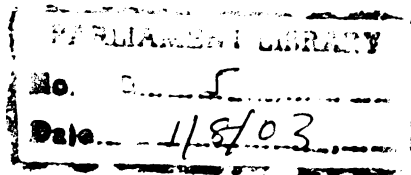


# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Eleventh Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. XXIX contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

...(Interruptions)

Thursday, December 05, 2002/Agrahayana 14, 1924 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Syed Liaquat Husain.

Shri Syed Liaquat Husain was a member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 6 December, 1978 to 22 August, 1979 representing Fatehpur parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Husain was a member of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House in the year 1979.

Shri Husain was a member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1990 and served as the Minister of State for Industries in the Uttar Pradesh Government.

Shri Husain, who was a staunch believer in the socialist ideologies of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and Chaudhary Charan Singh, ceaselessly strove for the uplift and betterment of the lot of the common man.

Shri Syed Liaquat Husain passed away on 9 November, 2002 at Mumbai, Maharashtra at the age of 70, after a brief illness.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

11.01 hrs.

*(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)*

11.02 hrs.

*(At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other Hon. Members came and stood near the Table.*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to speak on this issue, I would allow you to speak in the 'Zero Hour'. But please go back to your seats now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have been co-operative all through the Session. Please go to your seats. I have permitted your leader to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I understand your sentiments. I am thankful to you for co-operating with me. Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please go back to your seats. You can speak anything you feel like from there. I shall allow all of you to speak from there.

...(Interruptions)

11.03 hrs.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I have received two-three Notices for Adjournment Motion on this subject. I would like that you could express your views here in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You must remember one thing that whatever you want to say.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is what I intend to speak. All the hon. Members have extended full cooperation in running the House smoothly. I would like to solicit your same cooperation even today and I do understand its significance.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): What is its importance? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It may not be important for you but it is important for those who have given Notices for Adjournment Motion on it. You can say whatever you wish on this subject. I shall allow everyone to speak in the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want to say? I shall listen to Shri Malhotra ji. Shri Malhotra ji, what do you want to say? You all please sit down. It is our duty to ensure smooth running of the House. I shall ask Shri Malhotraji as to what does he want.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: First, take the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You all please sit down. Your leader is on his legs.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There is no justification, whatsoever, to make any submission or raise any matter during the Question Hour. They often do so even during the Zero Hour. It has been happening here for the last 10 years. This issue has continuously been raised for the last 10 years since 1992. If you want to have a full-fledged discussion on such issues during the Zero Hour then we are prepared to listen. Let us have a full discussion on it. But raising this issue on every 5th December is sheer wastage of time of the House which can not be allowed. Mr. Speaker decides so but these people raise petty issues during the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. If I have allowed Shri Malhotraji then I shall allow your Members as well. He has made his point here.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He does not want to listen to us after having expressed his point of view. In fact, it has become their habit. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. This has been a well established convention of the House that we always complete the Question Hour and the remaining issues we take up in the 'Zero Hour'. Hon'ble Sh. Malhotra ji has also said that they are prepared for full discussion on this issue. I have just heard you then I will have to listen to him also as to what is his objection. If they accept your suggestion then, the issue will be over.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at no point of time have we said that we will not cooperate with the Government in transacting the business of the day. Tomorrow is significant not only because of Eid festival but also because of that incident, which is sad for the people of India who have deep faith in secularism. This is very important issue which we brought to your notice. The day is very important on which we would like to make submissions. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : It is Id tomorrow, therefore no discussion should be held here. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you want that the Business of the House should continue, then you will have to listen him.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): He is indulging in vote-bank politics. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will certainly abide by your direction on this issue and we will have a discussion after the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions) Please ensure that we make your submissions, observations and assessment as to what is happening to the country without any interruptions from their side. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (DELHI SADAR): It is Id tomorrow and on the occasion of Id, even the terrorists have declared ceasefire. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Here all questions can be raised, this issue will be completed in five minutes time. You please cooperate a little.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Mr. Speaker Sir, it should have been over by this time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will be over in the next five minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I believe everybody would agree that we have fully cooperated with you in the Parliament. Almost every Government business is being transacted. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, we are cooperating with you and the Government. Every Government business is being transacted. We are cooperating. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, by this time it should have been over. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Sh. Malhotra ji, I gave you the permission, I will have to listen to them also. Shri Shivraj ji, please take your seat.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: They want to spoil the atmosphere in country because it is Id tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Look, very senior leaders are speaking.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is this, listen to Mr. Speaker!

[English]

Our intention is not to stall the House for the day or even to disrupt the Question Hour fully. ...*(Interruptions)* Whatever my friends there like it or not, this is a day of importance for everybody, according to us. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): It is nothing today. It is 5th December today....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not find it important then what is this, please sit down.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The 6th of December, 1992 was a day of national shame. On the eve of that, we, the Opposition Parties, do express our solidarity for national unity and integrity. We protest against the vandalism and the wanton destruction of the Babri Masjid which was carried out in a well-coordinated manner of 6th December, 1992. ...*(Interruptions)* The Opposition Parties want to express our commitment to a secular India and our commitment to national unity and integrity. We want to expose the people who have been bent upon dividing the country on the basis of religion and communalism. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why, we raise this issue today. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why, there is significance of this day for us. Everybody in this country should commit himself to national unity and communal amity. That is why we want to raise this issue in the House today. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I want to go to Question Hour now in one minute. Shri Ramjilal Suman to make his submission briefly.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker Sir, we want to extend full cooperation to you in ensuring smooth transaction in the House. As said by Shri Somnath Chatterjee that 6th December is very important, ...*(Interruptions)* the Babri mosque was sacrificed this day. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Rawleji, please sit down.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: He is trying to say so to save Shri Murl Manohar Joshi, we support you for running the House, but these people do not want you. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down. I want to go to Question Hour now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up Q. No. 242 - Shri Naresh Puglia.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. It is important question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should be given the opportunity to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not give you the permission.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Why has he been allowed?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You yourself have been among those who ensure proper conduct.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not accepted your notice for suspension of Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): I have also given the notice.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your notices have not been accepted. Now, let us to go Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You have the right to receive the notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I have the right, I have not allowed by using that power. Shri Puglia ji, you please ask the Question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: We should also be given opportunity to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Both of you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices for suspension of Question Hour from Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Shri Hannan Mollah. I have

refused all these notices. I have permitted you to speak and you have already spoken. I have already gone to the Question Hour. The first question is being put. Please cooperate with me now. I shall be thankful to you if you cooperate with me. I think the issue was substantially raised in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Please allow us to speak. ...(Interruptions), please do not compel us for walking out.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not walk out.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not talk to one another.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever Shri Ramdas Athawale says will not go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, I have also given a Notice for Suspension of the Question Hour.

MR. SPEAKER: Sir, we shall take it up during Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have stated, I shall allow you during the Zero Hour. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

11.16 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Anti-Collision Device

\*242. <sup>+</sup>SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

DR. S. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the durability, reliability of the Anti-Collision Device to prevent collisions of trains and collisions at level crossing gates have been assessed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of railway sections in the country where these Anti-Collision Devices have been deployed/proposed to be deployed; and

(d) the time by which all railway sections in the country are likely to be provided with Anti-Collision Devices?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) The durability and reliability of Anti-Collision Device (ACD) are being assessed by extended field trials, which are in progress on Jalandhar-Amritsar section of Northern Railway since 15.8.2002. The trials are planned till January, 2003. Preliminary trials have earlier been conducted on North-east Frontier Railway and Konkan Railway.

(c) Anti-Collision Devices have not yet been deployed on any section of Indian Railways. However, a work of provision of ACDs on North-east Frontier Railway has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 50 Cr. In addition radio and route survey has been sanctioned for 750 Route Kilometres (Rkms) each on Southern and South Central Railways in connection with provision of ACDs later, based on successful completion of extended field trials.

(d) Large scale induction of the Anti-Collision, Devices would be considered based on successful completion of the extended field trials and availability of funds.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, we expected a proper reply from the hon. Minister of Railways on this important subject. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister regarding Anti-collision Device is not satisfactory. He said in his reply that the anti-collision device is under trial and the same has been

put on use from 15th August, 2002 on Jalandhar-Amritsar Section. The hon. Minister has chosen 15th August to provide a safety cover to the Railway. We are happy to learn that the anti-collision device is the result of the research conducted by the officers of the Konkan Railway and they have also won the international award for their work. There have been 1400 accidents during the last three years which include 463 accidents in 1999-2000, 473 accidents in 2000-2001, 415 accidents in 2001-2002 and 227 accidents till 30th November, 2002. Even after occurrence of so many accidents, the said instrument is still under trial stage. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when this safety cover would be put on use in the entire country and when the trial of the said device would be completed by the department. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister as to how the Government propose to honour those officers of the Konkan railway who have won an international award for their work.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Anti-Collision Device has been developed by the Konkan railway. This is for avoiding collision of trains. Its first trial was done in the Konkan railway and later it was also put on trial in NF railway for two days. The RDSO has also conducted a comprehensive study of the device and thereafter the department has realised the need of conducting the extended field trial so as to assess the effectiveness of the device. Keeping all those factors into consideration the device was first put on use on 15th August on Jalandhar-Amritsar section. Initially some short-comings were noticed in the software, but this has been rectified and the device is again put under trial since 20th October.

As per the plan the extended field trial of the device would continue upto January. On the basis of the feedback we would rectify the short-comings. Only after that, we would be in a position to decide to implement its on the larger scale. This is because it is very important to examine the things in all respects. This is a matter of pride for us that of device has been developed in India which is first of its kind in the world. The device is based on global position system and moreover a new system has been made use of which is based on angular deviation count principle. This is really a matter of pride for the country. Once it is successfully used in India, the rest of the world will follow that will add to the glory of our country. To have invented it first is really a matter of pride. Now these can be put on use in any section to avoid accidents. The arrival of any train can be noticed in advance from the distance of three kilometers and the speed of the trains will automatically slow down and they will stop altogether when they are near to each other. That

is its special feature. We want that its extended field trial is completed soon so that further efforts may be made to put it on use on larger scale.

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that a large number of people have died in the 1400 train accidents occurred during the last three years. The reason for more than 60 per cent of those accidents has been given as 'due to failure of railway staff'. The majority of rail accidents that occur in our country can be attributed to human failure. One crore ten lakh people travel through trains daily. So the entire rail network needs to be strengthened. Our Konkan railway has invented the said instrument which is a very important thing keeping in view the large number of rail accidents taking place in the country. The Ministerial claims that the trial of the device is likely to be placed in service in the entire country. In case of plane accidents, the passengers get full compensation and even in other kinds of accidents there is a provision of insurance cover. Unless we have a fool proof system to avoid accidents the safety of passengers cannot be assured. The railway has particularly taken steps for the life-insurance cover of the victims. You have said on the last occasion that Rs. 17,000 crore has been sought from the central government. Out of that Rs. 12,000 crore is to be released through budgeted provision during the next six years. The rest five thousand crore rupees have to be mobilised through passenger fare. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would do something to provide the passengers with group-insurance or life insurance cover. As per the data provided by you, there has been 616 accidents during 1999-2000 in regard to which the railway has given Rs. 9 crore 34 lakh as compensation. Thereafter 216 passengers were killed in rail accidents during 2000-2001 in regard to which the railway gave Rs. 7 crore 97 lakh as compensation. Thereafter, 300 persons, were killed during 2001-2002 in regard to which the railway gave a mere amount of Rs. 4 crore 11 lakh. In this regard I would like to suggest that an extra amount of Rs. 1 crore or 2 should be imposed as surcharge and out of the money so collected, some insurance scheme should be launched for the passengers of first class, second class and A.C. first class separately.

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of the hon. member was about Anti-Collision Device. If the Member is desirous to have more information in this regard, I am ready to give that information.

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:** When accidents are taking place, why are you not giving compensation to the victims.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, you may give a reply to the question if you can.

[English]

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:** Sir, I want your protection.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am giving you protection, that is why I have asked the hon. Minister to reply to your question.

[Translation]

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** This time, first of all I need protection. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not possible to give specific reply to his question. Since his question is of general nature so the reply is also be of general nature.

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:** My question is about the anti-collision device.

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Strictly speaking, your supplementary does not come under the purview of this question. But understanding the importance of your supplementary, I have asked the hon. Minister to give a reply whatever possible.

[Translation]

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are an anti collision device.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes, that is my job. It is my duty to avoid collision between the treasury benches and the opposition.

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR:** The hon. Member had expressed his concern about accidents which is very natural. The main question is concerning the anti collision device which has been developed by the Konkan railway after Gaisal train accident. After the accident the concerned officers thought of an idea on which later on they worked. They evolved on the global positioning system, a principle known as angular deviation count principle and on the basis of that track identity was done in regard to tracks. A deviation count profile was prepared on the basis of layouts of station-yards. It was found that the principle so evolved was working well. Slowly they developed this principle and it was found that accidents could be averted that way. This will not only avert head-on collisions rather the device can be helpful in averting the accidents at level-crossings. Thus, if four A.C.Ds. one each in locomotive, guard's coach, at Railway station and level-crossing gates are

installed, several incidents could be prevented. It can avoid head on collisions and collisions caused by ramming into from back or sides. If a train stops at mid-section, in such a situation they can interact with each other through this machine.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: But he and I can deviate from the collision path only if he starts talking in terms of providing compensation to them by means of group insurance or life insurance.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not that I am not inclined to give a reply to these points. He should have asked a separate question on the passengers insurance. Passengers who suffer casualties by the rail-system are given compensation and first of all we make ex-gratia payment to them. Besides, we have a Railway Claim Tribunal for this. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister for having thought of Anti-Collision Devices but I feel that it is a part of the total safety measure. My concern is about the reply given by the hon. Railway Minister to part (d) of the Question, where he says: "Large scale induction of the Anti-Collision Devices would be considered based on successful completion of the extended field trials and availability of funds." My specific concern is about availability of funds. If it is a question of ensuring security and safety and for which a large sum has been assured by the hon. Prime Minister and also being raised through tickets, this issue of availability of funds should not stand in the way of implementing the Anti-collision Device as a part of the safety measure.

My pointed question is, whether the hon. Minister would tell the House that availability of funds would not be a problem so far as Anti-Collision Device induction is concerned.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, am finally agreed to the views of hon members. While conducting extended field trials of anti-collision devices, we are also taking action simultaneously. We have to conduct survey before introducing them. We have to conduct route survey and survey of the quality of radio reception and the GPS reception. We have to conduct separate surveys of station and yard so that we can prepare a deviation profile. We have already approved this work in two sections. We are taking action in advance. And in all probability this training

would be successful. All out efforts would be made to introduce the entire system phase wise. It is alright that paucity of funds should not come in the way of its induction. We have a special railway safety fund of Rs. 17 thousand Crore. There is one component of safety enhancement item in that we can begin with that. We will have to mobilise funds from the sources also for the purpose. It's a question of railway safety and moreover a question of safety of human lives.

*[English]*

SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me.

