed very strongly because they are having the know-how and they have the traditional knowledge but they need technical and institutional support. So, at the time of framing the rules and while empowering them, definitely, this matter will be taken care of.

Shri B.K. Deo has said that many of the forest land has been diverted. I do not want to divulge the attention from the subject. But at the same time I would like to say that before the Forest Conservation Act came into being, 1,50,000 hectares of land per year was diverted. Now, for the past many years, every year only 25,000 hectares are being diverted for the non-forest purposes. So, I would request my friend not to have any apprehension. We will take care of this issue.

Shri Pramanik has commented on the appropriateness of terminology like "bio-diversity". Sir, the Bill says: "biological diversity" only. So, I do not think that his contention is correct.

Shri Ravi Prakash Verma asked whether the local people's participation through the Biodiversity Management Committee will be successful. Yes, it has to be successful. I can tell my friends that much.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: You need to have a proper programme and an agenda to that effect.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We have introduced the Joint Forest Management. According to this, there are 65,000 village committees which have been functioning well. Our target is to have about one lakh Joint Forest Management Committees within a very short time and within three or four months we are going to have them. This is one of the thrust areas and we will see that the Joint Forest Management Committees are strengthened. In those Committees your points of view will be definitely taken care of.

I think I have answered all the points raised by Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, except the one relating to the Zoological Survey of India and the Biological Survey of India. They are the premier governmental organisations engaged in research on the flora and fauna in India. These organisations have so far recorded more than 48,000 plant species and 81,000 animal, species. Research is continuing in this regard. These organisations will be strengthened in future also.

Shri Prabodh Panda apprehended that there is no scope for the research being made by *vaids* and agriculturists. While making the rules, we will definitely take care of them. Actually, *vaids* and agricultural researchers are already exempted from this law. They can go anywhere and have access to whatever they need in this field. There is no problem about it. At the same time, the Village Committees will definitely take care of these people to see that their ideas are accommodated. They will be included in the Village Committees also.

Shri Ramesh Chennithala supported the proposal of the Chennai Office because of his proximity to the place. He wants to see the successful functioning of the Authority. With his help and blessings naturally the National Biodiversity Authority will definitely function well to his appreciation.

Madam Margaret Alva has said that rare resources will be sold away by the villagers at cheap price. This will be taken care of. The National Biodiversity Authority will definitely take care of this aspect while the Village Committees are extended the power. If a foreigner wants to have the traditional knowledge of the germplasm from a particular area, they can levy any amount. The only point is that it has to be done in consultation with the Village Committee through which the National Biodiversity Authority will have its say. While framing rules, all her points will be taken care of.

Anna has somewhat jocularly made some points. I can tell him that common people will not be affected to get their rightful share from the extension of biodiversity fruits. This will definitely be taken care of.

Shri K.P. Singh Deo raised many points. I think I have answered them while replying to the points raised by Shri Shivraj V. Patil. About how the proposed legislation will check bio-piracy by foreigners and multinationals, the answer is, to check bio-piracy the proposed legislation provides that access to biological resources and associated knowledge is subject to terms and conditions which secure equitable sharing of benefits. Further, it would be required to obtain the approval of the National Biodiversity Authority before taking any measure to obtain intellectual property rights on biological material and associated knowledge obtained from India. This is in answer to the points made by Shri K.P. Singh Deo.

I think I have covered all the points.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: What about the rights of an individual to approach a court if he feels threatened by law? How can you leave it to the authorities only?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The National Biodiversity Authority has got the rights of a civil court. That is why there is no necessity for anybody to go to a court or to any other place. The Authority has got inherent powers.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: What the law specifically says is that anybody who wants to take recourse to action must go only to the Authority. And then the Authority will approach the court. That means, only the Authority can approach the court and not an individual.

How can you take away the right of an individual in this country to go to the court for protection? It is a constitutional right. How can you say that only the authority can go to the court and an individual cannot go to the court?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We know pretty well that under article 244 of the Constitution, any individual can go to the court. The constitution right is there. Anybody can go to the court under that article. For abundant caution, we have said that the civil court rights are provided to this biodiversity authority. Nobody can prevent it under article 244 of the Constitution.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, let him clarify this point. He is very clearly saying it under clause 60 which I read out earlier that only the authority can approach the court and nobody else can do so. It is here in the law.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I will read out clause 55.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: This is about the

companies. On this also, I have got an objection. Nobody can be held liable saying that he is ignorant of what is happening. Ignorance of law is no excuse in the court.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Please go through clause 55(1). It says:

> "Where an offence or contravention under this Act has been committed by a company, every person who at the time the offence or contravention was committed was in charge of, and was responsible to the company for the conduct of the business of the company, as well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence or contravention and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly."

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: If the person says that he was ignorant, then is he not liable?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Whatever it is, the National Biodiversity Authority has got inherent powers. Over and above, if any person who is denied of this opportunity can go to the court under article 244 of the Constitution.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Please read clause 60. Sir, he has not answered the point under clause 60.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Madam, kindly go through amendment No. 59(b). It says:

> "(b) any benefit claimer who has given notice of not less than thirty days in the prescribed manner, of such offence and of his intention to make a complaint, to the Central Government or the authority or officer or facilitate any court on a complaint made by..."

So, it is there.

Sir, I request all the hon. Members to kindly pass the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

> "That the Bill to provide for conservation of Biological Diversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 Definitions

Amendments made:

Page 2, line 19, --

after "by-products"

insert "excluding value added products" (4)

Page 2, --

after line 25, insert, --

'(ee) "commercial utilisation" means end uses of biological resources for commercial utilization such as drugs, industrial enzymes, food flavours, fragrance-cosmetics, emulsifiers, oleoresins, colours, extracts and genes used for improving crops and livestock through genetic intervention, but does not include conventional breeding or traditional practices in use in any agriculture, horticulture, poultry, dairy farming, animal husbandry or-bee keeping.' (5)

Page 2, line 26, --

for "equitable"

substitute "fair and equitable" (6)

Page 2 line 31 --

after "under"

insert "any other provision of the Constitution or" (7)

Page 2, --

after line 46, insert, --

'(nn) "value added products" means products, which may contain portions or extracts of plants and animals in unrecognisable and physically inseparable form.' (8)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 Results of research not to be transferred to certain persons without approval of National Biodiversity Authority.

Amendment made:

Page 3, line, 18 and 19, --

43 of 1961 *after* "citizen of India"

insert "or citizen of India who is non-resident as defined in clause (30) of section 2 of the income tax Act, 1961" (9)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill:

Clause 6 Application for intellectual property rights not to be made without approval of National Biodiversity Authority

Amendments made:

Page 3, --

after line 43, insert, --

"Provided further that the National Biodiversity Authority shall dispose of the application for permission made to it within a period of ninety days from the date of receipt thereof. " (10)

Page 4, line 3, --

after "under"

insert "law referred to in" (11)

(Shri T.R. Ballu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 Prior intimation to State Biodiversity Board for obtaining biological resource for certain purposes

Amendments made:

Page 4, line 8, --

after "bio-utilisation"

insert "for commercial utilisation" (12)

Page 4, line 11, --

after "including"

insert "growers and cultivators of biodiversity, and" (13)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 8 Establishment of National Biodiversity authority

Amendments made:

Page 4, line 16, --

after "established"

insert "by the Central Government" (14)

Page 4, --

for line 32, *substitute*, --

"representing the Ministry dealing with Tribal Affairs and two representing the Ministry dealing with." (15)

Page 4, lines 33 and 34 --

for "Additional Inspector General of Forests or the Inspector General of Forests"

substitute "Additional Director General of Forests or the Director General of Forests" (16)

Page 4, line 35, --

for "five"

substitute "seven" (17)

Page 4, --

after line 41, insert, --

"(vi) Science and Technology;

(vii) Scientific and Industrial Research;". (18)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 9 Condition of service of Chair-person and Members

Amendment made:

Page 5, line 2, --

after "ex officio member",

insert "of the National Biodiversity Authority" (19)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 10 to 15 were added to the Bill.

Clause 16 Delegation of Powers

Amendment made:

Page 6, line 24, --

for "settle dispute"

substitute "prefer an appeal" (20)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 16, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 16, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 17 was added to the Bill.

Clause 18 Functions of National Biodiversity Authority

Amendments made:

Page 6, line 33, --

for "access to and equitable"

substitute "access to biological resources and for fair and equitable" (21)

Page 6, line 42, --

after "notified"

insert "under sub-section (1) of section 37" (22)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 18, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 18, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 19 Approval of National Biodiversity Authority for Undertaking certain activities.

Amendment made:

Page 7, line 14, --

after "outside India"

insert "referred to in sub-section (1) of section 6" (23)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 19, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 19, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 20 Transfer of biological resource or knowledge

Amendment made:

Page 7, line 33, –

for "deemed"

substitute "it may deem" (24)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 20, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 20, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

Clause 22 Establishment of State Biodiversity Board

Amendments made:

Page 8, line 24, –

after "established"

insert "by that Government (25)

Page 8, line 43, –

for "Departments"

substitute "concerned Departments"(26)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 22, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 22, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 23 was added to the Bill.

Clause 24 Power of State Bio-diversity Board to restrict certain activities violating the objectives of conservation etc.

Amendment made:

Page 9, –

after line 21, insert -

"(3) Any information given in the form referred to in sub-section (1) for prior intimation shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed, either intentionally or unintentionally, to any person not concerned thereto". (27)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 24, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 24, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 25 Provisions of Section 9 to 17 to apply with modifications to State Biodiversity Board

Amendment made:

Page 9, line 27, –

for "Board"

substitute "State Biodiversity Board " (28)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 25, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 25, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 26 was added to the Bill.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Sir, except the Minister, no Member is raising his voice that side to vote. Everybody should exercise his franchise. ...*(Interruptions)*

Clause 27 Application of National Biodiversity Fund

Amendment made:

Page 10, line 1, –

after "conservation"

insert "and promotion" (29)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 27, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 27, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 28 to 31 were added to the Bill

Clause 32 State Biodiversity Fund

Amendments made:

Page 10, line 46, --

for "restriction imposed under"

substitute "notification under sub-section (1) of" (30)

Page 10, line 47, --

after "conservation"

insert "and promotion" (31)

Page 10, line 49, --

for "approval granted"

substitute "order made" (32)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 32, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 32, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 33 was added to the Bill.

Clause 34 Audit of accounts of State Bio-diversity Board.

Amendment made:

Page 11, line 7, --

for "National Biodiversity Authority"

substitute "State Biodiversity Board" (33)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 34, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 34, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 35 was added to the Bill.

Clause 36 Central Government to develop National strategies, plans etc. for conservation etc. of biological diversity

Amendments made:

Page 11, line 14, --

after "conservation"

insert "and promotion"(34)

Page 11, line 15, --

after "monitoring"

insert "of" (35)

Page 11, line 16, --

for "conservation and"

substitute "and" (36)

Page 11, lines 16 and 17, --

for "training, public education"

substitute "training and public education" (37)

Page 11, --

after line 17, insert --

"(1A) Where the Central Government has reason to believe that any area rich in biological diversity, biological resources and their habitats is being threatened by overuse, abuse or neglect, it shall issue directives to the concerned State Government to take immediate ameliorative measures, offering such State Government any technical and other assistance that is possible to be provided or needed" (38)

Page 11, line 19, --

for "conservation"

substitute "conservation, promotion" (39)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 36, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 36, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 37 was added to the Bill.

Clause 38 Power of Central Government to notify threatened species

Amendments made:

Page 12, line 2, --

for "Central Government"

substitute "Central Government, in consultation with the concerned State Government," (40)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 38, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 38, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 39 Power of Central Government to designate repositories

Amendments made:

Page 12, line 11, --

after "discovered"

***insert* "by any person" (41)**

Page 12, line 12, --

after "and"

insert "he shall" (42)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 39, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 39, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 40 was added to the Bill.

Clause 41 Constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees

Amendments made:

Page 12, --

after line 24, *insert* -

Explanation - For the purposes of this sub-section, --

(a) "cultivar" means a variety of plant that has originated and persisted under cultivation or was specifically bred for the purpose of cultivation;

(b) "folk variety" means a cultivated variety of plant that was developed, grown and exchanged informally among farmers;

(c) "landrace" means primitive cultivar that was grown by ancient farmers and their successors.' (43)

Page 12, line 30, --

after "biological resource."

insert "for commercial purposes" (44)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 41, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 41, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 42 and 43 were added to the Bill.

Clause 44 Application of Local Biodiversity Fund

Amendment s made:

Page 13 line 2 --

***after* "applied"**

insert "in the manner" (45)

Page 13, line 4, –

after "conservation"

insert "and promotion" (46)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 44, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 44, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 45 Annual Report of Biodiversity Management Committees

Amendment made:

Page 13, line 10, --

for "State Government"

substitute "concerned local body" (47)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 45, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 45, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 46 Audit of accounts of Biodiversity Management Committees

Amendment made:

Page 13, lines 13 and 14, –

for "State Government",

substitute "concerned local body" (48)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 46, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 46, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 47 Annual report of Biodiversity Management Committee to be laid before State Legislature

Amendment made:

Page 13, –

for lines 16 and 17, *substitute* -

Annual report, etc. of the Biodiversity Management Committee to be submitted to District Magistrate

"47. Every local body constituting a Biodiversity Management Committee under sub-section (1) of section 41, shall cause, the annual report and audited copy of accounts together with auditor's report thereon referred to in sections 45 and 46 respectively and relating to such Committee to be submitted to the District Magistrate having jurisdiction over the area of the local body." (49)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 47, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 47, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 48 and 49 were added to the Bill.

Clause 50 Settlement of disputes between State Biodiversity Boards.

Amendment made:

Page 13, line 43, --

for "appellant"

substitute "parties" (50)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 50, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 50, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 51 was added to the Bill.

New Clause 51A Appeal

Amendment made:

Page 14, --

after line 22, -- *insert*

Appeal. "51A. Any person, aggrieved by any determination of benefit sharing or order of the National Biodiversity Authority or a State Biodiversity Board under this Act may file an appeal to the High Court within thirty days from the date of communication to him, of the determination or order of the National Biodiversity Authority or the State Biodiversity Board, as the case may be:

Provided that the High Court may, if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal within the said period, allow it to be filed within a further period not exceeding sixty days." (51)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That new clause 51A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 51A was added to the Bill.

New Clause 51B Execution of determination or order.

Amendment made:

Page 14, --

after line 22, *insert*-

Execution of determination or order.

"51B. Every determination of benefit sharing or order made by the National Biodiversity Authority or a State Biodiversity Board under this Act or the order made by the High Court in any appeal against any determination or order of the National Biodiversity Authority or a State Biodiversity Board shall, on a certificate issued by any officer of the National Biodiversity Authority or a State Biodiversity Board or the Registrar of the High Court, as the case may be, be deemed to be decree of the civil court and shall be executable in the same manner as a decree of that court.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this section and section 51A, the expression "State Biodiversity Board" includes the person or group of persons to whom the powers or functions under sub-section (2) of section 22 have been delegated under the proviso to that sub-section and the certificate relating to such person or group of persons under this section shall be issued by such person or group of persons, as the case may be." (52)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That new clause 51B be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 51 B was added to the Bill.

Clause 52 was added to the Bill.

Clause 53 Penalties

Amendment made:

Page 14, --

for lines 28 to 31, *substitute*-

"53.(1) Whoever contravenes or attempts to contravene or abets the contravention of the provisions of section 3 or section 4 or section 6 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to ten lakh rupees and where the damage caused exceeds ten lakh rupees such fine may commensurate with the damage caused, or with both." (53)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 53, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 53, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 54 to 56 were added to the Bill.

Clause 57 Act to have over riding effect.

Amendment made:

Page 15, --

for lines 22 and 23, substitute-

Act to have effect in addition to other Acts.

"57. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of the provisions in any other law, for the time being in force, relating to forests or wildlife."(54)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 57, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 57, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 58 was added to the Bill.

Clause 59 Cognizance of offences

Amendment made:

Page 15, --

for lines 27 to 29, *substitute* -

Cognizance of offences.

"59. No court shall take cognizance of any offence under this Act except on a complaint made by -

(a) the Central Government or any authority or officer authorised in this behalf by that Government; or

(b) any benefit claimer who has given notice of not less than thirty days in the prescribed manner, of such offence and of his intention to make a complaint, to the Central Government or the authority or officer authorised as aforesaid." (55)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 59, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 59, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 60 Power of Central Government to make rules

Amendment made:

Page 15, --

after line 40, *insert* -

"(dd) the form and manner of making an application under sub-section (2) of section 19;" (56)

Page 15, --

for line 44, *substitute* -

"report of the National Biodiversity Authority shall be prepared and the date before which its audited copy of accounts together with auditor's report thereon shall be furnished under section 28;" (57)

" Page 16, --

after line 3, *insert* -

"(hh) the additional matter in which the National Biodiversity Authority may exercise powers of the civil court under clause (h) of sub-section (6 of section 50;

"(hhh) the manner of giving notice under clause (b) of section 59;" (58)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 60 as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 60, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 61 Power of State Government to make rules

Amendments made:

Page 16, --

after line 18, *insert* -

"(ia) the other functions to be performed by the State Biodiversity Board under clause (c) of section 23;" (59)

Page 16, --

after line 22, *insert* -

"(bb) the manner of maintaining and auditing the accounts of the State Biodiversity Board and the date before

which its audited copy of the accounts together with auditor's report thereon shall be furnished under section 34;" (60)

Page 16, --

for lines 24 and 25, *substitute*-

"(d) the manner of management and custody of the Local Biodiversity Fund and the purposes for which such Fund shall be applied under sub-section (1) of section 44;

(dd) the form of annual report and the time at which such report shall be prepared during each financial year under section 45;

(ddd) the manner of maintaining and auditing the accounts of the Local Biodiversity Fund and the date before which its audited copy of the accounts together with auditors report thereon shall be furnished under section 46;" (61)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 61 as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 61, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 62 and 63 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 Short title, extent and commencement

Amendment made:

Page 2, line 3, --

for "2000"

substitute "2002" (3)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1, --

for "Fifty-first"

substitute "Fifty-third" (2)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Preamble was added to the Bill.

Title

Amendment made:

That in the Long Title, --

(i) *for* "equitable"

substitute "fair and equitable"

(ii) *for* "biological resources"

substitute "biological resources, knowledge"(1)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Title, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Title, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I request the hon. Minister to move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is."

"That the Bill, as amended be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): This Bill should be named as "Baalu Diversity Bill". ...*(Interruptions)*

17.43 hrs.

DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT - RAILWAYS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up item no. 12 - Supplementary Demands for Grant (Railways).

Motion moved.

"That the 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 to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2003, in respect of the head of Demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand No. 16."

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2002-03 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Supplementary Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of the House Rs.
16	Assets-Acquisition, Construction & Replacement	
	Other Expenditure	
	Capital	7,000
	Railway Fund	18,000
	Total	25,000

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Margaret Alva.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, she is not speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): I am speaking of course. Shri Pandian, you are not in the Chair now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, please speak now.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that in spite of the fact that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs frowns at me, this is a Supplementary Demand for an appropriation of only Rs. 25,000, and this is why I am standing up to speak. I wish he had come for Rs. 25,000 crore or something, at least Rs. 2,500 crore because there are so many pending projects for which commitments have been made by the Railways and by Shri Nitish Kumar himself, but somehow along the way he gets involved in other things, which were not so important, whether it is new zones, whether it is treading on Mamta's toes or I do not know what. But, unfortunately, money is getting diverted to things which were not as important as commitments made in the Budgets by the present Railway Minister and his predecessors.

I would be brief. I am not going to take too much time, going into the whole thing. I would just touch upon some specific issues.

The other day, the hon. Minister was in Bangalore to sign an MoU with the Government of Karnataka for launching K-RIDE, a first of its kind, an initiative between the State Government and the Central Government for private entrepreneurship participation in railway projects. For this, the negotiation started in September, 2000 under which four rail projects in Karnataka had been identified for immediate priority. One of them is the Hassan-Mangalore rail link; and there is also the Ankola-Hubli new line under the same MoU for which money has never been forthcoming.

I have got here the chart showing the releases for these two projects. The Ankola-Hubli line was announced in 1996-97 and was sanctioned in 1996-97. The total cost was supposed to be Rs.997 crore. The first release was Rs.14.6 crore; Rs.20 crore were released in 2001-02 and another Rs.20 crore in 2002-03. This was all the money released out of Rs.997 crore committed. They have now left it aside and started new lines somewhere else. The other day, the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka had said that for the K-RIDE, he has already made an allotment of Rs. 15 crore asking the Centre to please complete the formalities and start the work.

From the letters I have got from the Ministry I find that for this Ankola-Hubli railway line, surveys have been made and some 14 kilometres of earthwork has been started. That was all; the rains came and they said they would start work again after the rains. There is no seriousness in completing what has been started. I am appealing to the hon. Minister to please pay attention to these areas also because the MoU for the new port at Tadadi has been signed and this is supposed to be the feeder line from the hinterland, from Hubli

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

to the port so that the goods traffic can move. Unless this railway line comes up, the port for which huge amounts are being committed by the Karnataka Government in an MoU with the Government of South Korea would go waste.

The other line is the Hassan-Mangalore railway line. It was announced in 1994-95 and I am placing the tragedy of this railway line before this House. There was a metre gauge line from Bangalore to Mangalore. It was the most convenient and shortest line, where you slept in the night boarding the train at Mangalore and you were in Bangalore in the morning. Coffee, iron ore and all the cargo from the interiors were moving to the port at Mangalore. The Mangalore port was also dealing with the Kudremukh iron ore. It was a thriving port. Somewhere, there is a lobby. I do not want to go into it openly but we I know what is happening. This railway line was removed in the name of conversion to broad gauge or unigauge. They removed this line and abandoned it. We were happy with what was there. The trains were running. This was a commitment made in 1994-95 but until today it has not been completed. They have done work on about 42 kilometres and left it to god's grace. I would just give the figures here. The estimate was Rs.326 crore but only Rs.168 crore were spent. Now, Rs.45 crore are given for 2002-03. I am just asking the hon. Minister to complete whatever he has started. The other day, the Half-an-hour Discussion was on this subject.

Please complete the work that you have started so that those lines can be completed, instead of again starting something new somewhere and leaving it half-done. The cost escalation takes place and there is frustration locally. For instance, the land is acquired for Hubli-Ankola sector. There is neither the railway line nor the farmers Call use the land. It has been acquired and it is lying fallow. We are asking that you set up some kind of a committee to look at half-done, incomplete, neglected and delayed projects and see that with some earnestness, at least, when you come with your next Budget, you allot 50 per cent of your Budget to complete the pending works.

[Translation]

Don't start the work. If you have started then first complete it and then start some new work. If you do like this then there will be no cost escalation and no problem.

[English]

Sir, the other day at a function in Bangalore, the Chief Minister of Karnataka in his speech has specially requested the hon. Minister about the Sakleshpur-Mangalore stretch. It is about 142. kilometers. It is still left. Every year I go to the Railway Board. I ask the people. They said that it would be completed in the year 2003. Now they say that it will be completed by December, 2004. They know that elections will come in 2004.

[Translation]

Nobody knows about the future. After the election, someone else may come to power and start some new work on priority basis.

[English]

I am just saying that there has to be a time-bound programme. I am quoting what the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka said the other day:

> "I am happy to announce that we have already approved this project in the State Cabinet last year and I have earmarked Rs. 15 crore towards our investment in this project in the current financial year. We are awaiting the formal approval of the Central Government for this structure, which I hope would come quite soon."