From the statement, I find that the Minister is thinking that Anti-Collision Devices will protect the Railways. What about the staff position of the Railways in regard to maintenance, security and cleaning? In the lower categories of the Railways, over the last five years, not a single appointment has been made. The gatemen, in the level crossings, are compelled to work continuously for two to three days. There were some instances in Kerala that the gatemen had become unconscious because of continuous work. The substitute is not coming because of health or family conditions. Here, the Railways are thinking to run the Railway without adequate manpower. So, I request the hon. Minister to fill up all the posts lying vacant in the Railways especially in the lower categories so that we can avoid the railway accidents and collisions. I request the hon. Minister to reply to the question of filling up of the vacancies.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member has said. I want to inform him that instructions are being issued to fill up the safety category vacancies as soon as possible. The decision has been taken in this regard and necessary instructions are being issued right now for the purpose.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Has it taken 1400 accidents for the Minister to think of having the Anti-Collision Device installed in our country? If we have thought of it, what is the system of identifying the areas which are accident-prone? If we had identified those areas, what were the reasons for these 1400 fatal railway accidents said to have taken place in the last three years? Is this Device going to help in any way in checking not only human and mechanical errors but also sabotage? If it is, if this is a system which has been devised and tried, would

the Minister assure the public and the industry that in case his Budget allocation for the installation of these Anti-Collision Devices is not according to the demands he wants to meet, that should not stand in the way of induction of Anti-Collision Devices? We are prepared to surrender many of our monies for this public sector which is national security.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the estimate of funds could be worked out only once the field trial is completed by January. But as per one estimate if it is installed in seven thousand locomotives and seven thousand railway stations, it is a rough estimate but there is no formal proposal to that effect. This proposal is prepared by the Konkan railway. As per their estimate, it would entail an amount to the tune of Rs. 1600 crore. Now how much amounts would be requested, it would be known only when the entire scheme for the purpose gets formulated.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Is it for the entire railways?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Rs. 10 thousand would be required for each one kilometer for induction of A.C.Ds and conducting survey in the entire railway. Funds will be required for all these things. The concern expressed by the hon. lady member is quite natural. Her views are welcome. Paucity of funds should not stand in the way of such type of works. If all of you are of similar views, no doubt, it would boost the morale of the Railway Ministry. And we would be able to put forth our views firmly for mobilising funds for this work from whichever source it is possible. Money should not come in the way of taking a measure which concerns safety. Therefore, the intention is clear that the Government have created a safety fund of Rs. 17 thousand crore. And we have taken money from the said fund to undertake renewal work and also to complete pending works. We have also included the safety enhancement items in it. We can also start work on it immediately with the said fund. And we can also submit proposal before the House demanding more funds for the purpose.

As for identifying accident prone areas, as has been mentioned by the Hon. lady member, there are some areas about which we known, derailment takes place there off and on due to geographical conditions of those areas about which the Railways also has knowledge. The

Railways Ministry keeps a constant watch to find out whether the tracks have developed any fracture or shortcomings. But so far as it is concerned with sabotage, the Railway Ministry itself has undergone suffering on this count. We need the support of the State governments in this connection. So far as it is concerned with security it is the duty of the State governments, but as for the safety, it is the responsibility of the Government of India and the Department of Railways. The Railway Ministry tries to keep a constant touch with the State governments. Whatever information we gather, we request them to act accordingly. So far as the derailments caused by sabotage are concerned, we have asked the Railway Board to find a way out of this problem. They are examining it. Track circuiting is being undertaken around the station area so that if any discontinuity is developed or caused in the track, prior information of the same is received and any train plying on that track could be controlled. We are working on all these things and steps are being taken for improvement in every area.

MR. SPEAKER: I give my thanks to you and the Konkan railway as well.

#### **Setting up of Power Plants by Railways**

\*243. <sup>+</sup> SHRI AKHILESH YADAV:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to S.Q. No. 111 dated March 7, 2002 regarding setting up of power plants by railways and to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Project Committee to study the techno-economic feasibility for setting up of power plants by railways;

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

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Committee is yet to submit its report and on the basis of the report approximate action shall be taken.



[Translation]

SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether any time limit has been fixed to submit the committee report and by when it is likely submit its report.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a memorandum of understanding has been signed this year on 18th February between the Ministry of Railway and N.T.P.C. on the basis of which the Railways and N.T.P.C. want to set up a power plant of the 2000 megawatt jointly to fulfil the requirements of the Railways. A letter of consent has also been signed for the purpose which provides that a project committee would be constituted comprising of the officers of both the Railways and the N.T.P.C. Certain duties have been assigned to this project committee. The project committee has been constituted on 7th March, 2002. This committee is already on the job. The committee has to identify the sites as to which site would be most suitable where N.T.P.C. and the Railways could set up the power plant jointly. Apart from it, several other duties have also been assigned to this committee which include transmission of the generated power to various sub-stations of Railways from where power is supplied for traction and to make arrangements for supply of power to the sub stations. The committee has also to decide and ensure necessary arrangements consistent with the provisions of various acts concerning the Railways. I am glad to state that the project committee is doing its job well and it has studied three sites so far and has now gone to study the fourth site. If you kindly permit me, I can tell that the three sites studied by the committee includes Mauda near Nagpur, a site in Raigarh and Manuguru and the team is going to study Nabi Nagar site. So when the team would return after studying all the sites, based on that we would be deciding as to what further action is required to be taken.

SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to ask the Minister as to what steps the Government is likely to take if the committee fails to submit its report in time.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per memorandum of understanding, the committee has been constituted for one year term and I fully hope that this project committee would identify the sites within the stipulated period of one year. It has also been provided in the M.O.U. that after the sites are identified, a joint venture commission would be constituted for setting up of this power plant and when that joint venture commission would come into distance, then this project committee would stand dissolved automatically. But now project committee

is doing its primary duty. They have constituted a working group and collected all the relevant documents. The N.T.P.C. has to do a lot of work. As I have already told, they have studied these sites and N.T.P.C. authorities are going to study the Nabi Nagar site, they will conduct their study and collect the whole information. Then a comparative study would be made to find out as to which site would be better where the Railways and N.T.P.C. could set up power plants jointly. The project committee is doing its duty well and I fully hope that they will complete it within the stipulated period. But still if the circumstances would so require, the time can be extended. They themselves have provided that either their term would have to be extended or joint venture commission would have to be constituted and then this project committee would stand dissolved automatically and then further action would be taken.

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister that a number of days have passed since a proposal to set up power loco shed at Mughal Sarai railway station was approved and funds have also been sanctioned for the purpose. Whenever we catch trains from that railway station, the people there generally ask about it and complain that no progress has been made in this direction so far whereas the proposal has been approved long back. The Minister may please throw some light in this regard.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to setting up of power plant but his question is about setting up of locoshed.

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, in the hon. Minister's reply regarding power projects, he has mentioned certain places and locations where power plants could be established. I do not know which are the places he has mentioned. It was not very clear. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He mentioned about three or four places.

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, in Kerala we have a large presence of NTPC and in Kayankulam also we have a NTPC project. The Ministry of Railways has been kind enough to have more and more lines electrified. Even then a lot more needs to be done, which I hope, the hon. Minister will do.

So, considering that fact, will the Ministry of Railways come forward to establish an independent power project in Kerala with a collaboration of NTPC?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have told the Railways and N.T.P.C. have agreed that in order to fulfil the requirements of electric traction and non-electric traction of the railways, which have been assessed 2000 megawatt, a power plant of the capacity of 2000 megawatt be set up. This has been decided by the Railways and N.T.P.C. A project committee was formed which further set up a working group. The working group was assigned the job of taking decision in regard to the load centres. This group was asked to decide as to which would be the major load centres to fulfil the requirement of power for traction purpose of the Railways. These are electrified routes under different Railway Zones. The working group was asked to find out the requirement of power by each railway. Apart from it, the working group was also asked to see as to what purpose can be served by expansion of any of the existing power plants of N.T.P.C. Another thing they studied was that whether we can take up any other existing plant of N.T.P.C. It has also been stated that many State Electricity Boards have offered their power plants to N.T.P.C. Whether or not such types of power plants should be taken up, all these opinions were considered and they arrived at this conclusion that all these options are not possible and as such keeping in view the load centers, they decided that green field power projects would have to be set up. And if these projects have to be set up, studies of several different sites are available with N.T.P.C. and based on that whatever Railways and N.T.P.C. jointly pondered over in regard to the load centres, they identified several sites based on that about which I have just informed you. There is one site namely Mauda near Nagpur, another Raipur in Chhattisgarh and third-one Manuguru in Andhra Pradesh. They studied all these sites and yet there are many difficulties in its way. Some where water is not available and somewhere coal. They are facing many types of problems. They have to conduct techno economic feasibility study and then based thereon, they have to submit primary report. Then N.T.P.C. suggested that there is one Nabi Nagar site about which study has already been conducted. A team is going to visit that place and they will conduct the study. Then we have said that let study of other places also be completed and then after studying all the sites, we will reach at some conclusion and discuss the same in the project committee and then further course of action will be decided. So as you said, the N.T.P.C. is playing the basic role and wherever they would deem fit to go, they would conduct study and the intention of the railways is that a power plant should be set up jointly with N.T.P.C. to fulfil their requirements. It depends upon those people as to which site is held justified by

them on the basis of techno-economic considerations and what amount of assistance and cooperation they would get from various sources and based thereon which plant and site is finalized.

[English]

### Production of Rifles and Light Machine Guns

\*244. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ordnance Factory at Trichy and the Rifle Factory at Ichapore have not been able to meet Army requirements for rifles and light machine guns due to production problems;

(b) whether the equipment supplied by them is also subject to "cold arrest" at sub-zero temperatures;

(c) whether there is a shortage of 5.56 m.m. weapon system in Armed Forces; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this discrepancy and action envisaged against those responsible for creating a security risk for the nation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Ordnance Factory Trichy and Rifle Factory Ichapore are meeting the requirements of the Army for rifles and light machine guns as per mutually agreed targets.

(b) The problem of 'cold arrest' at sub zero temperature which was noticed in December, 1999, was investigated by a joint team of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) and the Army and necessary measures were taken to avoid recurrence. The problem of 'cold arrest' has not been reported thereafter.

(c) There is no deficiency of personal weapons for the soldiers. The programme of supply for replacement of the existing 7.62 mm self loading rifles and light machine guns with 5.56 mm rifles and light machine guns is going on as per the schedule given by the Army.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we express our serious protest as the hon. Minister is still continuing in the office and the Tehelka Commission is in a fiasco. Therefore, we are staging a walk out. ... (Interruptions)

11.49 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, as the hon. Minister has not been exonerated, we are also walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.49 ½ hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, even in democracy there is a meaning. We have to respect the Constitution of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is their right to walk out. But I have allowed the Minister to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: This is not proper. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If somebody does not want to sit in the House, I cannot force him to sit.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir, this is not proper. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Sir, this is the political drama. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not worth appreciating, Ministers are appointed by the hon. Prime Minister. They are acting against the democratic rules. This act of opposition is politically motivated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister is giving reply. You, please, listen to him.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Sir, if they become part of treasury benches tomorrow and opposition would treat them in this manner, would it be fair to them. I request them not to behave in this manner. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can go ahead with your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I have already replied. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Sir, this way, they are making mockery of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Sir, it is a pity that some hon. Members do not wish to listen to a question of national importance. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, this is a question of grave ramifications as far as our national security goes. As the hon. Minister is aware, a decision was taken in 1980 to switch over to 5.56 mm assault rifle with steel core ammunition. It took the Government, then, two years to get their production into action. The production or manufacture of the INSAS 5.56 mm rifles started very late which left our Forces with obsolete weaponry for the interim period. When it did take place, there were certain discrepancies which were found. One such discrepancy was cold arrest. Now, the hon. Minister says that this matter has since been looked into and this problem has been rectified.

But it is also a fact that this rifle has been or was designed to swing like a club in the event of ammunition running out. Evidently, this is not happening.

Besides, as far as the shape of this rifle goes, would the Minister please clarify whether its receiver and pistol grip are shaped like Kalishnikov, the butt and gas regulator is like a Belgian FN-FA2, the fore-end is like a US AR-15 and the cocking hole is like German Heckler and Koch? With such a variety and international pedigree, is the Government still satisfied with the performance of this rifle in the field or is it just a good showpieces for parades?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the Army necessarily is the user of these rifles. If the user is satisfied, then nobody could have any grouse about it. That the Army is satisfied is evident from the fact that over these years, since this was productionised, the number of 5.56 mm rifles that have been delivered between the period 1993-94 and 1999-2000 were 2,76,210. I can read the number of orders that are with the ordnance factories. For the year 2002-2003, the order is of one lakh rifles and for the following two years, the order is of one lakh rifles per year and the order for 2005-2006 is of 95,000 rifles.

In other words, the Army has been using these rifles and is satisfied with these rifles. This problem of cold arrest developed in a particular situation where, obviously, de-greasing may not have been done or some such oil would have been used which could have created that problem. That problem has been dealt with and the rifles are giving whatever service they are expected to give, as the Army testifies.

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Sir, the hon. Minister has given details of the requirements of the Army. The question that I want to put across to the hon. Minister is this. Has this requirement been given by the Army because the production units have not managed to produce as much as the actual requirements of the Armed Forces are?

As far as the numbers go, our Armed Forces, the best of my knowledge, happen to be close to a million. Here, these factories have supplied close to 3,00,000 assault rifles. How do you cover the discrepancies in numbers, that is, between a standing Army of over a million people and a supply of about 2,75,000 and odd rifles?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Well, Sir, I will give you the year by year target that the Army gave and the supplies that were made to the Army. In the year 1993-94, the target was 7,000, and the supply was 5,000. In 1994-95, the target was 20,000, and the supply was 15,007. In 1995-96, the target was 20,000, and the target was entirely fulfilled. In 1996-97, the target was 40,000, and it was completely supplied. In 1997-98, the target was 60,000, and 60,003 units were supplied. In 1998-99, the target was 60,000, and 60,200 units were supplied. In 1999-2000, the target was 76,000, and all the 76,000 units were supplied. In 2000-01, the target was 80,000, and all the 80,000 units were supplied. In 2001-02, the target was 80,000, and all the 80,000 units were supplied. Therefore, whatever the target that the Army gave has been fulfilled.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, I take this opportunity to first record my objection to the walk-out staged by a part of the Opposition. There are established rules of precedence as to the walk out. That is not being followed. I call your kind attention to this that there must be a rule and the same be enforced. This is an insult, an affront not only on the Minister, but also on the whole House. It is a contempt of the House. This is repeatedly being committed. This should not be done. He is our Defence Minister and he is in charge of the defence of the entire country and

any insult to him is an insult to our jawans, army, navy and airforce. Kindly enforce the guidelines. There are established guidelines, as you know, and they should be enforced.

MR. SPEAKER: I have been talking to the Opposition parties on this issue.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: While recording my objection to this walk out, I wish to put the question to the hon. Minister. As you know, Ichapore Rifle Factory is situated in West Bengal. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Since they have some objections, they should also not write any letters to the Minister. They should not have any communication with the Minister.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: They are doing everything outside, but on the floor of the House, they are doing like this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): They are regularly meeting the Minister with requests and other things, but in the House, why will they not ask questions?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: As the Minister knows, Ichapore Rifle Factory is one of the oldest and the best factories. Since it is not getting enough funds, it is having problems. Secondly, sophisticated machinery has been invented all over the world. If that kind of machinery is supplied to them, it will be good. The intelligence and the experience of the workers of that factory is quite well-known. They are very well-versed with the system.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ajit Kumar Panja, will you be quick because the Question Hour will be over soon and you may not get a reply from the Minister?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I understand that, Sir, and I am also looking at the watch.

I want to know whether sufficient funds will be given to Ichapore Rifle Factory, whether a scheme will be prepared for it and, finally, whether the hon. Minister will be kind enough to visit that Factory to know about their problems.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have been to Ichapore Rifle Factory. I am aware that it is a Factory which has more than one century of life, and it is producing these rifles that are the subject of this question. Insofar as

modernisation and getting the more up-to-date machinery is concerned, we have budgeted a large amount of money for modernisation not only of Ichapore Rifle Factory, but also all our Ordnance Factories.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### FDI in Broadcasting Sector

\*245. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to resolve the dichotomy in the Foreign Direct Investment Policy on print and electronic media, her ministry has received any proposal from STAR TV to uplink from India;

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

(c) whether there is a demand from media house to allow foreign investment at par with the broadcasting sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from Star News Broadcasting Limited for Uplinking of "Star News" Channel in Hindi and English from India.

As per the information furnished, the applicant company has its head office in Hong Kong and registered office in British Virgin Islands. The company has three Directors - Two (2) Americans and One (1) British.

(c) No, Sir, although some section of the newspaper industry had cited the easy access through cable to foreign TV channels as an argument in favour of foreign investment in print media.

(d) Does not arise.