That is why, I am standing before you and pleading on behalf of the Government of Karnataka to help us because the hinterland is totally cut. I must say that Mangalore was a thriving port. Now all the traffic is being diverted to Chennai to Cochin and to Tutikorin. We understand that those ports are showing increased cargo now for private investment.

[Translation]

The cargo has increased therefore investment should be allowed. These should be modernised by giving them to private sectors.

[English]

Mangalore port, which is the most strategically located, is being totally starved because there is no railway line to feed and the road traffic cannot, in the Western Ghats, particularly in the rainy season deal with the heavy traffic, which has to move. That is one point I am making.

Secondly, I want to point out that there is the question of the Konkan Railway. Of course, that also ultimately is under the Ministry of Railways, though it is a Corporation. The Konkan Railway was built and simultaneously has the project SEABIRD in North Canara. The railway line goes along the coast, but there are rehabilitation colonies, which have come up subsequently because of the huge acquisitions for the SEABIRD project, which is a Naval project. The rehabilitation colonies will be totally cut out unless at two or three places road under-bridges or road connections are provided to these new rehabilitation colonies. We have been pleading every time and there is always an excuse. People have to go even with their motorbikes or whatever they have to long distances to be able to cross the railway line from the rehabilitation colonies, which is for a Naval project.

Much cheaper proposals have been made, but now they are talking about diversions, going into crores of rupees, which the hon. Minister will never sanction. We are, therefore, appealing that the proposals made by the district administration should be looked into and the Rehabilitation Committee's requests are looked at sympathetically and approved so that this work can be done.

Finally, I do want to mention the question of level-crossing and over-bridges. In Bangalore, in the middle of the town, we have railway level crossings, which hold up traffic ten to fifteen times a day. For years, from the time of the former Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, this proposal has come. We were told that it is approved and somebody said–

[Translation]

that the Bhumi-pujan will also be done but till today, the work has not been started.

[English]

All of us are generally getting cursed by the local people. I am not the local MP at all.

But all of us get cursed. One of these days all of us are going to get stoned because of the traffic jams which go on the most difficult hours of the day and night. Therefore, I am requesting the hon. Minister to please have a look at the need for these amenities in the heart of the city, lack of which is causing tremendous hardship. You build an over-bridge or under-bridge.

[Translation]

The State Government has made a commitment and the corporation has provided a land. Everything is there but I fail to understand as to why the work has not yet been started?

[English]

I am pleading with the hon. Minister to please not come to this House with a Demand for Grant for Rs. 25,000. That is much less than one hour's expenditure of Parliament.

[Translation]

Had he provided Rs. 2500 crore it would have helped to complete our work and we would have thanked him. But now, no one knows what will happen?

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, although the allocation is only for Rs. 25,000 this is a token allocation. I thank the hon. Minister of Railways for making this allocation for the terminal at Belur. This is a necessity for the passengers going to Belur Mutt because the Belur Mutt station is 5 9 3 two kilometres away from Belur Mutt.

There was a demand from the people of West Bengal and I have also raised it a number of times here about the coaching terminals. Mumbai has a number of coaching terminals and Delhi also has a number of coaching terminals. But Kolkata has only two coaching terminals - Howrah and Sealdah. The Shalimar station was to be developed. In the Eighties it was planned to have 12 platforms at Shalimar station and that all the trains of the South Eastern Railway would start from Shalimar station and would terminate at Shalimar station. But 15 years after the Shalimar coaching terminal was sanctioned, only two platforms have come up and only one train starts and terminates at that station which is the Aranya Express. It has not been developed into a full-fledged coaching terminal.

There is a demand for a coaching terminal either at Paddapakur or Satragachi. I was told that the Ministry of Railways had written to the State Government for getting the land for Paddapakui. There is also a need for a coaching terminal at Dum Dum. The Howrah station has become congested with all the trains coming to Howrah every day. It is our experience that the trains are getting delayed by one or two hours because there is hardly any capacity left in Howrah station. There was a proposal to have a double discharge platform at Howrah station. It has also not been done. There is a need to increase the capacity of the Howrah station and that can be done if two terminals are there. Shalimar station can be developed to a full-fledged coaching terminal and an additional terminal should be developed either at Paddapakur or Satragachi.

I hope that in the next Budget, the hon. Minister of Railways will definitely sanction at least three coaching terminals for Kolkata realising the problems of Howrah as well as Sealdah stations.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since the House is about to be adjourned, I would seek the permission of the House for extending the time till the discussion is over.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The time may be extended by one hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is extended till the discussion on Supplementary demands for Grants complete.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The proceedings of the House will continue till all members get the opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do the House agree to this?

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS: Yes.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, only last week, there was a Half-an-hour Discussion on the pending projects of Railways. A number of projects are pending in West Bengal, like Tamluk-Digha project. This project was sanctioned 18 years back. Digha station was also constructed. Now, the Ministry of Railways is planning to complete this line up to Contai by the end of this year while there is no target date fixed for the completion of the entire section up to Digha. The Railways is planning to complete only a portion of Tamluk-Digha line by 2003.

My demand is that the Ministry of Railways should fix up a target date for the early completion of Tamluk-Digha project which was sanctioned 18 years back. There was a project in respect of a railway line, which is there in the Railway Minister's State, which was wound up. A Bill was brought before the House for winding up of that project and it was passed. That railway line is Islampur-Fatuha line. The restoration of this line or construction of a new broad gauge line was sanctioned only three years back. Now, for that line, the target has been fixed that it would be completed within this year, but no target date has been fixed for completion of work on Tamluk-Digha line.

Another important line, which is not only for the State of West Bengal but also for the State of Assam, is Moynaguri-Jogi Ghopa broad guage line. Sir, you know that there is a demand regarding this line from both the States - West Bengal as well as Assam. Before partition, in how much time people used to come from Coochbehar to Kolkata? They used to come in only 12 hours. Now, it takes a minimum of 30 hours to reach Kolkata from Dhubri, from Coochbehar. Sir, there is a great demand from the people of both the States. When a delegation from Assam and Coochbehar met the Railway Minister five months back, I was also there. There is a narrow gauge line in one portion of that section. He had assured that within one month, the work of conversion from narrow guage to broad guage would be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, how can I conclude? You have already extended the time of the House. I have spoken for only five minutes. I will speak for another ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have spoken for twelve minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have spoken only on one point. This is my second point. I have nine points which I have noted down to speak on.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it's a matter of total 25,000 rupees, how much he will speak over this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It's not a matter of Rs. 25,000/-, it's only a token allocation. It involves a heavy amount.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, we are not discussing the full-fledged Budget: we are only discussing the Supplementary Demands.

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I speak for one hour on Budget. I may kindly be permitted to speak for atleast 15-20 minutes more in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken for 12 minutes. You may speak for three minutes more.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have not spoken for 12 minutes. Please give me 7-8 minutes so that I can conclude my speech at the earliest.

[English]

Sir, the Railways is planning to have 5,000 kilometres of railway line during the Tenth Five Year Plan. There is a demand from West Bengal for a new line from Jhargram to Purulia.

This line will cater to the needs of the tribal people of the State of West Bengal. This will connect Jhargram with Purulia. The survey has already been completed and the report has been submitted, but this line has not been sanctioned. In the next year's Budget, the Railway Minister should definitely sanction a token amount for this Jhargram-Purulia project.

I have been clamouring in this House that the MEMU

trains are very popular trains, but they are meant for passengers travelling short distances. The Railways is introducing the MEMU trains for long distances also, like one MEMU has been introduced from Adra to Howrah. It takes about five hours, and it has no toilet facility. The British Railways has two types of EMUs, that is, one for short distance and another for long distance. The short distance EMUs do not have toilets, but the long distance EMUs have toilets. Why can the Indian Railways not provide toilet facilities in the long distance MEMU trains? The design can be prepared. Otherwise, it is very difficult for the lady passengers to travel more than five hours in an MEMU train without any toilet facility.

Then, Sir, here, a token allocation has been made for diversion of Dhanbad-Pathardihi line. One train was introduced .in 1993, that is, the Subarnarekha Express. It used to run from Dhanbad via Jharia-Lodna-Pathardihi. Now, it has been diverted. Jharia is a very important place; it is a coal town and a business centre. The people of Jharia as well as Lodna are now deprived of any train service. The allocation has been made to facilitate the diversion of train and it will take, at least, 45 minutes from Dhanbad to Sindri and then back to Pathardihi, from Pathardihi to Sudamdihi-Adra-Tatanagar. The passengers of Jharia should not be deprived of this train. The Railway Minister should also think and consider their demand for having the railway service. The train service from Andal to Palasthali line has been stopped. There is no reason why the train service has been stopped. I would request that the train service on that line should also be restored.

Sir, the plight of homoeopathy and ayurveda doctors who are working in the Railways is very pitiable. Recently, the Cabinet has adopted a policy on Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. The Government of India is giving importance to the Indian System of Medicine. In the Railways, there are 142 ayurveda and homoeopathic doctors. How much are they getting? They are getting only Rs. 2,500 The services of the doctors of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy have not been regularised. I know that the services of a number of canteen workers, both statutory and non-statutory workers, who were getting Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 have been regularised. The services of partial porters and commission bearers have been regularised because of the Supreme Court judgments. Then, why are these 142 doctors, who are working in the Divisional Hospital and in the Central Hospital, are getting only Rs. 2,500 each?

Sir, my demand is that the salaries be paid regularly to all these qualified doctors of Homeopathy and Ayurveda and also the pay scales of these doctors should be made on par with those of the allopathic doctors. Everywhere, including those in the State Services, the qualified Ayurvedic and Homeopathic doctors are getting their salaries and their pay scales also are at par with those of the qualified allopathic doctors. But only in the Railways these doctors are being discriminated against. This discrimination should be put an end to and their salaries should be regularised and their pay scales also should be made at par with those of the qualified allopathic doctors.

Sir, the doubling of the Bandel-Katwa railway line has already been sanctioned, but the work has not yet started. Allocation for this has already been made. I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister that doubling of the Bandel-Katwa railway track should be started forthwith.

Sir, the hon. Railway Minister had been kind enough to sanction one of my projects, namely the Bankura - Damodar River Railway project. A sum of Rs. 40 crore was allocated in the Budget for the year 2000-2001 for this project and a sum of Rs. 25 crore was allocated in the Budget for the year 2002-2003. But no target date has been fixed for the completion of the project. Then, the extension part beyond Raina up to Chachai and from Bankura to Mukutmanipur has also been sanctioned. The details have been worked out for the Raina to Chachai route. What I would like is a target date to be fixed for completion of gauge conversion of this route so that it could be opened to the passenger traffic.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): I was surprised on the demand of Rs. 25,000 in supplementary Budget. I want to say that the hon'ble Minister had promised that Vaishali will be linked with rail line and the work on Buddhist circuit will be completed. The survey work of Hajipur-Vaishali-Sugoli has been completed. I was expecting that funds would be allocated in the Supplementary Budget and foundation stone would be laid but that is not being done. I would like to know why this is not being done.

I would submit that we are under great pressure of the people and discontentment among the people is growing. In the prevailing circumstances we propose to stage dharna on the day the Budget will be presented. Through you, I would like to tell the Government, hon'ble Minister and all hon'ble members that now we have no option left before us except fighting for our cause. Similar is the case of Hajipur, Vaishali and Sugoli. Since 1904, people of Vaishali have been demanding for Rail link. A number of assurances had been given but nothing has been done in this regard so far. I would like to submit that Vaishali is the 'Karm-bhumi' of Lord Buddha

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

and is the birth place of Lord Mahavir. Lichhavi Republic also happens to be the origin of democracy about which the Poet Dinkar has said:-

"Vaishali jan ka pratipalak,
jan ka aaj vidhata,
jise khojta desh aaj,
us prajatantra ki mata,
ruko pathik ek kshan,
mitti ko shish navao,
raj siddhiyon ki samadhi par,
phool chadhate jao."

I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that Vaishali is a historical place, Whosoever links it with rail line will be applauded, Therefore, I would like to state that if the above work is not done then we will stage a demonstration in front of this House, hon'ble Minister and the Prime Minister on the day the Budget is presented as there is no option left before us.

Regarding the Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur rail line, I would like to submit that work from Muzaffarpur side is progressing fast and in Kanchi work upto NH has been completed. The people are quite happy, but there is a need for construction of rail bridge on river Gandak. The people of that region are demanding that a bridge should be constructed or else some major accident can take place at any time.

There is a demand for construction of Railway Station at Motipur. Since the distance between Motipur and Mahubal is 7-8 kms therefore the people have demanded that a railway station should be constructed at Mohammadpur Balwi.

Construction of an over-bridge has been sanctioned for Bhagwanpur railway crossing which is on NH 102 however Bhagwanpur is excluded. Bhagwanpur railway crossing falls on the way that comes from Chhapra, Rewaghat and Muzaffarpur in the west. Therefore, over-bridge should be constructed on it. The people are demanding for the halt of the train at Motipur and the halt of inter-city at Kanti.

Rohna nullah was covered at Bagha Chhitauni for passing rail line and consequently one thousand acre of land was submerged. During the course of holding discussion on Environment Bill we have demanded that the railway should assure that there should be no water lagging otherwise forest and wild life will be destroyed.

Lastly, I would like to submit that some measure should be taken for the welfare of coolie which is the most down trodden section. When we visit Patna, coolies approach us and demand for some facilities like education, medicines and resting place. They also demand that they should be given the status of class four employee.

These are the questions. However, pertinent issue is that when Hazipur railway zone has been established and bridge is being constructed there, then why is Vaishali not being connected with rail line? Scheme involving the amount of Rs.324 crore has been prepared for Hazipur, Vaishali, Sugauli railway line and the hon'ble Minister in his written reply has submitted that survey in this regard have been conducted. Only survey is being conducted but railway line is not being constructed.

[English]

Where there is a will, there is Railways. But there is no will; there is only survey.

[Translation]

So if there is will-power, Hazipur, Vaishali, Sugauli railway line can be constructed within this year. 98 years have elapsed since 1904 but it could not be done and all important people have been saying that - that is historical place so you create history by doing this task. Otherwise we will be compelled not to support you at the time of presentation of budget, stage dharna in the House and then there will be mass movement and acute resentment among the people for this.

With these words, I conclude and request that construction of the said line should be announced immediately.

[English]

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways).

I agree with the observations made by Shrimati Margaret Alva that the hon. Railway Minister, instead of Rs. 25,000, should have come for Rs. 2,500 crore. There are a number of issues which are pending. Why I am saying so is that the Railways is the cheapest mode of transport for the poor people compared to the other modes of transport. Poor people can afford and travel long distances by rails. So, it is my request that there should be more supplementary Budget for the Railways by the hon. Minister.

Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, after Independence not even

100 kilometres of new lines has been constructed. It is a pathetic condition. Ours is a developing country where the cost of living is becoming very high. If every nook and corner of the country is not connected with the cheapest mode of transport, that is, rail, it is very difficult for the poor people to survive.

One such new line, which was conceived very long back, is the line from Macherla in Guntur district to Raichur in Karnataka district which goes through Guntur-Nalgonda-Mehboobnagar-Raichur. These are all backward districts. But it seems that it is not under the Railways' programme to cater to the needs of the backward people. This line, if it is conceived, will be very helpful.

A stretch of line between Macherla and Nalgonda, and Gadwal and Raichur had already been planned, conceived and sanctioned. But the budgetary allocation surprisingly is Rs.1 lakh for Macherla-Nalgonda line and Rs.1 crore for Gadwal-Raichur line. It is since long that the final locations are being worked out. I do not know when it is going to be completed.

The line between Macherla-Nagarjunasagar-Gadwal goes via Nalgonda and Mahaboobnagar districts. These two districts are affected by naxalites because of non-availability of employment opportunities and non-development. If this line is conceived, it will generate employment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly restrict your speech to the items on the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: I have not spoken for even two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are discussing the Supplementary Demands for Grants and not the full Budget.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: I know that. I have not even spoken for two minutes and you are asking me to conclude. If you so wish, I will sit down. Every time, it is happening with me like this. The Budget is for Rs.25,000 only; but these points are to be highlighted so that it may get priority in the next Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not asking you to stop.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: If you want, I will sit down, as it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am only asking you to be brief.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: This is happening repeatedly with me. Whenever I rise to speak, within one or two minutes, I am asked to conclude. I will sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly be bnef. This is not the proper way to do it. I am just asking you to be bnef.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: If that line is sanctioned, it would go through those backward districts of Telangana; it will provide employment opportunities to persons in those two districts affected by naxalism; once employment opportunities are created, the youth will be weaned away from getting attracted towards naxalite activities.

There is the problem of migration from these districts also. Every year from both the districts, nearly 10-15 lakhs of people migrate to other parts of the country due to non-availability of employment opportunities. If this proposed line for 292 km. stretch is sanctioned, then it will provide employment opportunities to the labour in construction of that line; that will stop people from migrating to other parts of the country. That will also help farmers to change their cropping pattern to commercial cropping pattern from traditional crops they will not just be dependent on rain water. That line would also provide transport system to export their produce to other parts of the country.

For lines between Mudkhed-Adilabad, Nizamabad-Bollarum and Karimnagar-Nizamabad, the budgetary allocation was very meagre. An amount of Rs.280 crore was allocated to South-Central Railway for this financial year and not even half of the amount has been spent so far. Only 4-5 months are left for the completion of the financial year and I do not know when they are going to spend that money. So, the work has to be speeded up on those lines.

Coming to new lines, Yerranguntla-Nandyal and Peddapalli-Bhoopalapally lines have to be taken up Since the National Highways are full of traffic, ROBs are to be taken up at Adilabad, Jammikunta, Chebrolu, Raigiri, Warangal District, Bheemadolu, Tadepalligudem, Maltewada, Parvathipuram, Nekkonda, Jadcherla, Gadwal, Mahaboobnagar, Yenugonda.

There is another problem of closure of gate at Boyanapalli and another gate between Jedcherla-Gollapalli in Mahaboobnagar District. This is in the middle of the town and this gate was closed by the Railway authorities, causing a lot of inconvenience to the commuters. The hon. Minister of State for Railways, Shri Bandaru Dattatreya knew about this. Due to the closure of those gates, there was a lot of inconvenience and the train in which the hon. Minister was travelling was stopped by the people. My request is that those gates may be opened immediately.

Coming to doubling, I would say that Secunderabad-Guntakal line is very important. This will shorten the distance

[Dr. Manda Jagannath]

between Chennai and Bangalore; and all South bound trains will benefit from this.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, nobody of that State to which the Minister of State belongs to will speak. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Doubling work of Renigunta-Guntakal was started 30 years back and still it is to be completed. I request that this may be completed immediately. As I said earlier, Secunderabad-Guntakal line is very important and this has to be taken up in the next Budget.

Coming to new trains, a train from Secunderabad to Dronachalam or to Kurnool is very very essential. It is a very short distance one and it has to be given priority.

I will say a few words about stoppage of fast Passenger trains at Kurumuky Railway Station in Secunderabad-Dronachalam section; I would also request stoppage of all passenger trains at Kothur Railway Station between Kacheguda-Mahaboobnagar section. A halt is also to be provided at Jadcherla for Secunderabad-Dharmavaram Express train. Finally, Swarna Jayanti Express train is to be stopped at Mancherial.

The last point is about the multi-modal transport system for Secunderabad and Hyderabad. This has been conceived and it has to be completed. Hon. Minister of State for Railways, Shri Bandaru Dattatreya visited the place day before yesterday and he was unhappy about the progress of the work. The system was unduly delayed and it has to be immediately completed to ease the traffic flow.

[Translation]

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (JALESAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards some of the problems in my area during the course of discussion on Supplementary Demand for Railway.

Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency has Atmadpur railway station where there is no stoppage for Awadh Express. I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister that there should be stoppage for Awadh Express at Atmadpur station. If stoppage is provided at this station for the said train, it will be convenient for the people to Lucknow and fro. Tundla is a railway junction and it is important junction for five districts - Agra, Firozabad, Hathras, Etah and Mathura. If stoppage is provided for Nilanchal Express at Tundla junction it will be convenient for Jainis who wish to undertake pilgrimage to Shikarji which is a place of their religious faith. So, I would like to request that there should be stoppage for Nilanchal Express at Tundla.

Besides, I would also like to submit that NR Inter College is located in my parliamentary constituency Tundla where children of railway employees study. If the said Inter College is upgraded to Degree College, it will be beneficial for the children of railway employees. Heavy expense is not involved in it, only the building of the college will have to expand and increase the staff. I would also like to submit that former Deputy Minister of Railway Shri Rohan Lal Chaturvedi ji had got a rail line between Barhan and Etah constructed, however only this train is running on this track for last thirty years. I would like that rail bus facility should be provided on this route. It is only this line that is life line of this area. Marriage programmes and shopping etc. depend on this line only. If a rail bus having two coaches is introduced on this line, it will be beneficial not only for the people of this area but also it would increase revenue for Ministry of Railways. It is an important thing that there is a rail line between, Barhan to Etah. If the said line is extended to Kasganj which is only 28 Km., then it will beneficial for the people of Etah, Badun, Bareilly, Agra, Firozabad and Hathras districts.

Furthermore, I would also like to submit that Taj Mahal is one of the important tourist spot in the world. All the Head of the States visiting India go to see Taj Mahal. Despite, train passing through Agra does not stop there whereas that is not more important than Taj Mahal. South Indian people who wish to see Taj Mahal take Chennai Express but this train does not stop at Agra. So, I request that stoppage should be provided for the said train at Agra. Sir, Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express halts at Agra after 200 Km, then at Gwalior after 100 Km and thereafter at Jhansi after 100 Km. But, Delhi-Lucknow Shatabdi Express does not halt at Tundla which is 200 Km from here rather it halts directly at Kanpur which is 435 Km. So stoppage should be provided for the said train at Tundla. One train halts at three places within 400 Km, while the second one does not stop any where within that distance. If stoppage is provided for this Shatabdi Express at Tundla junction, then it will be beneficial for the people of 5-6 districts nearby Tundla junction particularly Agra Division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will be better if you give this suggestion at the time of Rail Budget.

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL: Sir, the eastern railway crossing Tundla remains closed. The people of one hundred and fifty villages have to wait there. The people of

Bhagwantigarhi, Balampur, Sahebgarhi, Bhikanpur, Bajera, Lalloo Ka Nagla, Chhenkur Ka Nagla, Sona Ka Nagla, Dani Ka Bas etc. villages have to face difficulty. When farmer come with their tractors, they have to wait for hours on account of closure of this railway crossing. Therefore over bridge or under-bridges should be constructed there. I would be grateful if stoppage be provided for Sangam, Muri and Katihar Express there.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I am again and again requesting you to kindly stick to the Supplementary Demands. If you have any suggestions, you can give them to the hon. Minister at the time of Railway Budget. Now, Shri Malaisamy to speak.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, I am speaking on behalf of AIADMK Party. Before making my observation and presentation, I would like to say that I am fully conscious that whatever I would submit is based on facts and proper analysis on the basis of latest information.

Sir, though I know the strength and weaknesses of the Indian Railways. Its pleasures and pains on the one side and the highlights and set backs on the other, I do not like to speak about all those aspects as there is paucity of time. I will straightaway come to the core area of my presentation.

I am given to understand that the hon. Minister for Railways has got his guidelines by giving weightage to population, land area, throw forward, etc. for processing the projects. I am also given to understand that he is a very efficient and a very well meaning Railway Minister. But I am sorry to make a very strong observation that Tamil Nadu has been totally neglected, discriminated, and ignored. When I say so, I am making this statement with enough justification. Once I give the facts and figures, the entire House will agree with what I say. Neither the bureaucracy nor the political executive seem to have taken cognisance of the gross injustice done to Tamil Nadu.