### Lacunae in Judicial System

\*246. SHRI RAM TAHA CHAUDHARY:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has pointed out several lacunae in the existing judicial system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these lacunae to streamline the judicial system?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (c) Huge pendency of cases in the judiciary is a cause for concern both for the Government and Judiciary. Government is taking various steps for speeding up the disposal of the cases. These include simplification of rules and procedures on the basis of advice and recommendations of expert bodies like the Law Commission, the Malimath Committee etc. Steps have been taken by the High Courts to reduce and control arrears of cases pursuant to the recommendations of the Malimath Committee. Other steps include increase in the number of posts of Judges/Judicial Officers, establishment of Special Courts/tribunals, appointment of Special Judicial/Metropolitan Magistrates and adoption of alternative modes of dispute resolution, such as arbitration and conciliation. Lok Adalats have been given a statutory base as supplementary forum for resolution of disputes. Efforts are also being made for improvement in the infrastructure of all courts including the District courts through extensive use of information technology.

### Recovery of Outstanding Dues from SEBs

\*247. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Power has to recover huge outstanding dues from the electricity boards of several States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard as on date, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure speedy recovery of the dues from these States; and

(d) the names of States from which payment of outstanding dues has been received during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of Ministry of Power are to recover their outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs).

(b) Details as on 30.09.2002, are in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps for the speedy recovery of the dues:

- (i) In March, 2002, the Government approved a scheme for One Time Settlement of Outstanding dues as on 30.09.2001. Under the scheme, the State Governments are required to sign a Tripartite Agreement (TPA) with the Government of India and the RBI. So far, 21 State Governments have signed the TPA and 3 States (including the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi) have given in-principle consent. The remaining 5 State Governments are being persuaded to sign the TPA.
- (ii) The scheme provided for securitisation of outstanding dues payable by the SEBs to the CPSUs of the Ministry of Power, namely, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC), North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), by converting the dues into 8.5% tax free bonds to be issued by the concerned State Governments through the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), after waiving 60% of the interest/surcharge as of 30.09.2001. The bonds carry a moratorium of 5 years on repayment of principal with the entire principal to be repaid between the 6th and 15th year. The Scheme was finalised on the recommendations of the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Montek Singh

Ahluwalia, the then Member, Planning Commission.

- (iii) For payment of the current dues, the SEBs/ State Utilities are required to open and maintain irrevocable Letters of Credit that are equal to 105% of their average monthly billing for the preceding 12 months. If any Utility persists with default of their power dues for period more than 3 months, the scheme authorizes recovering the amount debiting the account of the concerned State Government maintained in the RBI.
- (iv) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) are outside the ambit of tripartite scheme as these outstanding dues payable by the SEBs are capital in nature. REC is in the process of working out a plan for liquidation of SEB. PFC has negligible overdues from the Utilities of the State Government.

(d) The outstanding dues of all the SEBs in respect of five CPSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Power covered under the securitisation scheme are yet to be securitised into bonds. The value of bonds to be issued by the respective States in favour of the CPSUs as on 30.09.2001 is given in the enclosed statement-II. In respect of two remaining CPSUs, namely REC and PFC which are not covered under the scheme, REC has recovered Rs. 183.49 crore and PFC has recovered Rs. 100.80 crore during the last one year. The detailed break-up, State-wise, is given in the enclosed statement-III.

#### Statement-I

#### *Outstanding Dues (Indicative) Payable by SEBs to Central Public Sector Undertakings*

*(Principal and Surcharge) as of 30.02.2002*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	SEBs/Stater	NTPC			NHPC			PGCIL			NEEPCO		
		Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	A.P.	70.31	25.67	95.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.40	0.90	14.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Ar. Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.94	0.90	2.84	4.40	2.90	7.30	24.22	3.18	27.40
3.	Assam	48.84	33.54	82.38	2.19	0.39	2.58	149.80	63.30	213.10	798.10	161.92	960.02

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
31.	Tamil Nadu	397.69	190.19	587.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.88	1.85	5.73	5.30	0.30	5.60	83.51	11.28	94.79
33.	Uttar Pradesh	2882.89	989.93	3872.82	300.22	52.02	352.24	127.30	38.20	165.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Uttaranchal	270.79	154.75	425.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	WBSEB	876.82	933.28	1810.10	0.04	17.69	17.73	56.50	40.50	97.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		15294.53	8891.35	24185.88	1162.49	1294.67	2457.16	992.60	458.70	1451.30	1213.13	215.67	1428.80

As on 31st March, 2002

*Outstanding Dues (Indicative) Payable by SEBs to Central Public Sector Undertakings*

*(Principal and Surcharge)*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	SEBs/States	PFC			DVC			REC		
		Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.65	0.00	0.65	0.40	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.05	0.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.04
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.70	67.16	174.79	241.95
4.	Bihar	1.42	0.00	1.42	353.50	740.97	1094.47	153.58	342.87	496.45*
5.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	60.36	0.00	60.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	114.89	151.28	266.17
7.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	DNH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	DVB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
11.	Gujarat	2.11	0.00	2.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.67	14.53	39.20
12.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	HSEB (HVPNL)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.11	0.15
15.	Jharkhand	17.39	0.00	17.39	559.41	658.85	1218.26	0.00	0.00	0.00



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.36	0.73	4.09
17.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1.29	0.00	1.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	852.20	847.46	1699.66
19.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04
20.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.05	3.92	7.97
21.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Mizoram	1.81	0.00	1.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.69	6.97	13.66
23.	Nagaland	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
24.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Other (Wind)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.24	27.03	44.27
26.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.32
28.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
30.	State Govts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.13	0.53
31.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.91	2.91
32.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.03	2.34	3.37
33.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	407.91	586.78	994.69
34.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	WBSEB	0.13	0.00	0.13	450.82	613.89	1064.71	189.65	423.06	612.71
Total		85.43	0.00	85.43	1365.83	2013.71	3379.54	1843.91	2584.37	4428.28

\*Including Jharkhand

**Outstanding Dues (Indicative) Payable by SEBs to Central  
Public Sector Undertakings  
(Including Surcharge)**

(Rs. in crores)

Name of CPSUs	Principle	Interest	Total
1	2	3	4
NTPC	15294.53	8891.35	24185.88
NHPC	1162.49	1294.67	2457.16

1	2	3	4
PGCIL	992.60	458.70	1451.30
NEEPCO	1213.13	215.67*	1428.80
PFC	85.43	0.00	85.43
DVC	1365.83	2013.71	3379.54
REC	1843.91	2584.37	4428.28
Total	21957.92	15458.47	37416.39

\*As on 31st March, 2002

**Statement-II**

*State-wise and CPSU-wise summary of outstanding dues as of 1.10.2001  
to be securitised under the One-Time Scheme*

Rs. in Crores

Sl.No.	SEBs/States	NTPC	NHPC	PGCIL	DVC	NEEPCO	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.94	0.00	8.44	0.30	0.00	122.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	1.26	7.40	0.0	19.58	28.24
3.	Assam	52.78	0.84	202.28	1.70	622.20	879.80
4.	Bihar	1616.24	23.52	194.36	627.02	0.00	2461.14
5.	Chhattisgarh	210.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	210.73
6.	DVB (DESU)	2243.26	404.26	141.24	0.00	0.00	2788.76
7.	Goa	-0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.36
8.	Gujarat	180.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	180.01
9.	Haryana	375.32	299.77	11.78	0.00	0.00	686.87
10.	Himachal Pradesh	31.12	56.07	0.68	0.00	0.00	87.87
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	81.54	62.24	148.46	0.00	0.00	292.24
12.	Jharkhand	1128.23	1.44	9.20	715.21	0.00	1854.08
13.	Karnataka	214.21	0.00	16.12	0.00	0.00	230.33
14.	Kerala	738.85	0.00	11.44	0.00	0.00	750.29
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1397.90	0.00	45.80	0.00	0.00	1443.70
16.	Maharashtra	541.98	0.00	4.30	0.00	0.00	546.28
17.	Manipur	0.00	19.40	48.58	0.00	124.23	192.21
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.53	4.44	0.00	12.48	17.45
19.	Mizoram	0.00	5.60	8.20	0.00	35.79	49.59
20.	Nagaland	0.00	6.58	20.30	0.00	57.77	84.65
21.	Orissa	731.13	11.43	7.00	0.00	0.00	749.56
22.	Punjab	187.53	313.62	22.92	0.00	0.00	524.07
23.	Rajasthan	357.59	64.56	29.80	0.00	0.00	451.95
24.	Sikkim	34.55	2.40	10.84	0.00	0.00	47.79
25.	Tamil Nadu	400.79	0.00	5.40	0.00	0.00	406.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	0.00	2.94	11.20	0.00	63.31	77.45
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3054.53	252.56	49.40	0.00	0.00	3356.49
28.	West Bengal	1185.59	12.52	65.86	613.36	0.00	1877.33
Total		14877.46	1541.54	1085.44	1957.59	935.36	20397.39

**Statement-III**

*A-Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)*

Sl.No.	SEBs	As on 30.09.2001			Recovery During 01.10.01 to 30.09.02	
		Prin.	Intt.	Total	Prin.	Intt
1.	Assam	57.33	136.55	193.88	0.00	0.40
2.	Bihar/Jharkhand	143.39	315.31	458.70	0.00	39.36
3.	Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	839.87	695.91	1535.78	0.00	44.72
4.	Uttar Pradesh	412.72	553.28	966.00	0.00	55.00
5.	West Bengal	158.21	395.73	553.94	0.00	44.01
Total		1611.52	2096.78	3708.30	.00	183.49

*B-Power Finance Corporation (PFC)*

Sl.No.	SEBs	As on 30.09.2001			Recovery During 01.10.01 to 30.09.02	
		Prin.	Intt.	Total	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	MPSEB	31.13	39.31	70.44	69.15	
2.	APGENCO	3.57	4.52	8.09	7.44	
3.	TENUGHAT VNL	15.65	17.91	33.56	16.17	
4.	GRIDCO	0.26	6.14	6.40	6.35	
5.	WBPDCL	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03	
6.	DPL	0.00	0.18	0.18	0.05	
7.	ASEB	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.04	
8.	Mizoram	1.50	1.67	3.17	1.35	
9.	APTRANSCO	0.00	0.22	0.22	0.22	

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	GEB	0.00	0.27	0.27	0.00
11.	CSEB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Bihar SHPCL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Orissa HPCL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		52.11	70.29	122.40	100.80

[English]

### High Voltage Transmission by PGCIL

\*248. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are considering/developing high voltage transmission net work through the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concept of power generation in the private sector did not come up to the desired level in the country; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) and (b) A plan has been chalked out to integrate all the regions in the country by creating a "National Grid" through HVDC stations/hi-pole and 765 KV AC links in a phased manner to facilitate transfer of power between the regions without any constraint. For further strengthening of the grid system, high capacity long HVDC links as well as AC links have been planned by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. to be commissioned along with Mega Projects. In the ultimate phase, a strong synchronous National Power Transmission Grid has been envisaged to evacuate the power from major generating resources. This would involve development of a high capacity 400 KV transmission corridor connecting the North-East through the 'chicken-neck' area (to Siliguri) and establishment of a ring of 765 KV lines interconnecting Eastern, Western and Northern Regions. The Southern Grid would be linked to the Eastern & Western Grids through strong 400 KV HVDC links at various places such as Jeypore-Gajuwaka and Talcher-Kolar, Chandrapur-Ramagundam. Inter-regional transmission capacity of the

proposed National Grid would increase to about 30,000 MW by 2011-12.

(c) and (d) Adequate domestic/foreign investment in generation has not fructified in the power sector due to various factors, primary among which is the poor financial health of most of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) who do not have the financial capability to support a large number of projects in terms of regular payment of bills of electricity purchased by them from Independent Power Producers (IPPs). The poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards and the insistence by lenders on strong payment security packages has been the main problem in the private power projects achieving financial closure. The other impediments to the speedy development of private sector power projects include delays in finalization of various contracts, litigation in Courts, increase in the prices of liquid fuels, etc.

With a view to finding a resolution to this problem and to simplify/decentralize the procedure for clearance of private power projects and to attract more investment in the power sector, the Government has already initiated several measures which include:

- reforms and restructuring of the power sector.
- signing of memoranda of agreements with States committing for reforms.
- one time settlement of the outstanding dues of State Electricity Boards.
- the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 has been enacted which enabled setting up of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. Twenty one States have constituted or notified Regulatory Commissions.
- formulation of model Power Purchase Agreement

(PPAs) and Fuel Supply Agreement (FSAs) with the help of International consultants for guidance of SEBs.

- minimizing the number of clearances required to be obtained for the purpose of appraisal of the private power projects by Central Electricity Authority (CEA).
- raising the limits for power projects which require the clearance from CEA.
- exploring Alternative Security Mechanisms for financing power projects in the private sector.

#### Supply of Natural Gas from Iran to India

\*249. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

DR. ASHOK PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Joint Committee of Indian and Iranian experts was set up sometime back to study the various options for supply of Natural Gas from the South Pars field in Iran to the Northern and Western India;

(b) if so, whether the study has been completed;

(c) if so, the findings of the study group and the decisions taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether Gasprome of Russia has sent a proposal to build a Natural Gas Pipeline from Iran to India via Pakistani Coastal Waters;

(e) if so, whether the Government considered the proposal in all its ramifications; and

(f) if so, decisions the Government has taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under bilateral cooperation, Indo-Iran Joint Committee constituted a Joint Technical Sub-Committee to assist it to explore all the options to import natural gas from Iran. The Joint Committee has decided to undertake an offshore feasibility study for laying of pipeline from Iran to India outside the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Pakistan. GAIL (India) Limited from India and National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) from Iran have been nominated as nodal agencies for the pipeline project by the respective Governments. Accordingly, GAIL

and NIOC have jointly commissioned an offshore pipeline feasibility study for the pipeline from Iran to India. The Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) may be completed by early next year. Decision to take up the project would depend on technical feasibility and economic viability of the project.

(d) No, Sir. There is no formal proposal. However, subsequent to the 8th meeting of Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Cooperation in Petroleum Sector held on 21-22nd January, 2002, Gasprome had made a presentation to GAIL on three pipeline options for transportation of natural gas from Iran, namely, (i) an on-land gas pipeline through Pakistan (ii) a shallow water gas pipeline within the territorial waters of Pakistan and (iii) finally a deep water gas pipeline to India

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### Demand and Supply of Petroleum Products

\*250. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present demand and supply of petroleum products in the country;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the likely demand of petroleum products by the end of the current plan period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the strategy formulated to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) The consumption and production of petroleum products in the country during the year 2001-02 was 100.4 million metric tonnes (MMT) and 104.2 MMT respectively. The corresponding estimates for the current year are 103 MMT and 108 MMT.

The likely demand of petroleum products by the end of the X Plan period is assessed between 118 MMT and 134.6 MMT.

The incremental demand of petroleum products in the country is envisaged to be largely met from the domestic refineries and LPG fractionators. Any gap between the demand and domestic availability of products will be met from imports.

[Translation]

**Ban on Production of Obscene  
and Vulgar Films**

\*251. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that scenes which create a bad influence on the mind of youth and children are continuously exhibited in the Cinema in violation of directions of the Censor Board;

(b) if so, whether very obscene scenes have been picturised in some films including 'Road' released recently;

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

(d) the criteria laid down by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to picturise or cut such scenes;

(e) whether the Government propose to form a Committee to draw guidelines/criteria to issue directions to the CBFC to check screening of such films while issuing Censor Certificates;

(f) if so, the details and time by which the said guidelines will be strictly implemented; and

(g) the other steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government to keep a vigil on exhibition and production of such films in future?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (g) The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has been receiving reports of violation of provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, by way of exhibition of uncertified films or films with interpolation of scenes deleted by the CBFC or insertion of portions not shown to the Board, in several States and Union Territories. Although enforcement of the Cinematograph Act is a State Government responsibility, yet CBFC had also hired a private detective agency, during 2001-2002, to carry out regular checks in theatres in the four metropolitan cities to detect cases of violation of the provisions of the Act and report the same to the concerned State authorities for prompt investigation and possible prosecution.

The Central Government has already issued detailed

guidelines, vide notification dated 06.12.1991, under sub-section (2) of section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, which, inter-alia, seek to ensure that human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity.