The Southern Railway consists of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala. These five States put together make the Southern Railway. The total length of the M.G. track of Southern Railway is 2,570 kilometres; out of this, 2,137 kilometres lie in Tamil Nadu. What I am trying to impress here is that out of the total metre-gauge in S. Railways which warrants conversion into broad-gauge, 80 per cent lies only in Tamil Nadu. Is it not a gross injustice? When we analyse the position all over the country, 70 per cent of the broad-gauge conversion has already been done in North India, whereas, 30 per cent alone has been done in South India. Is it not true to say that North is thriving and South is weaning? Why is it so? I want to bring this to the specific notice of the hon. Minister.

Now, I will dilate for a minute on the projects. There are ten projects in Tamil Nadu for broad-gauge conversion. They are: Rameswaram to Madurai, Trichy to Mana Madurai, Chengalput to Arakonam, Trichy-Nagapattanam-Karaikal, Quilon to Virudunagar, Villupuram to Pondicherry, Thanjavur to Villupuram, Cuddalore to Salem, Villupuram to Katpadi, and Chennai Beach to Chengalput.

18.35 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

These are the ten projects to be converted into broad gauge. The project cost of all these lines is Rs.2,360 crore. All these projects have been sanctioned not now, not by the NDA Government; much earlier, about four to five years back. What has been done so far? The amount that has been spent so far is only Rs.261 crore as against the project cost of Rs.2,360 crore. The amount spent in all these years only ten per cent of the total project amount.

Coming to Rameswaram, you know what an important pilgrim centre it is and what a great potentiality it has got. Everyone of us has asked for its B.G. conversion. If one wants to go to Rameswaram, he cannot go by broad gauge. Take the case of the hon. President of India. The present President of India, His Excellency Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, hails from Rameswaram. If he wants to go to his native place Rameswaram in B.G. train from Delhi, he cannot go. That is the situation!

Coming to MRT, something has been done. In respect of doubling of Erugur to Coimbatore and Attapatti to Korukkupet lines progress is not satisfactory. In respect of new lines also, not much has been done on Karur-Salem and Nagapattinam-Velankanni lines. Whether in the case of new projects or in the case of doubling or in the case of conversion to broad gauge. There has been negligible progress. In other words, even assuming that there is some progress, it is at a snail's pace. In many cases it is not at all moving.

Take the case of Rameswaram again. The total project cost is Rs.240 crore whereas the amount spent so far is Rs.5 crore. The amount now given is another Rs.5 crore. At this rate, for how many years do we have to wait? Do we have to wait for another 25 years? I want a specific reply on this point by the hon. Minister, Shri Nitish Kumarji. Kindly let us know when this project is going to be fully implemented. I

[Shri K. Malaisamy]

want to know the timeframe. If you tell us that it will take another 25 years, I will forget about it because many of us may not be alive and available.

The Minister may tell us that there is severe financial crunch. As a student of management, I have been given to understand that anyone problem has got more than one solution. What is the solution that you are offering to us? I want to go by broad gauge to Rameswaram. What are you going to do about it?

You have been given, after a long break of several decades, a lieutenant in the form of a Minister of State from Tamil Nadu. We are very happy about it. He is a young and energetic person. He moves out very fast and tries to do something.

But he has been sent empty handed. If a warrior is to go and fight, he must be given enough arms and weapons. Without money, what can he do? You must equip him with enough funds. This is a very important point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You are pot making any new points.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Speaking about the gross injustice done to us, I do not need to give you any other justification than to draw your attention to the regional imbalance that has occurred. Your concept is to set right the regional imbalance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You are repeating.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: What is this, Sir? You are my neighbour and you should be considerate!

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can go to another point and finish your speech.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Minister, you are not able to do full justice to Tamil Nadu. What I am trying to highlight here is that all along we have been given step-motherly treatment. At least during your tenure, please see whether you can afford to give us the motherly treatment. What I mean is, suppose a mother has got three or four children and out of them if one happens to be sick or infirm, what the mother would normally do is to take care of that child very well.

She gives more nutrition or milk to the sick child in such a way that she can cope up with other children. Here, Tamil Nadu has been done injustice. Regional imbalance has been there. What the Minister is expected to do is to get out of all guidelines and norms so that he may do something concrete with retrospective effect to remove the injustice done and the imbalance that exists.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no points. You are only repeating.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Sir, am I not talking sense?

I do not want to elaborate on the improper allocation of funds. The North-Eastern Region, Jharkhand, Metro Transport Project, mega projects take the major chunk of the total allocation of funds. I do not know on what principle it is done.

After sparing for the above purpose, the amount left is Rs. 2150 crores. Out of the allocation of Rs. 2150 crore, 40 per cent of it goes to Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. What is left over is for other States?

Let me conclude. I do not like to dilate with an appeal to kindly think over whether the gross injustice done to Tamil Nadu can be rectified soon.

Secondly, I want to know whether any time frame can be fixed as far as Tamil Nadu projects are concerned.

Finally, my colleague wanted me to make some points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no points. You are only repeating on the injustice done.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Dr. Saroja wants a railway station at Kallakurichi, that first class compartments in electric trains should be maintained properly and that a separate railway Division should be created for Salem. These are the requests made by my colleague.

[Translation]

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER (SERAMPORE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to convey my point to Hon. Minister through you. I hail from Bengal. Today, I have got an opportunity to speak on Demand for Grants for Railways. As rail network is quite wide, therefore, I will not be able to express my views in so less time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You could have expressed your views in this very time. Raise your points expeditiously.

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the country moves fast but trains move very slow. When I was a student I used to say by looking at my watch that Rajdhani Express is going. But now that is not so. When I come from Howrah, normally I find the train late by two to four hours.

While replying to Demand for Grants Hon. Minister may kindly tell the position of pending projects of Bengal. Since senior railway officers are also present here. He should

explain latest position of pending projects of Bengal. I do not know when these projects will be started again? Several request were made for Deegha-Tamluk railway line and bridge. When Mamata ji was Railway Minister the work on this bridge was over but no attention has been paid so far towards our requests in this regard. There is no idea when Ikhlaki-Balurghat rail will start. Doubling of Tarkeshwar to Talliganj railway line in my district was taken up during Mamata ji's tenure but no sooner she left the Railway Ministry the work was stopped. Sometime minor earth work is done. Our D.M. sanctioned funds for Tarkeshwar-Bankura railway line, where land is required to be acquired but no work is going on at present. All the projects of Bengal are pending. It was reported in the newspaper that Model Railway Station will be constructed there but not a single brick has been laid there so far at places like Dakuni, Shrirampur, Chinsura for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, every other day we find news of rail accidents in newspapers. It seems the trains are running at the pleasure of God and some day these will come to a halt. The recent bifurcation of Eastern Railway has caused great loss to Bengal. Not only me, the plight of common man is known to the whole country. Home town of Railway Minister, which falls in his constituency has been provided rail connectivity. Officers of the Railway know it and they frame rules for railways which are not known to anyone.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission is that all projects of Bengal which have been put in abeyance should be taken up as early as possible. Hon. Minister should mention in his statement that there has been no reduction in funds allocated for projects in Bengal. My submission is that required funds should be released. Recently, Rajdhani Express met with an accident wherein 10 persons from Bengal, especially my constituency were killed. Commissioner, Railway safety is investigating the cause of accident. My submission is that an inquiry by CBI should be ordered otherwise it will be of no use. Therefore, it is necessary that CBI should inquire into it.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): I have four major points to make, I do not want to go into the history of Railways, Though it has done a yeoman service for the development of the country yet it has brought down the industrial talent of our country. So, there are two ways to look at it. It's a paradox.

The first point which has been discussed by some learned Members who spoke before me today, relates to the new formula which has been propagated by the present Minister, Shri Nitish Kumar. I would like to suggest that this formula requires review. It has already been suggested by a different Committee that the new formula should be modified in regard to allocation of funds. In this formula, the component of population should be replaced with the criteria of backwardness of the State and the revenue generation of the Railways from that State.

If this can be changed, I think, a number of other States can also develop and, at the same time, the Railways can also earn more money. Under the new formula, nearly 40 per cent of the allocation for the project costing Rs.2,115 crore is being cornered by only four States. Those four States are: Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Orissa has lost out on account of both lower population and lower land area, Though the State accounts for 8.76 per cent of the Budget, which should come, our share is 7.5 per cent.

I come to my second point. I think yesterday, in a newspaper, a news has come out saying that in the last Budget Rs.5 crore was allotted for the East-Coast Zone. A question was posed to the East-Coast Zone, whatever office is there in Bhubaneswar. The question was: How much money had been spent? They were asked to reply within November 15th. Not a single rupee has been spent. An OSD has been placed there. A number of times, people get transferred. The Minister had made an announcement, a commitment in the House as also he had committed it outside. Personally, he has conveyed it to us. This is his graciousness. He has informed us that the East-Coast Zone is going to be operational from 1st April. But we do not have a full-fledged Head Office. Money is not being spent. We do not have adequate infrastructure. How can it be done? I would like to be enlightened about it. If the hon. Minister puts it on record saying that this Zone is becoming operational from 1st of April, 2003, I would be grateful to him. Of course, all these are not unknown to the hon. Minister, or two of his other colleagues who are also manning the Railways.

The other point which I would like to make is that the Railways have lofty plans and willing lenders. What had happened 150 years ago? Britain was full of money. The society was full of money. They did not know where to spend the money. The Indian Railways was formed. Money was brought to the Railways paying high interest. It was invested here. Even now money is not a problem. You can get money from outside. But, for the last many years, the work relating to the second bridge over Birupa-Mahanadi has not started. In 1998-99, the then hon. Minister of Railways Shri Nitish Kumar - who is also the present Minister - had been to Cuttack. He had laid the foundation-stone of that river-bridge. The tender process is on. The question whether the ADB is going to provide the money or who is going to provide that money is still not finalised and nothing concrete is happening. My only request to the hon. Minister is this. To connect

[Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab]

Talcher-Cuttack-Paradip, the second river-bridge over Birupa and Mahanadi is essential. The line is nearing completion. But the work of that river-bridge has not started. It is causing a lot of harm to Cuttack Station.

This is connected with my fourth point. In the last 15 years, a number of super-fast trains are plying between Howrah and Chennai. These are: Chennai-Dibrugarh Express Train, Trichy-Howrah Express Train, Chennai-Guwahati Express Train and Bhubaneshwar-Nizamuddin Express Train. I am mentioning these four trains. These four major trains do not ply through Cuttack Station because of congestion since we do not have a second line over Mahanadi-Birupa. The major work of the DRM of Khurda Road is to see that 75 trains pass safely through Cuttack everyday. Unless that is done, unless second river-bridge comes over Mahanadi-Birupa, congestion cannot be removed. Unless the congestion is removed, we cannot develop Cuttack. I need not explain what the Cuttack town is for Orissa. But Cuttack is getting side lined. Why this step motherly attitude.

Cuttack is the gateway of the hinterland. It is the commercial capital of the State. Cuttack should be connected with all major trains. Seventy-five trains run daily. Can priority be fixed for major super-fast trains that can ply through Cuttack station, of course, keeping in view the goods trains that also ply to Paradip? These are the four points to which I would like to draw the attention of the Minister. I would be obliged of he could give a specific reply to these points.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I do not like to speak too long because it is a token Supplementary Grant. But I do feel that the suggestions made here shall find some reflection in the next Budget that will be prepared within two months.

First of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Railways for having considered the Belur terminal point. I used to represent Howrah in this House two times. I know, from those days I have been crying for this terminal point in the memory of Swami Vivekanand Belur Math which is now an international pilgrimage centre. I am really very happy that the hon. Minister has finally considered this point.

There is also a place in West Bengal where Lord Chaitanya was born. The pilgrims to that place cry every hour for doubling the Bandel-Katwa line. Lord Chaitanya's name is not to be taken by me or anybody else. His is the universal name in the history of peace and tolerance among the world civilisation and also the Indians. I would request the hon. Minister to consider that point in the next Budget.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the problem that Howrah faces these days is not merely of congestion but also of location and arrangement of settlement points for the trains. I agree with Shri Basu Deb Acharia. Whether you agree today or tomorrow, you will have to consider a terminal point at Santragachi in the South-Eastern Railway or at Padmapukar in Howrah.

In regard to bifurcation issue, I do not like to make any comments at this stage because we have thought of having a discussion. I hope the discussion would take place any day. I would only appeal to the hon. Minister that the time has come for him to review the matter coolly, that is, to bring Dhanbad under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Railway. The difference regarding distance from Dhanbad to Hajipur and Dhanbad to Kolkata and financial viability will neither give strength to Hajipur nor to Kolkata. I would request him if he could bring Dhanbad back under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Railway Headquarters.

I do not like, to deal with the Rajdhanis now. We have requested the hon. Speaker to have a special discussion on this matter. When Mr. Speaker accedes to our request, I would participate at that time to express my views on this issue.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister one very sad thing. The Eklakhi-Belurghat project in my district had been conceived long time back. It has started functioning. The Eklakhi-Gazhel project was completed. It comprised of three parliamentary constituencies, that is, Malda represented by Shri Ghani Khan Choudhury; Raiganj, represented by me; and Balurghat by Shri Ranen Barman. This historic project has been completed. When a part of this project, namely, Eklakhi-Gazhel, was completed, none of these three MPs were informed or invited even for the inaugural function. When it was opened to the general public up to Gazhel, we were just kept outside. This kind of situation has never arisen in the Railways. But it has happened in the case of these three MPs. Shri Ghani Khan Choudhury, who conceived the project, myself and other MPs were not informed or invited. These kinds of things are normally not brought to the notice of the hon. Minister. So, I bring it to his notice and he should not encourage such high-handedness in the Railway Departments. The people really criticised us for not being there.

I am thankful to the hon. Minister for having travelled all the way to Raiganj, the headquarters of my constituency. The project of gauge conversion there had not been taken up for the last 60 years. He was so kind that in the presence of thousands and thousands of people, he laid the foundation stone for gauge conversion of 52 kilometres between Barswey to Radhikapur. I only request the hon. Minister to

continue taking keen interest in this project. I have no complaint against him or the railway officials. But my only request is that they should complete it in three parts by 31st March, 2003.

19.00 hrs.

I would request him to complete earth work by 31st March 2003 and by 31st March 2004 to start laying the track. This is my only submission to the hon. Railway Minister to show the light of the day to this project, which will give a new economic boost in that area.

My another suggestion to the hon. Minister to be considered in the next Railway Budget is to minimise the distance of the link of Malda to the rest of Dinajpur. A new line survey was done during Shri Ram Vilas Paswan's time for a place called Gunjeria near Islampure of Uttar Dinajpur to Gajel. It will decrease the distance to the extent of 20 kms. and it will give a new fillip to the people of that area. that is, Gunjeria to Gazel rail line. It will automatically connec' Gazel, which is already a built-up station now under Eklakhi Project and Raiganj is going to be broad gauge. Therefore, if this line is conceived, it will co-ordinate the entire North Bengal in the most shortest pace to reach Malda to avail of all the national links of the Railways.

I would like to add only three more points. Yesterday, I arrived Delhi from a place called Aliporeduar. While the hon. Minister did all the bifurcation, the Divisional Railway Headquarters at Aliporeduar in NF Railway, was also bifurcated creating a new zone called Rangja. Aliporeduar is the tea belt of the Duars, border of Bhutan. The entire identity of the people of that area is linked with this Divisional Headquarters, Aliporeduar. All the people who came from Bangladesh settled there and the original ethnic group of the Rajbongshi community, thrive on the economic activities of the Divisional Headquarters of Aliporeduar. It has been bifurcated in such a manner that the entire marshalling capacity of the freight, etc. has been minimised.

I am not asking the hon. Minister to change the Division because otherwise the people of Rangia will be annoyed. But my appeal to the hon. Minister, after bifurcation, is to keep, at least up to New Bongaigaon on one hand, take away New Jalpaiguri from Katihar Division and keep it within Aliporeduar Division, so that Aliporeduar Division will be again viable to a great extent, if not fully. Otherwise, the agony of the people, that I witnessed yesterday when I went there is serious. Road blockade was there and many other problems took place there. They are very much justified because the entire tea transportation is done from Aliporeduar. The entire trading with Bhutan is done from Aliporeduar. If Aliporeduar Division is bifurcated with Rangia and the entire portion is taken away, it is bad.

So my appeal to the hon. Minister is to keep the position up to New Bongaigaon on one side and up to New Jalpaiguri on the other side, within Aliporeduar to make the Aliporeduar divisional headquarters once again economically viable.

My second point is that there was a train called Katihar Express during the tenure of Kumari Mamta Banerjee. She declared it as a Hattibazare extended up to Barauni. In one way it is good, but now that train does not come in time. It is always eight to nine hours late and nobody travels in it during night. The Minister may himself check it up. Nobody travels in the night because of theft, dacoity and robbery. I would request the hon. Minister that from Barauni he may give any train that he likes, but reduce the timings of this particular train, which is to facilitate the people of remote part of Bengal and North Bihar to connect it to Kolkata. I would also request him that it should be again brought from Katihar to Sealdah instead of Barauni to Sealdah.

Sir, my last appeal to the hon. Minister to consider, for which I have been arguing for so many years, is with regard to patients. He may choose all the fastest trains which reach destinations like Chennai or Vellore or Delhi. He may choose two trains on every route where prominent institutions are there for treatment, say, heart treatment, kidney treatment and so on. People go to Bangalore, people go to Chennai, people come to Delhi and so on and so forth. People go to Chennai even for eye treatment.

I have been requesting the hon. Railway Minister to have one coach reserved for patients in all the fastest trains. It will be known as Patients' Coach and this can be written over the coach. The patients with their companions can avail it. There should be some kind of supporting arrangement like oxygen cylinders and at least one doctor from Railway should be there. The Patients' Coach will give you yeoman's services because I have seen what difficulties the patients face on the way to their station.

Nobody takes care of them. They - poor ladies, elderly people and children - are all crying. This idea of having patients' coach came to me when I had seen it in Japan. In Japan, there is a train called 'Shinkasen', which is the fastest train. Sometimes, there is a special coach, in which only the patients and their companions can travel. In the Indian Railways also, we can have this arrangement in at least 10, 20 long-distance selective trains, whichever destination it is heading for, say Patna, Sealdah, Howrah, Bangalore or Delhi.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

These long-distance trains should have one patients' coach, in which only the patients, their companions and also the doctors can travel. If this is done, then it will, be a great human service to them.

These are my few ideas. I have nothing more to say.

I would again like to make only one, appeal to the Minister that he took a meeting with me regarding the long pending railway, over bridge at Dalkhola, which is on the border of Bihar and Bengal on the National Highway No. 31. It cannot be completed if you leave it to the State. The State Government had accepted this project initially as their project but I will tell you the truth that the State Government have no money to pay to the teachers. They cannot fund this project. Only a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been allotted for the approach road arrangements by the Uttarbanga Unnyan Parishad but nothing will be done. My request to the hon. Minister is this. Please call an urgent meeting with the National Highway Authority and see that this project is conceived. If you burden the State Government for more money, then this project will never come up.

Please take it on your own and do this Dalkhola over bridge project expeditiously because Purnea is linked with Dalkhola; Katihar is linked with Dalkhola; and Dalkhola is the main trading centre between Bengal and Bihar.

When Kishanganj project was done, people were accusing that since the Minister is from Kishanganj and is belonging to the NDA Government, he got the road over-bridge and since the MP is from the Opposition, he would not get the railway over-bridge. That is the perception. I have no complaint against the Minister. The Minister is very sincere and he has taken a meeting. I only request the Minister that it should be expedited.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Rampal Singh may lay his speech on the Table of the House. Now, I will call hon. Minister, but Members are not cooperating.

*SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (DOMARIAGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the demand for supplementary grants for Railways. I am grateful to Rail Minister who has provided impetus to the backward area which is devoid of any industry by inaugurating gauge conversion of Gonda-Gorakhpur rail line which falls in my constituency, district Sidharth Nagar in Uttar Pradesh. Simultaneously, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to allocate more funds in the Budget for this work and give momentum to said project. In addition, I want to bring it to the notice of Hon. Minister that Vaishali train does not stop at platform number 1 at Basti railway Station, as there is no track on this platform, and the aged and people suffering from heart ailments have to take recourse to the bridge which causes great inconvenience to them. Therefore, my submission is that length of this platform be increased so that Lucknow and beyond bound Vaishali train can stop at platform number 1 providing relief to the passengers.

Cafeteria at Basti Railway station, which is closed since long, be started soon again.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): We will do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may speak, but be brief and speak to the point.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Sir, please allow me to speak. I will take only one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let it be in two minutes but Shri Chandrakant Khaire, after two minutes I will give floor to another Member.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you since you gave me an opportunity to speak on issues relating to Railways. I support Demand for Supplementary Grants for Railways on behalf of Shiv Sena Party.

I am greatly thankful to Hon. Minister Shri Nitish Kumar ji who allocated Rs.44 crore last year for Marathwada region. Railway tracks in Marathwada region of Maharashtra were laid during Nizam Government time. Thereafter, no Government added even one kilometer of railway line. There are five projects involving Mudkhed-Adilabad, Sikandrabad-Mudkhed, Akola-Poona and Miraj-Latur and Nagar Bid Parti. Out of these, Adilabad falls in Dattatreya Saheb's constituency in Andhra Pradesh and we have to provide connectivity to these areas. Earlier our area was in Andhra Pradesh. Shri Dattatreya Saheb is also trying to get a railway line sanctioned for his area and you too should use your power for this purpose. Funds have been allocated for all these five projects. Nagar Bid Parati is most important issue. Our Pramod Mahajan is from Parati. If Marathwada region is allocated Rs.953 crore more all the demands of people of Marathwada will be fulfilled. This year an amount of Rs.117 crore has been provided in the budget. I request all Hon. Ministers to allocate double or triple of the amount and all these projects be completed within 2-3 years.

* Laid on the Table

I would not like to give a lengthy speech but people of Marathwada have been demanding it since long. Our respectable late Govind Bhai Shraf who was 93 year of age at that time and was conferred with Padam Bhushan, took active part in liberation of Hyderabad.

When I had gone to hospital to see him he enquired about the progress on these railway projects. I said that efforts are on. People have been demanding it since long. Marathwada has been asking from the Central Government to fulfil its demand. I have two demands. First one is administrative demand, i.e. our area should be transferred from South Central Railway to Central Railway, it is our long standing demand. Secondly - Nanded based office of DRM be made full-fledged as it is not full-fledged and no staff is available there. This demand was made during Mamata ji's tenure also and she had promised to fulfil it. But nothing has been done so far. Therefore, I want to remind him of this. On behalf of Shiv Sena, I have met him several times. He had told that it will be done right now but later he said that it will be done later on. Then he said that since Bihar versus Bengal issue has come up so leave it and do not say anything now.

My submission is that a super-fast train by the name of Nandigram Express be introduced between Nanded and Mumbai. We have been demanding it for the last several years. Head office concerning our Marathwada region is located in State Capital Mumbai and when all MPs go before MLAs, the Government officials and the public, the MLAs ask as to what are you doing, you can not get even a train introduced. I am in the NDA and am very religious minded person. Hon. Minister, you had promised to introduce the train but nothing has been done so far.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): It will be done soon.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Well, it is going to be done soon. But I have learnt that Nanded-Mumbai Nandigram Super-fast Express will run only once a week. My submission is that this train should run daily and not once a week only. My second submission is that a train between Sambhaji Nagar-Tirupati Balaji should also be introduced as it has been a demand of not only Andhrites but others also. Therefore, I request him to start a train from Sambhajinagar to Tirupati via Manmad-Aurangabad-Sambhajinagar and Nanded-Tirupati Train should start from Manmad. Again I convey gratitude on behalf of Marathwada.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I would not take much time. You have given me two minutes and I would not take more than that.