The Examining Committee of CBFC, which previewed the film "ROAD" unanimously recommended grant of a clear "A" certificate to the film. The Board accepted the recommendation.

[English]

**Conversion of Vikrant into Museum**

\*252. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether final decision regarding conversion of various Warships particularly Vikrant into a permanent museum has been taken;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has been pursuing this proposal with his Ministry since long;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the contribution proposed to be made by the Union Government; and

(e) the reasons for delay in conversion of Vikrant into a permanent museum?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) No final decision regarding the conversion of INS Vikrant into permanent Museum has so far been taken. INS Vikrant which was commissioned on 16th February, 1961 was de-commissioned on 31st January 1997. In June 1997, the Government of Maharashtra proposed to Ministry of Defence that they were willing to take over Vikrant for conversion into a maritime Museum. Hon'ble Raksha Mantri approved the transfer of Vikrant to the Government of Maharashtra free of cost in October 1998. The scrap value of ship, estimated at Rs. 18 crores, was also condoned. In July, 1999 Government of Maharashtra paid Rs. 5 crores for essential maintenance prior to transfer.

Government of Maharashtra then got a project report prepared and also sought to find a commercial partner for conversion of Vikrant into a maritime museum cum helipad cum convention centre at a cost of Rs. 124 crores. However, no further progress has been made by the Government of Maharashtra in this regard. Meanwhile, on 30th November, 2001, the Indian Navy converted certain parts of the ship

into a museum and the ship was towed to the Naval Anchorage, Mumbai and opened to the public. A large number of visitors have since visited INS Vikrant.

### High Speed Rail Transport

\*253. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop high speed rail transport in the country;

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

(c) when is it likely to come about;

(d) whether the Government of Karnataka has also submitted a proposal for the development of High Speed Rail Transport between Hyderabad-Bangalore and Bangalore-Chennai;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there is a proposal for undertaking a techno-economic feasibility study funded by Spanish Government for running high speed trains between Mumbai-Ahmedabad.

(d) to (f) Ministry of Railways had identified 7 corridors including Hyderabad - Bangalore and Bangalore - Chennai for further exploration and development of firmer proposals. Government of Karnataka had also agreed with this identification. In view of significant potential, Mumbai - Ahmedabad corridor has been proposed for techno-economic feasibility study as a first step.

[Translation]

### Recommendations Regarding Nomadic Tribes

\*254. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Constitution Review Commission

headed by Justice Venkatchaliah has given certain recommendations in regard to a large number of nomadic tribes in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations and the nomadic tribes identified;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to implement the said recommendations of the Commission;

(d) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the said recommendations is enclosed as statement.

(c) The recommendations have been forwarded to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for being examined and processed. As per information received from Ministries of Tribal Affairs and Social Justice & Empowerment, the nomadic tribes have been categorized as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes etc. based on their socio-economic conditions in the respective States & UTs. Though there is no specific earmarking of funds exclusively under the category of denotified tribes but they are entitled to benefits/concessions available under various schemes of the government in accordance with their categorization as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes as the case may be.

(d) and (e) Since development of such groups is a continuous process, no time frame can be set for this purpose.

### Statement

#### *Recommendations made by the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution*

Denotified Tribes/ Communities and Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes/Communities

10.12.1 The denotified tribes/communities have been wrongly stigmatized as crime prone and subjected to high handed treatment as well as exploitation by the representatives of law and order as well as by the general society. Some of them are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes and others are in the list of Scheduled Castes and list of backward classes. The special approach to their

development has been delineated and emphasized in the Reports of the Working Groups for the Development of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in successive Plans and also in the Annual Reports of the Commissioners for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the National Commission for Backward Classes. There are also special reports available on de-notified tribes. Their recommendations have not received attention. The Commission recommends that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Welfare should collate all these materials and recommendations contained in the reports of the working groups and the reports of the National Commissions and other reports referred to and strengthen the programmes for the economic development, educational development, generation of employment opportunities, social liberation and full rehabilitation of denotified tribes. Whatever has been said about vimuktajatis also holds good for nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities. The Commission recommends similar action in respect of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities as done in the case of de-notified tribes or vimuktajatis. The continued plight of these groups of communities distributed in the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes is an eloquent illustration of the failure of the machinery for planning, financial resources allocation and budgeting and administration in the country to seriously follow the mandate of the Constitution including Article 46. The Commission also points out that the setting up of an integrated net work of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Authority, etc. recommended in para 10.5.2 to 10.5.3 above will provide a structural mechanism to deal in a practical way with the vimuktajatis as well as nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities within the frame work of the SCP and TsP. Similarly the approach to the development of backward classes referred to at para 10.14 below contains the approach to deal in a practical way with the Vimuktajatis and nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes/communities who are in Backward Class list.

10.12.2 The Commission also considered the representations made on behalf of the De-notified and Nomadic Tribal Rights Action Group and decided to forward them to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment with the suggestion that they may examine the same preferably through a Commission.

[English]

#### Cooperation with NCC by States

\*255. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some State Governments are not cooperating in the National Cadet Corps (NCC) activities;

(b) if so, the names of the States which are not cooperating with the NCC movement; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that all State fall in line and help in activities of NCC?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) State and Union Territory Administrations also provide finances, manpower etc. for the conduct of NCC. A statement showing financial support to NCC by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations is enclosed.

As per the approved Peace Establishment, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have to provide civilian manpower to NCC in the form of Accountants, Clerks, Drivers, Chowkidars, Safaiwalas and Lascars. Against the total authorised strength of 15,114 civilian employees, 11,200 civilian employees have been provided by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

On the issue of financial support and deficiency of civilian State Government employees in NCC, Defence Secretary had written to the Chief Secretaries of all the States/Union Territory Administrations on 15.12.2000. Also, the State Government Representatives were impressed upon to provide full support to the NCC activities during the 15th Joint State Representatives and Deputy Director Generals Conference of NCC, held on 12.6.2002 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.

#### Statement

##### Position on financial support to NCC by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	% of allotment against the projected demand of funds of NCC Directorates
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	55
3.	Assam	36
4.	Manipur	82



1	2	3
5.	Meghalaya	30
6.	Mizoram	90
7.	Nagaland	74
8.	Tripura	36
9.	Bihar	89
10.	Jharkhand	85
11.	Delhi	100
12.	Gujarat	87
13.	Daman & Diu (including Dadra Nagar Haveli)	22
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	93
15.	Karnataka	72
16.	Goa	17
17.	Kerala (including Lakshadweep)	64
18.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	78
19.	Maharashtra	81
20.	Orissa	55
21.	Punjab	78
22.	Haryana	77
23.	Himachal Pradesh	42
24.	Chandigarh	100

1	2	3
25.	Rajasthan	77
26.	Tamil Nadu	100
27.	Andaman & Nicobar	75
28.	Pondichery	100
29.	Uttar Pradesh	96
30.	Uttaranchal	97
31.	West Bengal	82
32.	Sikkim	71
Average		80%

**Capacity Addition during 9th Plan**

\*256. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Power Capacity targets and achievements for the Eighth and Ninth Plans, separately;

(b) whether the target for enhancing capacity of power generation has not been achieved during the Ninth Plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the allocation and utilization of funds for the purpose during the above Plans?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (d) A capacity of 16422.6 MW was added against a target of 30538 MW during the 8th Plan. The details are given as under:-

(Fig in MW)

	Central Sector		State Sector		Private Sector		Overall	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Thermal	8498	6252	9010	6040.5	2646	1262.4	20156	13554.9
Hydro	3260	1465	5860	794.7	162	168.0	9282	2427.7
Nuclear	1100	400	-	-	-	-	1100	440.0
Total	12858	8157	14870	6835.2	2810	1430.4	30538	16422.6

A capacity of 19015.17 MW was added against a target of 40245.2 MW during the 9th Plan. The details are given as under:-

(Fig in MW)

	Central Sector		State Sector		Private Sector		Overall	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Thermal	7574	3084	4933.0	5537.97	17038.5	4975	29545.5	13597.97
Hydro	3455	540	5814.7	3912.20	550	86	9819.7	4538.20
Nuclear	880	880	0.0		0.0	-	880.0	880
Total	11909	4504	10747.7	9450.17	17588.5	5061	40245.2	19015.17

(c) The broad reasons for non-achievement of targets during these plans periods are given as under:

- (i) Delayed financial closures of private Sector projects due to non-availability of escrow.
- (ii) Paucity of funds in State public sector-projects
- (iii) Delay in land acquisition
- (iv) Delay in investment decision
- (v) R&R problems
- (vi) Contractual problems

(d) The details of the allocation and utilization of funds for the power sector during the plans period is given as under:

	Allocation	Utilization
Eighth Plan	Rs. 79,589.32 crore	Rs. 76,677.38 crore
Ninth Plan	Rs. 1,24,526.00 crore	Rs. 1,09,087.06 crore

#### **Disaster-Management and Armed Forces**

\*257. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a suggestion has been made in a recently held seminar "Disaster-Management and the Armed Forces" that India should train people to cope with nuclear and terrorism related disasters;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Army Headquarters and the

Institution of Engineers (India), Delhi State. Chapter conducted a one day Seminar on "Disaster Management and the Armed Forces - A National Effort" on 11th September, 2002 at New Delhi.

The main theme of the Seminar related to engineering aspects of Disaster Management. The point regarding Nuclear Disaster came up only in passing. It was suggested that it was not enough to train the security forces alone, but the training must be spread down to the grass root level for disaster mitigation. The Government will give due consideration, in consultation with the Ministries concerned, to the recommendations of the Seminar as and when they are received.

#### **Demand of Power in Country**

\*258. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the estimated demand of power in the country by the year 2005, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) whether the existing power plants are likely to be able to meet the power demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total power generating capacity of the existing power plants at present, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (d) Based on the projection made in the 16th Electric Power Survey by the Central Electricity Authority, all India energy requirement by the year 2005 is estimated to be 635065 Million Unit and the corresponding peak load would be 102160.8 MW. The

corresponding figure for the State of Gujarat are 54970 Million Unit and 9470 MW, respectively. The State-wise details are given at the enclosed Statement-I. The all India Installed Generating Capacity is 106266.90 MW (as on 31.10.2002). The State-wise details are given in enclosed Statement-II.

A capacity addition of around 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan. An additional capacity of 3000 MW is expected to come from renewables. Emphasis has been laid on higher capacity addition from Public Sector during the 10th Plan. Planning Commission has allocated an outlay of Rs 1,43,399 Crore for 10th Plan which is about 214% more than the Ninth Plan outlay. All identified projects for the 10th Plan are monitored and reviewed at periodic intervals in the Ministry of Power.

In addition to the benefits from new generating capacity, the power supply position is expected to improve through:-

- Undertaking energy conservation measures for which the Energy Conservation Act has been enacted and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency constituted. There is a potential of approximately 25% savings through Energy Conservation.
- Reducing technical losses in distribution. The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) is designed for the attainment of this objective.
- Undertaking Renovation and Modernisation (R&M) of existing power stations which combined with improved Operation and Maintenance practices would lead to higher availability and generation.
- Export of power from surplus to deficit region through the gradual development of a National Grid to optimize utilization of generating capacity on an all India basis.

#### Statement-I

*The Anticipated Energy Requirement and Peak Load at Power Station Bus-bars for the year 2004-05.*

Region/ State/ System	Energy Requirement (Million Units)	Peak Load (in Megawatt)
1	2	3
Delhi	22991	3860
Haryana	22089	4203

1	2	3
Himachal Pradesh	4437	844
Jammu & Kashmir	8072	1706
Punjab	36596	6730
Rajasthan	35216	5912
Uttar Pradesh	61681	9907
Chandigarh	1785	336
Goa	2004	322
Gujarat	54970	9470
Madhya Pradesh	46765	7737
Maharashtra	94650	14801
D&N. Haveli	1119	188
Daman & Diu	761	123
Andhra Pradesh	60633	988
Karnataka	39467	6826
Kerala	19378	3626
Tamil Nadu	49478	7978
Pondicherry	2265	386
Bihar	17932	3320
Orissa	16157	2673
Sikkim	204	52
West Bengal	28114	5265
Arunachal Pradesh	264	85
Assam	4558	853
Manipur	857	208
Meghalaya	811	168
Mizoram	433	119
Nagaland	335	85
Tripura	832	211

1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar	194	40
Lakshadweep	37	8.8
All India	635065	102160.8

**Statement-II**

*The State-wise Generating Capacity as  
on 31.10.2002 (in MW)*

Region/State/System	Generating Capacity (In MW)
1	2
Haryana	3127.32
Himachal Pradesh	664.80
Jammu and Kashmir	1233.63
Punjab	5655.94
Rajasthan	4510.72
Uttar Pradesh	7602.60
Uttaranchal	1286.15
Chandigarh	64
Delhi	3097.60
Central unallocated	884.00
Gujarat	8861.78
Madhya Pradesh	4220.21
Chhattisgarh	1898.00
Maharashtra	15208.27
Goa	454.76
Daman & Diu	14.20
D&N Haveli	15.50
Central unallocated	891.30
Andhra Pradesh	9317.24
Karnataka	5655.77

1	2
Kerala	3043.44
Tamil Nadu	9230.81
Pondicherry	174.50
Central unallocated	610.00
Bihar	3059.16
Jharkhand	1815.89
Orissa	3406.48
West Bengal	6550.84
Sikkim	60.80
Central unallocated	1303.51
Assam	1119.49
Manipur	154.11
Meghalaya	285.96
Nagaland	101.46
Tripura	199.46
Arunachal Pradesh	162.43
Mizoram	86.30
Central unallocated	179.20
Lakshadweep	9.97
Andaman & Nicobar	49.30
All India	106266.90

**Upgradation of F.T.I.I.**

\*259. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a plan to upgrade the Film and Television Institute of India to a world class institution;

(b) if so, the details of the plan formulated therefor; and

(c) the financial assistance likely to be provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune is a world class institution in the field of cinema and television training, affiliated to Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinema et de Television (CILECT), the association of the world's major film and television schools. Some of the most eminent actors, actresses, Directors and technicians who have brought laurels to the country in the world of cinema constitute the alumni of the Institute. The Institute has a quota of two seats reserved for the Afro-Asian students in every batch year.

The Institute's governance and significant policy planning is done by a Governing council constituted for a block period of three years from out of the Members of the FTII Society, which comprises eminent persons from the world of cinema and official Members. The Central Government releases grants to the Society depending on its yearly requirements.

The Government also continually reviews the requirement of the Institute in terms of its infrastructural and other developmental needs. It is the endeavour of the Government to strengthen the Institute, both administratively and financially. With this aim, focus has been given to the Human Resource Development of the Institute under the 10th Plan Proposal through an increased emphasis on promoting exposure to new practices and trends with other institutions, both for the faculty and students. An outlay of Rs. 12.10 crore has been provided for the Institute under the 10th Plan.

#### **New Pricing Mechanism for Sale of Petrol and Diesel**

\*260. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national oil companies have decided to adopt a new pricing mechanism for sale of petrol and diesel at the coastal and inland location;

(b) if so, whether after implementation of the new mechanism, petrol and diesel will cost less at the coastal locations whereas consumers in the inland areas have to pay a higher price;

(c) if so, whether to prevent a steep hike in the prices of these fuels, oil companies have decided to recover the freight cost in phases; and

(d) if so, the time by which the above price mechanism is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) With the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector effective 1st April 2002, the prices of petrol and diesel have been decontrolled. While, in a free market scenario, the freight costs would be reflected in the consumer prices of these products, with a view to facilitate a smooth transition from the APM era to free market scenario, the public sector oil marketing companies are presently equalizing the inland freight costs to some extent amongst different locations in the country.

[Translation]

#### **Irregularities at Petrol Pumps**

\*261. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Anti Adulteration Cell has found eighty per cent petrol pumps in northern parts of the country involved in irregularities including adulteration in diesel, petrol, lubricants etc.;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against such petrol pump dealers; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir. The Anti Adulteration Cell (in the retail outlets inspected by it) had detected approximately 20% cases of samples failure and another 60% cases of some malpractices and possible adulteration during the period from July, 2001 to July, 2002.