The hon. Minister should know a few very important things. On the gauge conversion of the 147-kilometre Yelahanka-Bangarupet line from narrow gauge to broad gauge, 60 kilometres have been completed and Rs.50 crore have been spent. The work on the remaining 87 kilometres has to be completed. Otherwise, the amount already spent would be of no use. This line would link to the Madanapalli-Tirupathi coastal line, which is a very vital line for Kolar, which produces all kinds of fruits and vegetables. This is a long pending line. The work was taken up in 1995-96. About 50 per cent of the work has been completed and the remaining work has to be completed. Otherwise, this would not be useful.

The hon. Member Shrimati Margaret Alva has already spoken about the other projects. I would request the hon. Minister to find out ways for completing those projects.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Thank you very much, Sir. I would finish my speech within two minutes.

The Supplementary Demand has been made for a very small sum of money. We are not able to understand why nothing has been provided for the South- Eastern Railway. I think, the hon. Minister will think over the Tamluk-Digha project so that he could do something on that in the next Budget. There was an assurance that it would be finished within 2002.

I would also like to mention here about the second bridge over the river Kansabati near Midnapore. Every day, more than 65 trains, including the Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express, ply on this route but there is no second line from Kharagpur to Midnapore and there is no second bridge. The hon. Minister has been kind enough to provide R.10 crore for the existing bridge.

Each and every day, thousands and thousands of people used to pass the river only using this railway bridge. If you kindly make a provision for footbridge, then that will be enough for them. The people can go safely and pass the bridge.

I would like to say another point. The hon. Minister of Railways knows about it very well and even the hon. Minister, Shri Ajit Singh, knows about it very well. I am talking about the IIT, Kharagpur. It, is a very troubled place because of the traffic jam. So, some ROBs are to be made. The IIT, Kharagpur have agreed to pay 25 per cent of the construction cost of the ROBs. So, the hon. Minister himself can think over it. It will be a very good thing for them.

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

Lastly, I would like to say that the former Minister of Railways had declared that Midnapore railway station would be an ideal station. My point is that even the installation of the CSPTM machine has not yet been done. The infrastructure is made, the houses have been made, but the CSPTM machine has not yet been provided So, I would request the hon. Minister to complete the work quickly.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I will be very brief, as some of the earlier speakers have already mentioned about the formula in allotting the funds. It should be reviewed because many of the States are put to disadvantage. I am not going into the details. The hon. Minister is very well aware about it.

I should thank the hon. Minister on behalf of the MPs from Kerala because he is always very considerate whenever we meet him and give a representation. So, I am not putting any extra demand to him now. What I am going to present before the House is that a large number of ROBs are being constructed in Kerala and in my constituency alone, there are five ROBs. Now, the fund is there. The previous Government of Kerala had made special arrangements and constituted a Roads and Bridges Corporation of Kerala for looking after these railway over-bridges. But, at the same time, the railway authorities, especially the Engineering Wing of the Southern Railway is creating an inordinate delay in clearing the projects. For example, most of the ROBs are half-way through now. The work is done by the Roads and Bridges Corporation. What is happening is that that slab over the railway portion is not cleared on time and because of that, actually, the people are put to a lot of difficulties when there is a heavy traffic jam, which has become a regular feature. This is one point.

Now, I would like to say something about the Railway Safety Fund. The Railway Safety Fund has been constituted. The estimated target is Rs. 17,000 crore and this is specially meant for safety proposals and projects. But even now the manning of unmanned railway level crossings are not done at the speed at which it should be done.

When Kumari Mamata Banerjee was the hon. Minister of Railways, she had suggested that the manning of unmanned level crossings would be done with the MPLADS Fund. Actually, that is not required when there is a special fund for the manning of the unmanned level crossings.

Now, in my constituency I have put two proposals, one for under-bridge and another for over-bridge, with the MPLADS Fund. But, the railway authorities are saying that the fund should be provided either by the State or by the Municipalities or by the Panchayats. But I do not understand the reason behind this. When the MPLADS Fund is actually available for this work, then why should this manning of unmanned level crossings be not undertaken with that? Actually, it is not connected with passenger amenities; the suggested work is under-bridge and also over-bridge.

Lastly, I request that these unmanned level crossings should be manned in a phased manner at the earliest from the funds taken out of the Railway Safety Fund.

Sir, regarding the other points, I will keep them for the next Budget when we will be speaking at length and I am sure that the hon. Minister will consider our demands and requests favourably at that time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I want to thank, hon. Minister as he called all the Members of Parliament from Kerala and discussed their problems in detail. I want to thank Shri Murthi ji as often he has been coming to Kerala and has been trying to resolve our problems.

Sir, I would surely like to take up two-three issues. As he is aware, Sabarimala is biggest pilgrim centre in Kerala and people from every state visit this place. In view of this the Railways have conducted a survey for laying rail line. After that Railways got clearance from Cabinet Committee and made arrangement for laying a new railway line between Kottayam and Erumeli, but funds were not earmarked for this purpose, thus it is getting delayed. I request the Hon. Minister of Railways to start the work of laying a new rail line between Kottayam and Erumeli.

Secondly, when we had met him, he told us that there will not be paucity of funds for any work because funds allotted for the work which is not going on is diverted to the project where the work is in progress. He has given an assurance regarding Ernakulam-Kayamkulam rail line via Kottayam and Alleppey. The Hon. Minister should surely consider it and come forward to complete it. I would like to make a mention of passenger amenities also. Work was started in Thiruvananthpuram, the capital city, but the pace of work is very slow. I have come to know that the work has stopped totally and I want to apprise him of this fact. He should get this work completed through Southern Railways expeditiously. Hon. Minister has promised that he will visit my constituency Mavellikara after ensuing Budget session and he would make efforts to get the remaining work relating to passenger amenities completed.

Sir, through you, I would like to tell hon. Minister that

no person from my State travels without ticket. Railways earn maximum revenue from my state therefore we should be allotted funds accordingly. Everyone from my State purchases the ticket and get his seat reserved before boarding the train. Thus try to allocate maximum funds to us.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to congratulate Hon. Minister that during his meeting with me he had expressed hope to start one more Rajdhani Express on Mumbai-Delhi route, in view of its importance. The route of trains of Central Railways running between Mumbai-Delhi should be electrified. There are large number of coolies in Railways who should be provided maximum facilities. A new rail line from Manmad, Malegaon, Dhulia, Nardana, and Indore should be approved.

Hon. Minister had made an announcement in this regard at Dhulia, so I congratulate him for this. Triyambkeshwar Kumbh Fair is going to be held in Nasik in 2003. Improvements at Nasik Road station and Oda Station should be made and maximum train services should be provided for the fair. Even long distance trains should stop at Dhulia and maximum trains should be started. Kusmadi village falls on Manmad, Eula and Sikandrabad rail route. It is a demand of 10-15 villages that a new rail gate be sanctioned here. Survey for Pune, Nasik line has been conducted. Therefore, this line should also be approved.

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL (NANDED): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request to the hon. Minister of Railways that he had promised to start Nandigram express from my constituency. The people of Marathwada had also met him in this regard and he had given an assurance for starting the Nandigram Express from Nanded. I would urge upon him to make announcement for it as soon as possible.

My other submission is that the work of broad gauge conversion on Mutkher-Ajilabad started in 1992 but neither desired budgetary allocation was made for it nor the work on this project took place at desired pace. I demand that minimum budgetary allocation should be made and the project be completed at the earliest. The Akola Khandwa line has already been cleared and the hon. Minister had promised that he would accompany the MP of the constituency and also lay the foundation stone of the project. This promise was made three months ago and I am of the view that hon. Nitish Kumarji keeps his promise. However, these projects make it appear as if Nitishji has forgotten us. We hope that he would visit Marathwada at the earliest and will fulfil the promises and also inaugurate this project.

We have been demanding for a long time that the survey of Udgel Devdhar Bhodal railway line be conducted. As said by our hon. Member from Aurangabad it is a backward region and the work promised to be done there should also be completed. Secondly the survey of the Bhawal Bilauli Mutkhedi Latur Road is to be done. Everybody knows that Nanded is a famous pilgrim site of Sikhs associated with Guru Govind Singhji and it is also called the Kashi of Sikhs. A big 'Gurughar' programme is scheduled to take place there in 2008 and 50 lakhs sikhs throughout the world would visit Nanded. Hence I demand that a new railway station at Ma-Tekdi be constructed. The budget includes survey of Mutkhed Kandhar Latur road but the work has not get momentum. The survey of Mutkhed Lohar Gangapur be undertaken at the earliest. Nandigram Express should also be started as soon as possible. You should come for its flag off ceremony and a function be organised by inviting the selected persons of Marathwada railway. With these words I conclude.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir discussion on the supplementary demand for Railways is going on. Hence I don't want to take much time. If the trains run late it can be excused but we do not want to get late replies.

The work of gauge conversion of a 50 kilometers stretch of Kuradwadi Pandharpur rail line into broad gauge had been completed and was also inaugurated by Digvijay Singhji but the work at Latur Karadwadi Pandhapur Miraj is pending. We demand from the hon. Minister that Rs. 100 crore be allocated for it in the next budget.

K.K. Express does not halt at Kuradhwadi. Hon. Dattatreyaji and Nitishji are our friends, hence I demand that K.K. Express should be given a halt at Kuradhwadi. If the Government start Shatabadi Express between Mumbai and Aurangabad, Mumbai and Kolhapur and Mumbai and Akola, it would enable the Govt. to earn a lot of revenue. Hence there is need to consider this proposal. Due to the local trains from Mumbai to Kalhyan being late the other trains get late. Railway has also conducted a survey for laying separate tracks for the outside trains also. There is a need to lay new tracks for this purpose. There is a need to construct a bridge at Kurla station which should be in east west directions. The need to lay a double line in Sholapur is our long pending demand. The survey of Guhagar Baramati Pandharpur rail line has been completed. Baramati is the constituency of hon. Sharad Pawarji while Pandharpur is mine. Hence there is a need to complete the survey of railway line between Guhgar to Pandharpur. Hon. Nitishji, once we had requested to name Mumbai Central Railway station as Baba Saheb Ambedkar Railway Station. There is a station named after

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

Shivaji Maharaj in Mumbai. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had been closely associated with Mumbai.

I want that you should consider naming Mumbai Central Station as Baba Saheb Ambedkar station. I don't want to dwell more on it. You should fulfil all our demands. As we are supporting your demands you should support ours. I know that there is a constraint of funds. This is what I have to say.

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): Sir, with your kind permission, I wish to make only one point.

Thanjavur-Villupuram-Chennai via Kumbakonam-Mayuram is the main line, and it is more than 100 years old. The project for broad gauge conversion was started 15 years ago. The lines from Villupuram to Chennai, from Thanjavur to Trichi, and at other places were converted into broad gauge, but the conversion work on the line from Villupuram to Thanjavur has not been taken up seriously. People residing in Thanjavur and Villupuram are suffering in many ways because they cannot be connected with other lines. Instead of getting new lines, they are losing old facilities.

Therefore, I urge upon the Minister to take up the gauge conversion work in Kumbakonam because *Mahamaham* festival is going to be held very soon. Before that, I would request you to complete the gauge conversion work on the Thanjavur-Kumbakonam line.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, First of all I would like to thank all those hon. Members who have participated in today's discussion. Several Members have raised different questions and are anxious to know about certain things. As regards the various questions raised about different railway projects, it would not be possible for me to reply them separately now during the course of discussion but I would send their written replies to the concerned members. As you are aware that the discussion on Supplementary Demand for Grants is going on. The proposal is to seek approval for grant of token allocation for 23 works which include some projects of doubling the tracks; three projects pertain to traffic facilities; four projects are for constructing road over-bridges and two for constructing other bridges. It also includes six computerisation projects; four projects relate to passenger amenities; one is related to workshop and one to the sales stock. The total share of Railways involved in these projects would be approximately 226 crore rupees. As it also includes four road over-bridges, there would also be some contribution of the State Govts. but we are demanding for a token amount of 25 thousand rupees for it. Hence we want the permission to start the work on these projects. All these works are in public interest. As far as I am aware, no hon. Member has raised any objection on these demands. I thank them for it rather. Several Members have also expressed their pleasure over it during discussion.

We have several projects especially for laying new lines and gauge conversion. But there is paucity of funds for their completion. That is why the hon. Members always complain that they have not been provided with adequate funds vis-a-vis total cost involved in those projects.

On one hand they are right but if we make an estimate of the total cost involved in the completion of all the projects of laying down rail lines, gauge conversion, doubling of rail lines, MTP, railway electrification etc. it comes to more than 40 thousand crore rupees while we do not have this much amount. Hence we have formulated a formula for the proper disbursement of the available funds. There is a common complaint that adequate funds have been siphoned off to the state from which the hon. Minister of Railways hails but not to other states. We have developed a formula which will take into account the three factors i.e. population, area and through forward projects, under which 70 per cent weightage has been assigned for the completion of the project, 15 per cent to the area and the 15 per cent weightage is given to population factor. Such demands have been made. However, high component we may take 70 per cent funds have been allocated for the completion of the projects so that the funds available to us could be distributed in a balanced manner. By following that yardstick this budget has been prepared. Therefore, there could be no complaint that such and such project has been neglected. It is obvious that the hon'ble Members have more knowledge about the rail projects of the state, from where they hail, but I have picture of the entire country before me. I try my best to ensure that projects are completed within the time limit. It is due to this that we have taken the initiative and have evolved a formula for the balanced distribution of funds. Besides this, efforts are being made to generate funds from other sources.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Prime Minister had announced National Rail Development Project on independence day under which Golden Quadrangular track structure would be completed, undertaking the work of doubling of rail lines or laying third line or fourth line wherever necessary and also doing electrification, wherever it has not been done till now so that goods trains can run at the speed of 100 kilometres per hour. We want to build better track structure for which 8 thousand crore rupees would be required. There is a component under National Rail Development Project to strengthen it as in case of the Golden

Quadrangular because 65 percent of our goods get transported from that route for reducing passengers rush, strengthening of Golden Quadrangular and its diagonals come under this schemes. Besides this, 3 thousand crore rupees have been kept for bottlenecks to connect hinterland with port under National Rail Development Scheme.

Similarly, there are mega bridges. 1700 crore rupees are needed for Brahma putra project, more than 100 crore rupees are needed for the construction of a bridge over Ganga river and two bridges on Kosi river. 3500 crore rupees would be spent on four railway bridges. Similarly, the hon'ble, Prime Minister has announced National Rail Development Scheme costing 15 thousand crore rupees. We are expediting the work in this regard. Outside assistance will have to be sought by taking non-budgetary initiatives. For this, we want to build special purpose vehicle. We will take funds from outside. The discussion in this regard has been held with Asian Development Bank. They are likely to provide help.

Our negotiations with them are on final stage. They are to take decision within this month. Our team has returned after holding negotiations with them. Efforts are being made to take funds from them. Similarly, efforts are being made to take funds from other agencies also. A meeting is being held to take money from financial institutions of the country. Efforts are also being made to arrange additional funds, apart from the funds likely to be mobilised in this way.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mumbai Rail Development Corporation has been set up in Mumbai. It has received assistance from World Bank and has been launched. MUTP is its rail component. The Government of Maharashtra is giving 50 percent contribution and 50 percent is being shared by the Ministry of Railway. Loan from the World Bank is also being taken. They have already sanctioned it. We will get through the Ministry of Finance. Therefore efforts are being made to generate or mobilise funds from various sources. Major projects, like project of Kashmir need forty thousand crore rupees to complete. The project covering Udhampur to Barnala in Jammu and Kashmir has been declared as national project. Separate funds are being allocated for it and are being arranged. Similarly, there were a few projects on the border of Rajasthan, which were needed to be completed from strategic point of view. Some funds are being provided by the Ministry of Defence. Similarly, other resources are also being mobilised. Besides that some state Governments have come forward, for example, the state Government of Jharkhand will share two-third of the total cost of rail projects in the state.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Margaret Alva has left. The agreement between K-ride and share holders has just taken place. In principle, they agree on four points. The agreement of share holders has already taken place. Besides the Government of Karnataka, Union Government and the industries likely to be benefited by it can also invest. The Government of Karnataka has promised to share two-third of the cost. In this way, work is being accomplished with the cooperation of states.

Now, take private sector. A line was laid by Mundra Port. Operation agreement was made with them. That line has been laid, SPV has been set up for gauge conversion and for laying new rail line near Pipavav Port. 50 per cent of the cost in this regard will be shared by railway and rest of 50 per cent would be shared by Port authorities. Thus, efforts are being made to arrange funds from all the sources. All these efforts are being made in order to complete sanctioned projects in set time limit. But the availability of funds will depend on Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance. The hon'ble Members while delivering speeches here demand for more allocations to the railways which creates a positive impact. But all Members are aware that the Ministry of Railways intends to complete all projects in hand in set time limit. But, constraint of resources is a problem before us. As all of you are aware that recently efforts have been made to overcome those problems, I have given you information in this regard. It will overall help in completion of projects in set time limit.

I would like to assure you that there would be no discrimination against any States in my tenure. The Government will try to distribute available funds according to the specified norms for a particular place. The Members from West Bengal are not present. They often talk about Aklakhi-Balurghat project of West Bengal. Eklakhi-Balurghat project is to be completed this year. I have stated this in my budget speech. This time the work in regard to Tamluk-Digha is to be completed upto Contai. The target has been announced. The Government intend neither to withdraw any project nor make any undue delay in the implementation. However, the adjustments will have to be made as per the allocation of funds. This is the situation before us. We have moved quite ahead in order to fulfil the declarations made this time. Some hon'ble Members have raised the question that the allocated funds have not been spent. It is also being monitored. Actually this is the working season. We will try to make proper utilisation of allocated funds.

Most of the promises for running new trains have been fulfilled. 16 Janshatabadis were to run in the entire year, out of which 14 are being run. Two are left and I intend to introduce them also before the end of Calendar year 2002. We have no problem, we are trying, there may be a delay of

[Shri Nitish Kumar]

two - four days, only two trains are left, they would also run. All other trains would also run and besides that we will also run trains on demand, as an hon'ble Member made a mention of Nandigram Express. I had discussion in this regard with the Members from Marathwada and decided to run it. It would be a daily train, not weekly train. Traffic Department has been told to declare its date. We will try to do it as early as possible. At the same time other assurances would also be fulfilled.

As far the question of zone is concerned some of the hon'ble Members have said that the notification has been issued and two zones have started functioning from 1 October, 2002. Rest of the five zones will start functioning from 1 April, 2003. There is no need to repeat the same thing daily. So far the question as to why funds allocated for ECR are not being spent is concerned. I would submit that I had gone there. I had told them to invite tenders for the Headquarters building and I will see that work is started as soon as possible and more and more funds are utilized. However it will be operationalised on 1 April, and there will be no obstruction on our part. Rather I am glad to inform you that the post of OSD of rest of the five zones have been upgraded to the rank of general manager and the process of their appointment on that post is going on. So the preparatory work in this regard is being done. I am glad to inform the House that two new zones have been created. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): Sir, there is some speculation outside that the Government is going to reconsider the creation of new zones.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I would not like to indulge in the discussion as to what is speculated outside. I had told there and whenever the matter has been raised in the House, I tell that notification has been issued by the Government and action is being taken in this regard. I do not know as to what is said outside about it and I do not think it proper to reply every time.

The performance of two newly created zones is quite encouraging. It is evident that the creation of new zones have enhanced efficiency. However, you have said that it would be better if separate discussion is held on it. We intended to do some works at small scale so we came up with supplementary Demands. So far as the queries raised by the hon'ble Members are concerned, I will send reply to all.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, keeping in view some recent incidents, I would like to submit on the occasion of discussion on Supplementary Demand that railway complementary passes are issued to those defence personnel who were awarded Paramvir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra and Vir Chakra. They can go wherever they like in trains. Railway issue them free passes. Recently their delegation had met me and told that the said passes are not allowed in Rajdhani and Shatabadi. So the railway have decided that our brave decorated soldiers - commissioned or non commissioned, awarded Paramvir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra or Vir Chakra for their gallantry will be allowed to travel free in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express also.

The second suggestion that had come from several quarters after the Rajdhani Express met with an accident is that some concessions should be given to doctors travelling in trains so that they may disclose their identity and may be helpful at the time of emergency. By the way announcements are made in Rajdhani and Shatabadi Express that if there is any doctor he or she should come forward but same is not done in the rest of the trains. In this regard the Government have taken one more decision that 10 per cent concession will be given to those doctors who will disclose their identity that they are doctors and will undertake at the time of filling the forms that they will help the passengers at the time of travelling if any emergency arises. It is a kind of gesture. I am well aware of the fact that they voluntarily extend their service at the time of emergency. It has been suggested from several quarters that the doctors should disclose their identity so we have taken these two decisions.

I would once again like to extend my thanks to the hon'ble Members. As far the performance is concerned, the supplementary budget is going on. These issues will be discussed when next budget will be presented in February. However as far the performance as on date and freight traffic is concerned, it is encouraging. As far the target fixed for incremental loading is concerned till now we have performed beyond target. As far the passenger traffic is concerned, there is some reduction, however I am fully confident that we would make-up the loss through internal savings. It is on account of the saving made so far by way of curtailing the expenditure that the overall financial performance of Railway is sound. I am confident that we will succeed in achieving the target of operating ratio fixed for the year. I thought that it is essential to inform the hon'ble Members in this regard. That is why I have given information in this regard.

Now several safety measures are being taken. The hon. Members have been expressing doubt whether the amount of special Railway safety fund amounting to Rs. 17 thousand crore are diverted. I would like to submit that not even a single paisa of that fund is diverted. The information regarding the items to be taken from the said special Railway safety fund

has been submitted to the House in the form of a separate Green Book. Besides this that fund can not be utilised for other works.

Before concluding my speech I would like to bring to the notice of the House that there is two components of special Railways safety fund. One is derived from the surcharge levied on the passengers and the second is dividend free budgetary support provided by the Government of India. Out of Rs. 17 thousand crore, Rs. 5 thousand crore are targeted to be collected from passenger surcharge and Rs. 12 thousand crore will be provided by the Government of India as grant. We have started this work from October 1, 2001-2003. Our target was that Rs. 400 crore would be received from passenger surcharge and Rs. 1000 crore were to be provided by the Government of India. However instead of Rs. 400 crore only Rs. 300 crore were received from passenger surcharge and the difference was met by the internal saving. Not only this Rs. 34 crore more were spent. In place of Rs. 1400 crore, Rs. 1434 crore were spent. Similarly this time, too a target of Rs. 860 crore from passenger surcharge has been fixed however from the current achievement it seems that there will be shortfall in passenger surcharge component of special Railway safety fund. However we will not allow any reduction in targeted expenditure of Rs. 2210 crore for special Railway safety fund i.e. we will meet the short fall by way of internal saving and will fulfil the commitment for the special Railway fund. Thus no compromise can be made regarding the safety related works. All efforts are being made on our behalf for the safety.

Once again I would like to extend my thanks to the Hon'ble Members and request them to adopt this motion.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grant (Railways) for 2002-2003 to vote.

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, 2003, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16.

The motion was adopted.

19.55 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO.5 BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up Item No.13.

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 2002-2003 for the purposes of Railways.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 2002-2003 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: 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 2002-2003 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 2002-2003 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

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* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part - II, Section 2, dated 2.12.2002

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President

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 Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. on December 3, 2002.

19.58 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 3, 2002/Agrahayana 12, 1924 (Saka).

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577

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