(b) In all cases where adulteration/malpractices were detected, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) concerned were asked to take action under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement.

(c) Besides the setting up of Anti Adulteration Cell, steps such as blue dyeing of Kerosene meant for Public Distribution System (PDS), regular/surprise inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper proof locking system for tanker-trucks, special vigilance drives, etc., are taken by the OMCs. Action is taken by the OMCs against erring dealers under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement. The State Governments also initiate action against any dealer indulging in adulteration of petroleum products and violation of any Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[English]

**Signalling Workshops**

2639. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government established several Signalling Workshops to overhaul/repair various signalling equipments and their parts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some equipments have been overhauled/repared through private agencies in spite of the fact that the spares for repair/overhaul were available and remained unutilised;

(d) if so, the reasons for not getting those items overhauled/repared within the Zonal Railway Workshops; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereon and the action taken in this regard?

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

(b) Signal Workshops are located at Byculla, Howrah, Ghaziabad, Mettuguda, Gorakhpur, Pandu (Guwahati), Podanur, Sabarmati and Kharagpur. These workshops overhaul all types of Block Instruments and Relays to meet the requirement of the Railways. Workshops at Gorakhpur, Guwahati & Podanur also repair/ overhaul point machines. Some of these workshops also manufacture signalling equipment. The details of average Monthly out-turn of the workshops are as below:-

*Monthly Out-turn of Signal  
Workshops (In Lakhs)*

S.No	Rly.	Workshop	Out-turn (in Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	CR	Byculla	95
2.	ER	Howrah	65
3.	NR	Ghaziabad	60
4.	NER	Gorakhpur	105
5.	NFR	Pandu	10

1	2	3	4
6.	SR	Podanur	216
7.	SCR	Mettuguda	80
8.	SER	Kharagpur	18
9.	WR	Sabarmati	46

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Integrated Rural Energy Programme**

[Translation]

2640. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the main features and the manner in which the Integrated Rural Energy Programme is being implemented in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government have conducted a study in regard to the progress made towards the implementation of this programme in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this programme has been yielding desired results in the States;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) The main features of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme include provision of optimum mix of energy sources, to the extent possible, for meeting energy needs for subsistence and productive purposes, through preparation and implementation of block level integrated rural energy plans and projects. The implementation of IREP in Gujarat, and other States, is being carried out through two components, namely, the Central sector component under which support is provided for development of capabilities, including provision of staff and their training, and the State sector component under which financial support is provided under the State outlay for promoting various rural energy devices, extension and other related activities. The Integrated Rural Energy

Programme (IREP) is under implementation in 19 Blocks in Gujarat where the programme is being implemented by the State Nodal Agency - Gujarat Energy Development Agency.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The latest study on the progress of the IREP entitled "Analysis of IREP and Development of Capacity Building Strategy," was taken up by the Government with the support of United Nations Development Programme, in twelve States, including Gujarat in the year 1999-2000. The study has brought out that as a result of IREP, minimum infrastructure for preparing rural energy plans and projects at the district and State levels have been set up. Further, IREP has enabled rural people and field development officials to appreciate different dimensions of the rural energy problem and how it should be tackled. IREP has also brought about large-scale awareness about new and renewable energy and need for conservation of energy in rural areas. The study has recommended that IREP should be consolidated; higher levels of support should be provided by the State Governments; and monitoring of the programme should be strengthened.

(d) to (f) As brought out in the above study, IREP has achieved success in some aspects, but the implementation aspect needs to be strengthened in Gujarat, among other States, for which increased flow of resources is required from the State Governments.

#### **Ban on Advertisements of Gutkha and Cigarettes on Doordarshan**

2641. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ban the advertisements of Gutkha and Cigarettes on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the loss of revenue to the government from Gutkha and Cigarette advertisements during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that advertisements telecast on Doordarshan are governed by the Code for Commercial Advertising. No advertisements are permitted which relate to, or promote cigarettes and tobacco products.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Advance Light Helicopter**

2642. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether advance light helicopter "Saat Dhruv" are working satisfactorily in the three defence services; and

(b) the total outlay of this project and the number of helicopters inducted so far in the services of defence forces?

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

(b) The outlay of the Project as approved by the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Board is Rs. 57.46 crores towards capital outlay, and Rs. 75.91 crores towards deferred revenue; expenditure. Nine Dhruv helicopters have so far been inducted in the Defence Services and the Indian Coast Guard.

#### **CNG in Bihar**

2643. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of CNG distributorship allotted in Bihar during 2002;

(b) the total number of CNG distributors likely to be set up during 2003-2004 in the State;

(c) whether the inspection of sites has been conducted for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) No Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) distributorship has been allotted in Bihar during the year 2002.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the fact that there are no CNG distribution projects in Bihar at present.

[English]

#### **Setting up of a Cargo Division Depot at Vishakhapatnam**

2644. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to negotiate with the Container Corporation of India for setting up a cargo division depot at Visakhapatnam to provide sufficient transportation for agriculture, aquaculture and horticulture products in the State;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (c) the steps taken to expedite the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) is already operating a rail linked container transfer facility inside Visakhapatnam port. CONCOR is also studying the feasibility of setting up a container terminal at Visakhapatnam to provide transportation for containerized cargo.

[Translation]

**Sale of Petrol and Diesel by  
Jubilee Retail Outlets**

2645. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Petrol and Diesel sold through each of the Jubilee retail outlets regulated by different oil companies in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the details of facilities provided for consumers at each jubilee outlet ever since their commissioning?

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) : (a) and (b) The quantity of petrol and diesel sold during the last three years, i.e., 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, through the Jubilee Retail Outlets (JROs) operated by the Oil Marketing Companies in the State of Madhya Pradesh, and the facilities provided at these JROs, are given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**

S.No.	Location and District of the JROs	Sales during (in Kilolitres)						Facilities provided at the JROs
		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002		
		Petrol	Diesel	Petrol	Diesel	Petrol	Diesel	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Indian Oil Corporation Limited								
1.	Baiora (Kancharia), District Rajgarh	26	2401	98	2001	180	3005	Sales Bldg., Tank & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water and Dhaba & STD/PCO.
2.	Dahmnod NG 3 District Dhar	-	-	116	2235	364	7043	Sales Bldg., Tank. & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water facility.
3.	Sironja Sagar NH 23, District Sagar	36	470	84	1976	78	1936	Sales Bldg., Tank & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water and Dhaba & STD/PCO.
4.	Jabalpur (Hathna), District Jabalpur	-	-	6	294	66	2015	Sales Bldg., Tank & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water facility.



1	2	3		4		5		6
5.	Satrunda, District Ratlam	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sales Bldg., Tank & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water facilities.
6.	Dewas Shajapur Road, District Dewas	-	-					Sales Bldg., Tank & Pumps, Yard lighting, Canopy, Signages, Air, Toilet, Water facility.
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited								
7.	Ashta, District Sehore	0	6	258	2226	321	2763	Free air, Water Cooler, Toilets, Parking available, Bathing space and Multiple Associated Facility block comprising of Dhaba, Store, STD/PCO, Tyre repair shop under construction.
8.	Tewri, District Katni	0	6	69	963	84	912	Free air, Water cooler, Toilets, Bathing space, Dhaba, Store, Parking.
9.	Satrati, District Khargone	0	12	201	2728	213	3483	Free air, Water Cooler, Toilets, Bathing Space, Dhaba, Sotre, Puncture repair shop and Parking.
10.	Amia Pitha, District Ratlam	0	6	55	233	158	1452	Free air, Water Cooler, Toilets, Bathing Space, Dhaba, Store Puncture repair shop and Parking.

[English]

**Counter Guarantee to Power Sector**

2646. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of counter guarantees in power sector signed by the Government since March, 2001;

(b) the terms of these counter guarantees;

(c) whether any more requests for counter guarantees are pending with the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Government of India (GOI) counter guarantee scheme for power projects was developed as a transitory measure to boost private investment and it was decided in 1994 to extend GOI counter guarantee to 8 initial projects that had been cleared for making foreign investment in the power sector. It was also decided that the GOI counter guarantee would not be extended to any more power projects other than the eight power projects already approved. No GOI counter guarantee has been extended to any private sector power project since March, 2001.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No request for GOI counter guarantee for any private sector power project is pending with the Government of India.

- (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Investment in Power Projects in West Bengal**

2647. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any investments in the power projects in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of investment during the last two years, project-wise; and

(c) the amount of the State Government's share in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Damodar Valley Corporation has taken up Mejia Thermal Power Station Unit 4 (210 MW) for implementation at a cost of Rs. 797.819 crore. The details of expenditure incurred are given below:

2000-01	Rs.0.45 Crore
2001-02	Rs. 70.03 crore
2002-03 (Upto October 2003)	Rs.33.62 crore (provisional)

Government of West Bengal have not contributed any share for the above mentioned projects.

The expenditure incurred on the Purulia Pumped Storage Scheme (4x225 MW) in West Bengal during 2000-01 and 2001-02 was Rs.64.10 crore and Rs.101.29 crore, respectively.

[English]

### **Dues to ONGC from IFFCO and Gujarat State Fertilizers**

2648. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge arrears are due to ONGC from IFFCO and Gujarat State Fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details of unpaid dues; and

(c) the measures being taken by the ONGC to recover those dues?

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): (a) to (c) According to Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), they have outstanding dues from Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Gujarat State Fertilizer Corporation Limited (GSFC). These dues are primarily on account of the difference in gas pricing between ONGC's claim on thermal equivalence pricing during the period from April, 1982 to January, 1987 and prices paid by these Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). The outstanding dues, excluding interest, are as follows:

(i)	IFFCO	-	Rs. 218 crores
(ii)	GSFC	-	Rs. 118 crores

The issue has been taken up by ONGC with these PSUs as also with the Central Government and the State Government of Gujarat.

### **Merger of MRPL with ONGC**

2649. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) have decided to merge the Madras Refineries and Petroleum Limited (MRPL) with itself to effect tax saving as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the amount of tax to be saved consequent on the merger;

(c) whether the ONGC also propose to acquire the 37.39% stake of HPCL earlier held by it in the MRPL;

(d) if so, the estimated cost of the HPCL's stake;

(e) whether ONGC is holding negotiations with various companies for exploration of overseas gas fields; and

(f) if so, details of the overseas gas fields identified and the result of the negotiations held in this regard?

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): (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has submitted a proposal to the Government to acquire majority stake in

**Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL).** No decision has been taken by the Government as yet.

(c) and (d) As part of restructuring, to further improve the viability of MRPL, ONGC has expressed an interest in acquiring Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)'s shares.

(e) and (f) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), a 100% subsidiary of ONGC, has acquired participating interest in gas fields/blocks in Vietnam, United States of America and Myanmar. In addition, the company has acquired stakes in oil and gas field of Sakhalin-I Project in Russia. OVL is also pursuing opportunities in other countries like Libya and Kazakhstan.

#### **Telebooking Facilities for Railway Passengers**

2650. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway have introduced Telebooking facilities for the benefit of railway passengers recently all over the country, State-wise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) To provide reservation to the passengers on phone on the authority of a co-branded Railway Credit Card issued by Standard Chartered Bank, a Tele Booking scheme has been introduced only at Indian Railway Conference Association (IRCA) Building, New Delhi.

#### **Underground Sewerage System in Secunderabad Cantonment**

2651. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to release special grants to introduce underground sewerage system in the Secunderabad Cantonment and to streamline stream water through drainage system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have cleared the

financial and administrative sanction of expanding and remodelling of age old culverts in Secunderabad Cantonment specially at Lakshminagar and other places as proposed by the Defence authorities of Secunderabad Cantonment;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Secunderabad Cantonment Board being self-sufficient is in a position to undertake development activities from its own resources. Board has approved its participation in the integrated underground drainage scheme to be executed by Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board. Storm Water drainage is being repaired/laid in a phased manner also.

(d) to (f) The Board has widened the culverts of Bolton Road and reconstructed the old culverts at Viman Nagar. The proposal for reconstruction of culverts at Lakshminagar out of its own funds has been taken up by the Cantonment Board.

[Translation]

#### **NCE Programme in Bihar**

2652. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any concrete plan to cover more areas of Bihar under non-conventional energy programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) Wide ranging schemes/programmes such as biogas, integrated rural energy programme, energy parks, solar photovoltaics, small hydro power, wind power, biomass power, solar power, biomass gasifiers, solar thermal energy programme, solar cookers, new technologies and energy from wastes, are being implemented for development and utilization of non-conventional energy sources throughout the country including Bihar, during the 10th Five Year Plan period.

500 Biogas Plants; 500 Solar Home Lighting Systems; 200 Solar Street Lighting Systems; and 25 Solar Water Pumping Systems are planned for installation during 2002-

03 in Bihar against which total funds of Rs.66.00 lakhs have been allocated. In addition, 10 Small Hydro Power Projects of 15 MW capacity are under construction and electrification of 22 unelectrified villages through solar energy has also been taken up in the State.

[English]

#### **Oman-Indian Natural Gas Pipeline Project**

2653. SHRI M. DURAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oman-India natural gas pipeline project has been shelved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government not to invite those whom the work was assigned earlier in case of future proposals?

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): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Oman-India Pipeline project had to be shelved due to the following reasons:-

- Technical feasibility of the project could not be established.
- Adequate gas reserves were not earmarked for the project.
- Pipeline laying contractors were not willing to accept engineering and pre-commissioning risks and were not willing to spend money to demonstrate their proposed methodology; and
- Lack of proven technology to undertake deep-sea repair.

(c) Does not arise in view of the fact that the project was dropped at the feasibility stage.

#### **Mobile Train Radio Communication**

2654. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Duplex Mobile Train Communication is in operation in the Indian Railways at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area covered by Indian Railways under this system, State-wise;

(d) the number of proposals pending for increasing this system in other routes; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Railways to cover all routes under this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Duplex Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) is in operation on the following sections of Indian Railways:-

- (i) Bhusawal- Itarsi - Nagpur (CR)
- (ii) Nagpur - Durg (SER)
- (iii) Delhi - Mughalsarai (NR) (on selected Trains)
- (iv) Churchgate - Virar (WR) (on Suburban Trains)

Besides, 6 works covering a total of 2415 Route Kms. on Central, Eastern, East Central, Northern & Northeast Frontier Railways have been sanctioned and are in various stages of progress

(d) and (e) Ministry of Railways have accepted Railway Safety Review Committee recommendation for provision of MTRC on A, C & B routes of Indian Railways. Accordingly, works of MTRC are being proposed to be sanctioned on these routes depending upon the availability of resources.

#### **Appointment on Compassionate Ground**

2655. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than three hundred persons are waiting for turn to get job in Railways on Compassionate ground at Nagpur division of Central Railway and South Eastern Railway;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in providing job to them; and

(d) time by which each of them is likely to get appointment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. Only 219 persons are waiting for appointment on compassionate ground at Nagpur Division of Central Railway and South Eastern Railway.

(b) Of these 219 persons, 74 persons are waiting for appointment on compassionate ground in Group 'C' and 145 in Group 'D'.

(c) Delays in providing job on compassionate ground occur due to the wards being minor, non-availability of suitable posts, legal cases pending in Courts etc.

(d) All efforts are made to settle all the pending cases as quickly as possible.

[Translation]

#### Relaxation in D.T.H. Rules

2656. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one media business house has applied for Direct-to-Home (D.T.H.) Service so far which has been introduced in the country two years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some other measures alongwith relaxation in D.T.H. rules; and

(d) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Two applications have been received seeking permission to start DTH service in the country.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Retail Outlets of BPCL in Bihar

2657. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of retail outlets of BPCL pending for commissioning after selection through DSB since 1999 in the State of Bihar;

(b) whether the above retain outlets are pending for the want of land on lease basis from the respective LOI holders;

(c) if so, whether BPCL has offered the market price to the LOI holders for the site;

(d) whether BPCL is also following the industry practice for 10% escalation on the land on lease after every one year;

(e) if not, the reasons for discrimination; and

(f) the action being taken by the BPCL for early commissioning of retail outlets?

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): (a) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) have got 24 Retail Outlet (RO) Dealerships pending for commissioning after selection through DSB since 1999 in the State of Bihar. The details of these 24 locations are given in statement enclosed.

(b) Only two locations namely Madanpur (Aurangabad District) and Kishanganj (Kishanganj District) are pending for want of land on lease basis from the LOI holders.

(c) For location Madanpur, BPCL have offered lease rentals based on valuation by Government Approved Valuer. For Kishanganj location, LOI holder has not yet offered a suitable land.

(d) There is no common Industry practice on escalation of lease rental. BPCL has got its own policy for lease of land for setting up of ROs.

(e) Does not arise in view of 'd' above.

(f) BPCL officers at various levels are actively involved in follow up with the LOI holders and other statutory authorities for early commissioning of the Retail Outlets.

#### Statement

Sr.No.	Location	District
1	2	3
1.	Madanpur	Aurangabad
2.	Aurangabad Bye Pass	Aurangabad
3.	Banka Municipal Area	Banka
4.	Begusarai-III	Begusarai
5.	Narainpur	Bhagalpur
6.	Gopinathpur	Buxar

1	2	3
7.	Chaka	E. Champaran
8.	Motihari	E. Champaran
9.	Chhauradano	E. Champaran
10.	Barachati	Gaya
11.	Gaya	Gaya
12.	Bathua Bazar	Gopal Ganj
13.	Jahanabad	Jahanabad
14.	Parvata	Khagaria
15.	NH. No. 31-Kishanganj	Kishanganj
16.	Benipatti	Madhubani
17.	Sijolia	Madhubani
18.	Giryak	Nalanda
19.	Bihar Sharif	Nalanda
20.	Patan Bye Pass	Patna
21.	Purnea	Purnea
22.	Sarauni	Saharsa
23.	Bela	Sitamarhi
24.	Pipra Bazar	Supaul

#### ONGC's Surplus Fund

2658. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to tap the ONGC's surplus fund kitty of approximately Rs. 6000 crores by way of special dividends;

(b) if so, whether the ONGC has attained a Zero-debt status recently and need internal funds to acquire a stake in Sudan oilfields and also to meet the increased cess on crude oil;

(c) if so, whether such move of the Government will weaken the ONGC's reserve base and adversely affect its future growth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) The decision to tap the surplus fund of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) by way of special dividend has not been taken by the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of above reply.

#### Recommendations of Dr. Rakesh Mohan Committee

2659. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee of senior officers of railway board constituted to study various recommendations made in the report of Dr. Rakesh Mohan Committee has submitted their report;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Shortage of Wagons

2660. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of railway wagons for exporting wheat over the last few months;

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

(c) the demand of wagons made by the concerned agencies for exporting wheat during October-November, 2002;

(d) the wagons supplied by the Railways during said period for export of wheat; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to meet the shortage of wagons for export of wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e)  
The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

#### Seniority List of Employees

2661. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.3781 on December 13, 2001 and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the desired information is proposed to be ascertained?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The Assurance given to Unstarred Question No.3781 (H) answered on 13.12.2001 has already been fulfilled by this Ministry on 05.7.2002.

[English]

#### Acquisition of Aircraft

2662. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to procure Executive Jet aircraft for carriage of V.I.P.;

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

(c) the present position of the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Government is planning to procure Executive Jets for carriage of V.I.P. Negotiations with the vendor are in progress. It would not be possible to lay down a time limit for the procurement.

#### Revival of Terminated Dealerships

2663. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have empowered the oil PSU's to take decision on the issue of revival of terminated dealerships and condonation of delay in commissioning the Retail Outlets dealerships etc. due to the lifting of administered prices mechanism;

(b) if so, whether the BPCL has revived some such dealerships;

(c) if so, whether the other PSU's are also empowered to take similar decision on the above issues; and

(d) if so, the mode of submission of the application for getting the relief?

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): (a) to (d) While there is no restriction imposed by the Government on the oil marketing companies (OMCs) in the matter of condonation of any delay in commissioning of retail outlet dealerships, the OMCs are not empowered to take decision on the issue of revival of terminated retail outlet and SKO-LDO dealerships. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has revived two retail outlet dealerships, which were terminated earlier, based on approval obtained from the Government.

#### Purchase Preference Policy

2664. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to extend Purchase Preference policy for products and services of Central PSUs for another two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to make the all PSUs the cost-efficient and self-supportive?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government have extended the

purchase preference policy for products made and services rendered by Central Public Sector Undertakings for another two years i.e. from 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2004 and the guidelines in this regard have been issued vide DPE's O.M. dated 14.6.2002.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government have taken various steps from time to time to make Central PSUs cost-efficient and self-supportive, which inter alia include periodical review of their performance by the concerned administrative Ministries/ Departments, business and financial restructuring, technology upgradation, infusion of fresh funds, professionalisation of Board of Directors, delegation of greater powers, memorandum of understanding, formation of joint ventures, purchase preference for products and services of PSUs, rationalization of manpower, etc.

[Translation]

#### **Power Generated from NCES**

2665. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop non - conventional energy sources under various sectors to deal with the power crisis;

(b) if so, the proposed plans, projects and estimates in this regard;

(c) the quantum of power generated from biogas, solar energy, wind mills, sea water and other non-conventional energy sources in Jamnagar and other districts of Gujarat, Mumbai and Delhi since 1999 till date alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) the amount spent on each source of power during each of the last three years; and

(e) the target fixed to generate power from these sources during the year 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry has proposed capacity addition of about 3075 MW from various non-conventional energy sources such as Solar, Wind, Biomass and Small Hydro Power, against which total funds of Rs.895.00 crores have been allocated for the 10th Five Year Plan Period.

(c) and (d) The status of power generation from various non-conventional energy sources in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Delhi, which includes various districts of these States and the details of funds provided during the last three years i.e. 1999-2000 to 2001-02, are given in the statement enclosed. Most of the capacity has been installed as commercial projects through private investments.

(e) A capacity addition of 400 MW from various non-conventional energy sources is envisaged during the current financial year 2002-03.

#### **Statement**

*Details of Power Generation From Various Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra & Delhi and Funds Provided by the Ministry during 1999-2000 to 2001-02.*

#### **A. Details of Power Generation**

Sl.No.	Programme	Gujarat	Maharashtra	Delhi
1	Wind Power	-	370 MW	-
2	Biomass Power & Bagasse Co-generation	-	15.50 MW	-
3	Biomass Gasifier	7440 KW	700 KW	-
4	Solar Power	-	75 KW	10 KW
5	Small Hydro Power	-	29 MW	-
6	Waste-to-Energy	450 KW	900 KW	-



**B. Details of Funds Provided (Rs. in crores)**

Sl.No.	Programme	Gujarat			Maharashtra			Delhi		
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	Wind Power	0.04	0.00	0.00	1.88	0.02	0.96	0.00	0.01	0.00
2	Biomass Power and Bagasse Co-generation	0.13	0.06	0.32	6.05	0.74	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.10
3	Biomass Gasifier	0.03	0.15	0.56	0.01	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Solar Power	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Small Hydro Power	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.01	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Waste-to-Energy	0.25	0.00	0.20	1.55	3.60	0.74	0.28	0.24	0.10

MW= Mega watt; KW= Kilo Watt.

[English]

**Recruitment of Gangmen and Trackmen**

2666. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Divisional Office of South-Eastern Railway has a authority to fill up the posts of gangmen and trackmen despite it is mandatory that only RRB would carry recruitment drive;

(b) if not, the reasons for conducting such drives by Divisional Authority;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the female candidates were subjected to an excruciating physical test in this recruitment drive;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether these tests are mandatory for all participants; and

(g) if not, the reasons for conducting these tests?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Female candidates are required to qualify the Physical Efficiency Test norms, as laid down, in view of job requirements of the posts which are as under:

- (i) should be able to lift and carry 20 Kg of weight for a distance of 100 metre in 02 minutes in one chance without putting the weight down; and
- (ii) should be able to run for a distance of 400 metre in 04 minutes in one chance.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Suggestions of BHEL**

2667. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BHEL has submitted certain suggestions to the Government to make public sector undertakings competitive at the world level;

(b) if so, the main points of the said suggestions; and

- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) BHEL has not submitted any suggestions to the Government to make public sector undertakings competitive at the world level.

- (b) Not applicable.  
(c) Not applicable.

[English]

**Firing on Indian Fishermen by  
Thailand Fishing Trawlers**

2668. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Thailand Fishing trawlers fired indiscriminately on Indian Fishermen in the North Pargana District of West Bengal in the second week of November, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government so far in this regard and also to stop such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The incident of alleged firing by Thai Trawlers at Indian fishermen in the Bay of Bengal was not confirmed after an interaction with the local fishermen by the Coast Guard units deployed in the area.

However, continued presence of Coast Guard units is being maintained in the area to prevent intrusion by foreign fishing vessels into Indian waters.

**Supply of Spares for RADAR  
System to Indonesia**

2669. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had signed a defence agreement with Indonesia last year;

(b) whether as per the terms of the agreement India would supply spare parts and other equipment for Indonesian armed forces: •

(c) if so, whether Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has failed to provide spares to Indonesia for radar system causing embarrassment to India; and

(d) if so, the action taken to resolve the problems in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. India and Indonesia signed an Agreement for Defence Cooperation in January 2001.

(b) The Agreement, inter-alia, provides for promoting cooperation between the defence industries of the two countries in areas of mutual interest, including product support.

(c) and (d) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) had made a commitment to Indonesia to supply spares and components of TRS 2215 Radar, which was originally supplied to them by M/s Thomson CSF (now Thales Air Defence Systems). This was on the basis of the fact that BEL had earlier obtained approval for manufacture of this equipment under Transfer of Technology from the Original Equipment Manufacturers and also obtained permission to export these Radar Systems to Indonesia. The Original Equipment Manufacturer has now informed BEL that due to changes in procedure, BEL has to obtain necessary authorisation for export directly from the French Government. BEL has taken up the clearance issue at the highest level with Thales Air Defence Systems for confirming export offer to Indonesia for supply of the Radar spares.

[Translation]

**Honour Bestowed on Indian Soldiers**

2670. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has recently honoured the Indian soldiers who had fought in the second world war;

(b) if so, the number of such soldiers; and

(c) the name of the places of residence of these soldiers along with the cantonments where they were deployed in?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government have no information about this.

**Una-Nangal-Talwada Rail Line***[English]*

2671. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request was made in Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee to enhance the funds allocated for construction of Una-Nangal-Talwada broad gauge rail line during the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the amount of funds likely to be spent on construction of the said rail line during the current financial year?

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

(b) During the Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee meeting held on 25.9.2002, it was mentioned that there is requirement of Rs. 40-50 crore for early completion of the project.

(c) and (d) The necessary funds as required for the current year will be considered during the budgetary reviews. The amount likely to be spent on the project during the current year would depend upon the progress of work in the coming months.

**Stage of Kuriarkutty-Karappara Hydro Power Project**

2672. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present Status of Hydro Electric Projects in the country particularly in Kerala along with their capacity, project-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government for early completion of Kuriarkutty-Karappara Hydro Electric Project;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The project-wise details of hydro-electric projects under execution in the country along with their installed capacity and the latest commissioning schedule are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) The Revised Detailed Project Report of Karappara-Kuriarkutty Multipurpose Hydroelectric Scheme (84 MW) was returned by the Central Water Commission to the State Government of Kerala in February 2001 due to major deficiencies with a request to comply with the comments and submit a single modified project report for irrigation & power components.

**Statement***I. Ongoing Hydro-Electric Projects in the Country**(Excluding Renewables under Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources)*

S.No.	Name of Scheme	State	Installed Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule (Lates)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Central Sector</b>					
1.	Dhauliganga (NHPC)	Uttaranchal	280.00	2004-05	
2.	Chamera Stage-II (NHPC)	H.P.	300.00	2004-05	
3.	Dulhasti (NHPC)	J&K	390.00	2003-04	
4.	Purulia PSS (NHPC)	W.B.	900.00	2006-07	Joint Venture
5.	Teesta Stage-V(NHPC)	Sikkim	510.00	2006-07	

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Loktak D/S (NHPC)	Manipur	90.00	2008-09	Works held up
7.	Parbati Stage-II (NHPC)	H.P.	800.00	2009-10	
8.	Indira Sagar (NHDC)	M.P.	1000.00	2004-06	Joint Venture
9.	Nathpa Jhakri (NJPC)	H.P.	1500.00	2003-04	
10.	Tehri Stage-I (THDC)	Uttaranchal	1000.00	2002-04	
11.	Koteshwar (THDC)	Uttaranchal	400.00	2005-06	
12.	Tuirial (NEEPCO)	Mizoram	60.00	2006-07	
13.	Kopili Stage-II (NEEPCO)	Assam	25.00	2003-04	
14.	Kol Dam (NTPC)	H.P.	800.00	2008-10	
	Total (Central Sector)		8055.00		
<b>State Sector</b>					
<b>Northern Region</b>					
15.	Baglihar	J&K	450.00	2004-05	
16.	Larji	H.P.	126.00	2004-05	
17.	Maneri Bhali II	Uttaranchal	304.00	2005-06	
18.	Lakhwar-Vyasi	Uttaranchal	420.00	11th Plan	Works held up
	Total (Northern Region)		1300.00		
<b>Western Region</b>					
19.	Sardar Sarovar	Gujarat/M.P./Mah.	1450.00	2002-07	U-2 & 3 of CHPH rolled
20.	Madhikheda	M.P.	40.00	2004-05	
21.	Bansagar Tons PH IV	M.P.	20.00	2004-05	
22.	Ghatghar PSS	Mah.	250.00	2004-05	
	Total (Western Region)		1760.00		
<b>Southern Region</b>					
23.	Priyadarshni Jurala	A.P.	235.00	2006-07 (Two Units) & Four Units in 11th Plan	
24.	Srisaillam LBPH	A.P.	900.00	2000-04	U-1 to 4 commissioned
25.	Almatti Dam	KTK	290.00	2004-06	
26.	Pykara Ultimate	T.N.	150.00	2003-04	

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Bhawani Barrage I to III	T.N.	90.00	2004-05	Inter-state problem
	Total (Southern Region)		1665.00		
<b>Eastern Region</b>					
28.	Balimela Extension	Orissa	150.00	2005-07	
29.	Balimela Dam Toe PH	Orissa	60.00	11th Plan	Works held up
	Total (Eastern Region)		210.00		
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>					
30.	Karbi Langpi (Lower Borpani)	Assam	100.00	2004-05	
31.	Myntdu	Meghalaya	84.00	2006-07	
	Total (North-Eastern Region)		184.00		
	Total (State Sector)		5119.00		
<b>Private Sector</b>					
32.	Baspa Stage-II	H.P.	300.00	2003-04	Likely to be commissioned in 2002-03
33.	Dhamwari Sunda	H.P.	70.00	2006-07	
34.	Vishnu Prayag	U.P.	400.00	2006-07	
35.	Maheshwar	M.P.	400.00	2005-07	
	Total (Private Sector)		1170.00		
	Total (All India)		14344.00		
Hydro Capacity already spun/commissioned out of above			700.00		
Net Hydro Capacity under execution			13644.00		

*II. Sanctioned Hydro-Electric Projects in the Country on which works are yet to be taken up.*

*(Excluding Renewables under Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources)*

S.No.	Name of Scheme	State	Installed Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule (Latest)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>State Sector</b>					
<b>Northern Region</b>					
1.	Kashang	H.P.	66.00	2006-07	
2.	Uhl-III	H.P.	100.00	11th Plan	

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Shahpurkandi	Punjab	168.00	2006-07	
	Total		334.00		
<b>Southern Region</b>					
4.	Kuttiyadi Aug.	Kerala	100.00	2006-07	Inter-State problem
	Total (Southern Region)		100.00		
	Total (State Sector)		434.00		
<b>Private Sector</b>					
5.	Allian Dohangan	H.P.	192.00	2008-09	
6.	Srinagar	U.P.	330.00	11th Plan	
	Total (Private Sector)		522.00		
	Total (All India)		956.00		

[Translation]

#### **Closure of LPG Agencies**

2673. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies lying closed at present in the country and particularly in Rajasthan and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to reopen these agencies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the alternative arrangements made in this regard?

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): (a) As on 1.12.2002, 226 LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are lying closed in the country including 6 in the State of Rajasthan due to various reasons like involvement in malpractices, violation of distributorship agreements etc.

(b) and (c) As a matter of policy, OMCs do not

restore the agencies which have been terminated on account of irregularities/misconduct.

(d) The customers of terminated distributors are being served through the nearest distributor available in the market, till the commissioning of a regular distributor in place of terminated distributor.

[English]

#### **Setting up of Solar Energy Projects in Meghalaya**

2674. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to set up solar energy projects in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the solar energy projects are likely to be set up there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing solar energy and village

electrification programmes all over the country, including the state of Meghalaya. Under these programmes installation of different types of solar energy systems and power plants is being promoted with capital and interest subsidies. These programmes are being implemented in Meghalaya by the Meghalaya Non-Conventional & Rural Energy Development Agency (MNREDA), Shillong.

As on 31/3/2002, a total of 4,875 solar lanterns, 540 solar home systems, 593 solar street lighting systems, 7 solar water pumping systems, 67 solar water heating systems and 1,030 solar cookers have been installed in the state. In addition, the MNREDA has installed 25 nos. of village level solar photovoltaic (SPV) power plants of aggregate 42 kWp capacity.

Under the Solar Photovoltaic Programme of the Ministry for the current year, a target for installation of 600 solar home systems has been allocated to MNREDA. The State agency has also forwarded a few proposals for electrification of villages through installation of SPV power plants this year. There is also a proposal to install solar lighting systems in 3 villages i.e. Hingaria, Huroi and Lailong in District Jawai in the State with subsidy from the Ministry and funds from the MPLAD Scheme. The public sector undertaking which prepared the project proposal, M/s Central Electronics Limited, has been asked to revise it in line with the Ministry's programme guidelines. The revised proposal, when received, would be considered for sanction by the Ministry.

#### **Survey for Mysore-Mangalore and Mysore-Tellicherry Line**

2675. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted survey for construction of Mysore-Mangalore and Mysore-Tellicherry new rail lines in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spend thereon; and

(c) the progress of the survey as on date, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) A survey for construction of new rail line from Mysore to Mangalore is already in progress. Field Survey has been completed and report is under process. Further consideration of this project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

A survey for construction of new line from Mysore to Tellicherry via Coorg has already been completed in 1997-98. As per the survey report, cost of construction of 298 km. long line has been assessed as Rs. 864 crore with rate of return of (-) 3.66%. In view of grossly unremunerative nature of the line and heavy throw forward of ongoing projects, it has not been found feasible to consider this project.

#### **Restructuring of MRPL**

2676. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has made any necessary financial arrangements for the restructuring of MRPL;

(b) if so, the cost of such restructuring for ONGC

(c) the benefits to ONGC from this huge expense

(d) whether ONGC expects to get back adequate returns for this investment; and

(e) the details of plans of ONGC to obtain a fair return for its huge investment in MRPL, especially the latest restructuring costs proposed by ICICI?

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): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cost for ONGC includes Rs.59.43 crore for acquisition of entire shareholding of Aditya Birla Group in MRPL and Rs.600 crore towards infusion as additional equity.

(c) to (e) ONGC expects internal rate of return of over 17% for its investment in MRPL. Acquisition of MRPL by ONGC will enable ONGC to set up the retail outlets sanctioned to it under the marketing rights for transportation fuels. Further, owning and operating of MRPL refinery by ONGC would make it a vertically integrated oil company.

#### **Allotment of Arms**

2677. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms for allotment of arms on out of turn basis by the Government;

(b) the kinds of arms/weapons are given by the Government on out of turn basis;

(c) the number of arms/weapons have been allotted by the Government on out of turn basis during last three years and current year 2002;

(d) the total number of applications for allotment of arms/weapons on out of basis received by the Government during last three years and current year so far, year-wise;

(e) the number of applications have been rejected for allotment of arms sanctioned for allotment of arms during the above mentioned period; and

(f) the reasons for rejection of applications in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) For out of turn allotment of Non-prohibited Bore Arms a Committee was set up in the Ministry of Defence in 1996-97. Norms for allotment have evolved over a period of time. The Committee scrutinises all applications (in the prescribed proforma along with copy of valid Arms licence) received from the individuals and makes recommendations for allotment of weapon on out-of-turn basis. As per existing norms, out of turn allotment of Non Prohibited Bore Arms to individuals is considered on the basis of threat perception to the applicants based on the information/evidence furnished. The cases of higher dignitaries e.g. Ministers of Union/States, MPs/Ex MPs, MLAs / Ex MLAs, Sr. Members of Judiciary, Sr. Government Officials/Officers of Armed Forces/Police etc. are considered by the Committee on the basis of assumed threat to their lives. Besides this, out of turn allotment of Rifles is considered by the Committee in respect of Armed Forces Public Personnel who intend to seek re-employment as Security Guards after retirement. It has also been decided now that an individual who already holds a weapon and requests for allotment of another weapon on out of turn basis would not be entitled for another weapon on out of turn basis. Allotment of weapons is also considered to Central/State Government Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings etc. on out of turn basis.

(b) The Ministry of Defence allots the following types of Non Prohibited Bore Arms/Weapons on out of turn basis:

0.32 Revolver

0.22 Revolver

0.315 Rifle

0.22 Rifle

(c) The number of out of turn allotments of arms/weapons made to the individuals during the last three years and the current year (2002) is as follows:

Year	Number of Allotments
1999	466
2000	667
2001	490
2002	277
Total	1900

(d) The total number of applications received from individuals for out of turn allotment of arms/weapons during the last 3 years and the current year (2002) is as follows:

Year	Number of applications received
1999	1001
2000	1411
2001	1656
2002	1001
Total	5069

(e) The total number of cases rejected for allotment of arms/weapons on out of turn basis during the above period is 3046 and the number of cases recommended is 1900. The cases now pending are 123.

(f) There was no convincing evidence of threat to the applicants and in some cases the applicants already possessed a weapon.

### Pornographic Films

2678. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of Censor Board has resigned some time ago and urged the Government to reform rules governing pornographic films;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to his suggestions;

(c) whether the Censor Board has not been



functioning in an effective way to curb violence and sex in films; and

(d) if so, the new strategy being formulated to check such rising trends?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the process of considering suggestions to amend the Cinematograph Act 1952 and the rules and guidelines relating to film certification, a committee formed by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) had proposed to examine a suggestion to introduce a new certification category for soft pornographic films. The Government had advised CBFC that consideration of this suggestion was neither desirable nor in order, whereupon the Chairman, CBFC resigned Government policy on the content of films is laid down in the guidelines prescribed in terms of Cinematograph Act. One of the objectives of which is that the medium of films should provide clean and healthy entertainment.

(c) and (d) Each film is examined by the Examining Committee which comprises member of CBFC's Advisory Panels, who are drawn from various segments of society. There is a set of extensive guidelines, which contain the criteria for certification. Although enforcement of the Cinematograph Act is a State Government responsibility, yet CBFC had also hired a private detective agency, during 2001-2002 to carry out regular checks in theatres in the four metropolitan cities to detect cases of violation of the provisions of the Act and report the same to the concerned State authorities for prompt investigation and possible prosecution.

#### **New Power Tariff Policy**

**2679. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:**

**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:**

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power tariff policy has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposed to fix the rates of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) for the purpose of future investment and selection of locations for putting up plants by the power utilities;

(d) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to integrate the interests of developers and consumers in the new power tariff policy?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA):** (a) to (e) Consumer tariff are required to be fixed by the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) in the States where such Commission have been set up under the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC) Act, 1998 or under the State Reform Acts. Where the SERC have not been set up or are yet to become fully functional, tariffs are to be determined by the State Electricity Boards/State Electricity Departments/licensees. The Regulatory Commissions are expected to fix the tariff so as to progressively reflect the cost of supply, encourage efficiency, economy and competition. The Regulatory Commissions are also required to ensure that interest of consumers are safeguarded and at the same time consumers pay for the use of electricity in a reasonable manner based on the average cost of supply.

Section 13(e) of the Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998 envisages the formulation of a tariff policy by the Central Government on the aid and advice of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

A Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Power) to prepare a concept paper on tariff policy. The Group submitted its report in May, 2002.

Since tariff policy is of vital importance for the smooth development of the power sector, it has been considered necessary to have consultations with stakeholders and experts on the report of the working group and to finalise the draft tariff policy thereafter. In order to finalise the tariff policy after taking into account the comments and views of the various stakeholders and experts, a High Level Committee which includes Chairman, CEA and Managing Director of Credit Rating Information Services of India Ltd. (CRISIL) under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Power) was constituted on 7th June, 2002.

#### **Loan from Asian Development Bank**

**2680. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:**

**SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is considering to seek a loan of 300 million U.S. Dollar from the Asian Development Bank;

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

(c) the plan formulated by the Government for the repayment of the said loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways is negotiating a loan of US\$ 313.6 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). It is a sector loan. The loan is being taken to raise resources for sub-projects that are a Part of the National Rail Vikas Yojana.

(c) Government of India would repay the loan to ADB as per the usual terms of the ADB as approved by the Board of Directors of ADB while considering the loan proposal for approval.

[Translation]

#### **Extension of Satna-Rewa Line upto Mirzapur**

2681. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to extend Satna-Rewa railway line up to Mirzapur; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regards?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Terrorist Attacks**

2682. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorists are striking in the cities of the country every other day;

(b) if so, whether any concrete measures taken by the Government to protect the citizens from terrorists attacks;

(c) if so, the details of the orders issued to Army to ensure safety of the citizens; and

(d) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Government has taken a number of steps to combat terrorism. These, inter-alia, include sensitising the State Governments about the threat perceptions with regard to the activities of the militant groups, and devising strategies to counter such activities. Security agencies belonging to Union and States have been working together to tackle the problem. Besides, the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 has been enacted, under which 32 militants organisations have been notified as "Terrorist Organisations". The Government has also taken a number of diplomatic initiatives at various bilateral/multilateral fora for combating trans border terrorism.

#### **LPG in Plants of ONGC**

2683. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of LPG remains stored in LPG plants of the ONGC;

(b) if so, the details of the storage position of LPG plants of ONGC during 2001-2002; and

(c) the quantum of LPG produced during the current year till date?

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): (a) On several occasions, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has had comparatively higher stocks of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), due to delays in its evacuation.

(b) Details of storage capacity of LPG plants of ONGC during 2001-02 are given below:

All figures in Metric Tonne (MT)

Plant	Gross Capacity (Installed)	Available ullage when all spheres are in operation (excluding sphere in dispatch mode)
Hazira	12150	8640
Uran	2430	1296
Gandhar	2547	1358
Ankleshwar	810	324
Total	17937	11618

(c) The quantity of LPG produced from ONGC plants during the current financial year, from April '02 till 28.11.2002, is 7,87,600 M.T. (approximately).

[English]

### Family Courts

2684. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts in the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of cases disposed by these courts annually, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more family courts in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Total number of Family Courts set up in the country is 100. A statement indicating the number of Family Courts, State-wise is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) As per available information, a statement regarding number of cases disposed of by the Family Courts annually, State-wise is given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) to (e) As per Section 3(1) (a) of the Family Courts Act, the State Government after consultation with the respective High Court shall establish Family Courts in cities or towns whose population exceeds one million. The States may also establish Family Courts for such other areas in the State, as they may deem necessary. The Department of Justice has been periodically urging various State Governments/UTs to set up as many Family Courts as required for speedy disposal of family disputes.

The Central Government has decided to encourage setting up of additional 34 Family Courts during the year 2002- 2003 by providing 50% matching recurring and non-recurring grant. So far, grant for setting up of additional 20 Family Courts has been released to the various States during the year 2002-2003.

### Statement-I

#### State-wise break-up of the Family Courts

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Family Courts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Gujarat	4
5.	Jharkhand	4
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
7.	Karnataka	10
8.	Kerala	9
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7
10.	Maharashtra	16
11.	Manipur	1
12.	Orissa	2
13.	Rajasthan	6
14.	Sikkim	1
15.	Tamil Nadu	6
16.	Uttar Pradesh	14
17.	Uttaranchal	5
18.	West Bengal	2
19.	Pondicherry	1
Total		100

### Statement-II

Name of the State	Disposal			
	1999	2000	2001	2002*
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	3937	3728	4242	N
Assam	617	530	840	415 (30.6)

\* as per available information

	2	3	4	5
Binar	319	174	253 (30.6)	N.A.
Gujarat	-	6548	5933	3381 (30.9)
J & K	440	516	178 (30.6)	N.A.
Jharkhand	668	469	54 (30.6)	N.A.
Karnataka	5218	5288	6463	1799 (31.3)
Kerala	11224	12593	11537	N.A.
Maharashtra	13767	13994	14673	7369 (30.6)
Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Orissa	1352	2284	1490	811 (30.6)
Rajasthan	5299	4790 (30.9)	N.A.	N.A.
Sikkim	94	213	250	53 (30.6)
Tamil Nadu	6004	5249	4905	3501 (30.9)
Uttar Pradesh	24503	19803	18885	10244 (30.6)
Uttaranchal	973	588	364	857 (30.9)
West Bengal	395	512	484	N.A.
Pondicherry	449	495	409	425 (30.6)
Total	75259	77774	70960	28855

### Sexual Harassment

2685. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Human Rights Law Network a national network of lawyers and activists along with its partner organisation, Adhikar have launched any training manual to deal with sexual harassment;

(b) whether the Government propose to suggest or advice for the manual by women for women;

(c) whether the Government has obtained the suggestions of non-government organisations all over the country regarding the manual by women for women; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (d) No proposal has yet been received by the Government in respect of the manual by women for women from the Human Rights Law Network or its partner organisation, Adhikar. However, according to information received from the National Commission on Women, a draft Bill entitled "Sexual Harassment at Work Place" has been placed on the Commission's website, eliciting opinions/suggestions on the Bill.

[Translation]

### Setting up of New Units of Thermal Power Stations

2686. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power projects in the country and the number of new units have been set up;

(b) the quantum of power likely to be generated annually as a result of setting up of new units; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) There are 138 thermal power station in the country generating electricity and 13 new thermal units has been synchronized with the grid in the current financial year. The details of these new units along with quantum of power generation targeted during 2003-04 are given as under:-

Name of Project	State	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Likely generation during 2003-04	
				Million Units	Plant Load Factor
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Central Sector</b>					
Simhadri TPP	Andhra Pradesh	U-2	500	3250	74.0
Neyveli TPS-I Exp.	Tamil Nadu	U-1	210	7200	65.2



set up all the Fast Track Courts within three months from the date of judgement.

(d) The financial assistance given by the Union Government for setting up of fast track courts is given in enclosed statement.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Statement**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of the State	Amount sanctioned by Ministry of Finance to States for Fast Track Courts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	- 2249.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	- 52.69
3.	Assam	- 530.11
4.	Bihar	- 4766.39
5.	Chhattisgarh	- 791.10
6.	Goa	- 125.09
7.	Gujarat	- 1939.43
8.	Haryana	- 422.30
9.	Himachal Pradesh	- 27.15
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	- 300.60
11.	Jharkhand	- 2319.34
12.	Karnataka	- 2431.80
13.	Kerala	- 437.19
14.	Madhya Pradesh	- 2223.91
15.	Maharashtra	- 2175.10
16.	Manipur	- 40.22
17.	Meghalaya	- 89.99
18.	Mizoram	- 89.99

1	2	3
19.	Nagaland	- 54.90
20.	Orissa	- 1866.59
21.	Punjab	- 746.10
22.	Rajasthan	- 1198.20
23.	Sikkim	- 10.06
24.	Tamil Nadu	- 1151.90
25.	Tripura	- 73.79
26.	Uttaranchal	- 1587.59
27.	Uttar Pradesh	- 2824.27
28.	West Bengal	- 1331.49
Total		- 31857.00

**Privatisation of Bokajan Cement Factory**

2688. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bokajan Cement Factory is a profit making PSU;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to privatize the said undertaking;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Governments of North-East had been taken into confidence before taking this decision; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) Bokajan Cement Factory is a profit-making unit of Cement Corporation of India (CCI), a Central Public Sector Undertaking. The CCI as a whole has been declared sick by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 (SICA). The BIFR, which is a Quasi-Judicial body, has already directed sale of CCI as a whole, or its plants individually or collectively.

**Airmen in IAF**

2689. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Airmen of Indian Air Force have been prohibited to apply for Group A services of the Government including Civil Services;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government would provide better pay package and amenities to attract young talents inspite of this negative approach of punishing meritorious youngsters by detaining them for 20 years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. Airmen can apply for Group 'A' posts including civil services after completion of 15 years of service.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Power Generated from NCES**

2690. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power being generated from the non-conventional energy sources, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have identified more potential of power generation from non-conventional energy sources especially in tribal areas:

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

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) About 3640 MW of power is being generated from wind, small hydro, biomass, co-generation and waste-to-energy projects in different part of the country. The State-wise break up is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) The power generation potential, including the tribal areas, and progress made so far in regard to various non-conventional energy sources, is given in enclosed Statement-II.

In addition, solar photovoltaic systems and biomass gasifier systems of 111 MW capacity have also been

installed for decentralized applications, particularly in rural, remote and tribal areas.

**Statement-I**

*Statewise Installed Capacity from Renewable Energy Power Projects as on 31st October 2002 in MW*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total (MW) (As on 31.10.2002)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	381.31
2	Arunachal Pradesh	32.37
3	Assam	2.00
4	Bihar	44.90
5	Chhattisgarh	11.20
6	Gujarat	176.85
7	Haryana	52.30
8	Himachal Pradesh	93.24
9	Jammu & Kashmir	102.24
10	Jharkhand	4.05
11	Karnataka	363.48
12	Kerala	71.52
13	Madhya Pradesh	64.28
14	Maharashtra	631.93
15	Manipur	4.70
16	Meghalaya	30.71
17	Mizoram	14.76
18	Nagaland	19.87
19	Orissa	7.30
20	Punjab	125.95
21	Rajasthan	48.95
22	Sikkim	32.60
23	Tamil nadu	1075.63

1	2	3
24	Tripura	16.01
25	Uttar Pradesh	69.00
26	Uttaranchal	61.75
27	West Bengal	90.38
28	Andaman & Nicobar	5.25
29	Others	1.65
Total		3636.18

**Statement-II**

*Potential for Power Generation from Renewable and Installed Capacity as on 31st October 2002*

S. No.	Source	Potential (MW)	Installed Capacity (MW)
1.	Wind Power	45,000	1702.3
2.	Small Hydro	15,000	1461.4
3.	Biomass/Co-generation	19,500	449.9
4.	Waste to Energy	1,700	22.5
5.	Solar	20 MW/sq. km	2.3

[English]

**Amendment in Cantonment Act, 1924**

2691. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to amend the Cantonment Act, 1924;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any suggestion regarding strengthening the Cantonment Boards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Cantonment Act, 1924 is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) It is contemplated to enact a new

Cantonment Act to replace the existing Cantonment Act 1924. The scheme of proposed Cantonment Act is being formulated. The suggestions and recommendations received from various quarters will be given due consideration while formulating the proposed Act. No time frame has been fixed for this purpose.

[Translation]

**New Auto Fuel Policy**

2692. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need for enormous reforms in the Petroleum industry due to the formulation of New Auto Fuel Policy as reported in The Economic Times dated November 8, 2002 under the caption "Fuel policy to burn hole in auto, petro sectors";

(b) if so, the details of the facts in this regard and the improvements likely to be made in the Petroleum Industry under the said reforms;

(c) the additional amount required for such reforms; and

(d) the schemes formulated by the Government for these reforms?

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): (a) to (d) To implement the recommendations made in the Auto Fuel Policy Report, the petroleum industry would be required to make substantial investments in meeting the specifications of petrol and diesel. It is estimated that an investment of around Rs.18,000 crore would need to be made by the year 2005 and an additional investment of around Rs.12,000 crore would be required to be made by the year 2010 to implement the product upgradation project oil refineries.

The projects/schemes for upgradation of petrol and diesel specifications would be finalized and implemented by the oil companies owning and operating refineries.

[English]

**Marketing of Advance Light Helicopters**

2693. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has known keen interest in



the marketing of Advanced Light Helicopters being manufactured by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited at Bangalore;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any negotiations have so far taken place in connection with any other overseas agencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the annual production of these helicopters and the approximate cost of the helicopter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) To attract potential customers, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Israel Aircraft Industries are planning to jointly produce and exhibit an Advanced Light Helicopter demonstrator to be flown during Aero India 2003.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) During 2001-2002, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have delivered 7 Advanced Light Helicopters. 11 Advanced Light Helicopters are planned for delivery in 2002-2003. The basic cost of one Advanced Light Helicopter for export is approximately US \$ 5.25 million. The cost will vary depending on the customer's requirement of role for the equipment.

[Translation]

**Privatisation of SEBs and Power  
Grid Transmission Lines**

2694. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to privatize the power grid transmission lines and state electricity boards which are not working satisfactorily; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b)

No, Sir. There is no proposal to privatize existing transmission lines of POWERGRID. In order to augment the capability of POWER GRID to undertake investment in new transmission lines/inter-regional inter-connectors, it is proposed to use the legal framework for securing private sector investment in the construction of new transmission lines/inter-connections.

The decision to privatize transmission lines in the State sector has to be taken by the concerned State Government after consulting the State Transmission Utility responsible for transmission within the State.

[English]

**DPC by NTPC**

2695. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have convened a meeting of Maharashtra State Electricity Board, National Thermal Power Corporation and GE Capital, a promoter of the Dabhol Power Project on September 25, 2002;

(b) if so, the main purpose of this meeting and the decision taken therein;

(c) whether the Union Government have offered a package of interest and duty concessions to reduce Dabhol Plant's capacity costs and fuel charges to the Maharashtra Government;

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

(e) the names of the States to whom power will be supplied from the Dabhol station;

(f) whether the Union Government have also called another meeting of all concerned on November 11, 2002 to discuss the Dabhol Power Project;

(g) if so the outcome of the discussion; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to rule out any special concession or fresh guarantee to the Enron promoted Dabhol Power Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India (Ministry of Power) had convened a meeting on 25th September, 2002 which was attended by representatives from National Thermal Power Corporation

(NTPC), M/s. GE India, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(b) The meeting was convened to discuss issues relating to restarting of Phase-I of the Dabhol power project. In the meeting, it was decided that a preliminary inspection of the Dabhol power plant would be conducted jointly by M/s. GE India, M/s. Bechtel, NTPC, CEA, MSEB and IDBI, to ascertain its condition and to work out an action plan for restart of phase-I.

(c) to (e) and (h) Indian Financial Institutions having stakes in the Dabhol power project, Government of Maharashtra and sponsors of Dabhol Power Company, have given certain proposals for revival of the Dabhol project which includes grant of certain reliefs/concessions by various agencies such as off-shore and on-shore lenders, Government of Maharashtra, MSEB, project sponsors as well as the Government of India. Any scheme finalised for revival of the Dabhol project would come as a comprehensive package and would have to resolve complex legal, financial and technical issues. While this may take time, as a first step, it has been agreed that an interim revival package for restarting phase-I be worked out by the concerned agencies. NTPC has agreed to act as Operation & Maintenance contractor for running phase-I. The agencies concerned i.e. MSEB, GE India, Bechtel, IDBI, NTPC and the CEA as the representative of Ministry of power, have conducted an inspection of the plant and are presently engaged in discussions for restart of Phase-I. Government of Maharashtra has conveyed that MSEB would recommence off-take of entire power from the existing phase-I power station, with certain conditions.

(f) and (g) Preliminary inspection of the Dabhol power plant was carried out jointly by M/s. GE India, M/s. Bechtel, NTPC, CEA, MSEB and IDBI from October 28-30, 2002. A meeting was held in the Ministry of Power on 11th November, 2002 to review the observations made by the officials who had visited the plant site. The observations of the team were reviewed in the said meeting, where it was decided that a more detailed assessment and internal inspection of the equipment would need to be carried out by a team of experts, so as to ascertain the time frame for restarting the project as well as the likely expenditure involved.

#### **Merger of BRPL with Coal**

2696. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to merge BRPL with IOCL as a corrective measure of rescuing the overall danger-prone and bottleneck affected concerned refinery;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the profitability of Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (BRPL):-

(i) Government of India have given 50% excise duty relief on products produced and sold from BRPL with effect from 1.3.2002.

(ii) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), the holding company of BRPL, has taken responsibility of product evacuation of BRPL and sharing of technical expertise with BRPL.

(iii) BRPL has taken in-house steps like optimization of product mix for maximum value addition, manpower optimization with suitable redeployment, for improving the physical and financial performance.

*[Translation]*

#### **Running of Long Distance Trains Behind Schedule**

2697. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently passengers have to undergo severe inconvenience as a result of the most of the long distance trains running behind their schedule;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received a number of complaints from passengers of different States especially from passengers of Konkan railway in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to ensure that the trains run in time?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Complaints are received regarding late running of specific trains from MPs/MLAs/Public at National, Zonal, Divisional and Stations' levels. These are examined and action, as appropriate and justified, is taken.

(e) The following steps are being taken to improve the punctuality of trains:

1. Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains at all the three levels viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railway Board.
2. Punctuality drives are being conducted by nominating officials to monitor trains.
3. Running of trains at maximum permissible speed subject to observance of safety limits and speed restriction.
4. Improvement in Time tabling to provide a clear path.
5. Improvement in standard of maintenance to reduce equipment failures.
6. Counselling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.
7. Liaison with State Governments to tackle the Law and Order problems and miscreant activities.

[English]

#### **Earnings from Cable Television**

2698. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge earnings from cable television are a bone of contention between operators and broadcasters;

(b) the approximate earnings per year from subscribers and advertisers; and

(c) the action proposed to amend the Cable Network Regulation Act, 1995 at an early date to benefit the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-

CASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) This Ministry does not maintain record of earnings of cable operators or broadcasters. There was no legal provisions in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 or the Rules framed thereunder to regulate the subscription charges levied by the pay channels/cable operators or the charges payable by the cable operators to the TV Broadcasting Companies. There are purely contractual affairs between the Broadcasting Companies, cable operators and the subscribers and are market driven.

(c) Government had introduced the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2002 with a view to mandating an addressable system for pay channel viewing, through cable networks. The system when mandated will allow the consumer to choose and pay for the channel(s) he wishes to watch.

#### **Acquisition of Land for Construction of Sambalpur-Talcher Rail Line**

2699. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired by the Government for construction of Sambalpur-Talcher rail line in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the number of people affected due to the acquisition of their land;

(c) if so, whether those displaced/affected people have been suitably compensated;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) A total of 1396.18 hectares. This includes 218.033 hectares of Government land, 928.523 hectares of private land, and 249.624 hectares of forest land.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An amount of Rs. 12.11 crore has been paid as compensation. 76 affected persons have been offered employment in Sambalpur Division of South Eastern Railway.

(e) Does not arise.

**Finalization of Rules and Service  
Conditions for Employees**

2700. SHRI SURESH KURUP:

SHRI SURESH RAMARAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati has finalized the recruitment rules and service conditions of its staff;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for not to transfer employees of AIR/Doordarshan to Prasar Bharati Board till the Rules and Regulations for the employee of the later are notified?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) The finalisation of recruitment rules and conditions of service of Prasar Bharati employees involves inter-Ministerial consultations. While steps were being taken to finalise the recruitment rules and service conditions of the different categories of employees, Joint Forum of Akashvani and Doordarshan Engineering Employees gave a call for strike demanding, inter-alia, their association in the process of framing of the rules and regulations. The Prasar Bharati Management has, on 18th September, 2002, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Joint Forum which provides for a comprehensive review of various rules and regulations.

(c) The transfer of employees of AIR/Doordarshan to Prasar Bharati, can be effected in terms of the provisions of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, only after the recruitment rules and service conditions of employees have been finalised.

[Translation]

**Strengthening of Power System in Rajasthan**

2701. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds provided by his Ministry for strengthening the power system in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) whether the concerned department has spent the allocated funds; and

(c) the scheme formulated for strengthening the power system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Jodhpur District consist of two electrical distribution circles, viz. City Circle and Jodhpur District circle. Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), an amount of Rs.29.42 crores has been released by the Government of India in the year 2000-01 for upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system in Jodhpur. During the year 2002-03, an amount of Rs.270.62 crores has been sanctioned under APDRP for the two circles in Jodhpur and a sum of Rs.28.40 crores has been released by the Government of India to the State of Rajasthan for the APDRP projects, which includes the above circles of Jodhpur.

As per information available, an amount of Rs.16.12 crores has been utilised till date for the three circles in Rajasthan viz. Alwar, Jhunjunu and Jodhpur.

The scheme for strengthening of the power system consists of re-conductoring of old and overloaded distribution lines, upgradation of transforms, metering up to consumer level, installation of capacitors, etc.

**Power Generation**

2702. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the annual quantum of power generation in the country in the last decade, state wise;

(b) whether the total generation of power in the last decade was very low in comparison to the power generated by other countries particularly in China;

(c) the reasons for low power generation;

(d) whether the Government have fixed new targets for increasing the power generation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The annual electricity generation in the country, State-wise during the period 1992-93 to 2001-02 is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) According to 1998 Energy Year Book brought out by United Nations, the Net installed generation capacity and total reduction of electricity during the year

1998, in India was 1,07,453 MW and 494.38 Billion units and in China 2,31,167 MW and 1166.20 Billion Units.

(d) and (e) A feasible capacity addition programme of 41,110 MW comprising of 14,393 MW Hydro, 25,417 MW Thermal and 1,300 MW Nuclear has been proposed during

the 10th Plan. The capacity addition would help in increasing power generation during the 10th Plan. This capacity is to be set up as follows: Central Sector 22,832 MW, State Sector 11,157 MW, Private Sector 7,121 MW and its implementation is being closely monitored.

### Statement

#### State-wise Electricity generation during 1992-93 to 2001-02

Name of State/Utility	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
BBMB	12471	10657	12232	12004	12056	10695	14106	12067	10242	9939
Delhi	7331	6994	7034	6524	6336	6964	6931	7555	7981	7952
J&K	2905	2745	2837	2950	3170	6120	6477	5810	5284	5558
Himachal Pradesh	1899	1566	4257	4341	3612	3956	4570	3748	3926	3895
Haryana	3800	3133	3425	3300	3673	3782	3754	5100	6085	8175
Rajasthan	8487	9438	8469	9244	9914	11157	12820	14570	16895	16988
Punjab	9974	11419	11503	11381	12787	12993	14393	17057	17599	18406
U.P.	47266	50958	54214	63457	65779	67489	69618	72913	72815	74787
Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3648	3326
Gujarat	24548	27012	28849	33706	35802	39711	44845	46372	46151	44446
Maharashtra	40425	43125	47871	52121	54559	55997	59097	64263	63552	65319
M.P.	33034	37752	39701	42869	44003	44598	46709	48291	29062	30324
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23628	24740
A.P.	31036	34809	35891	37533	41738	45911	47820	52066	51961	51172
Karnataka	12753	14154	16352	14915	12339	16914	17067	20930	23523	24851
Kerala	6195	5823	6573	6701	5491	5250	7829	8899	9099	8874
T.N.	27229	28385	33210	35626	37607	38090	37908	40559	43685	45419
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	132	233	250
Bihar	2963	2988	3286	4698	6078	7093	8212	7906	5591	5244
Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2828	2680
Orissa	5187	5117	5555	7437	8136	11991	12772	16443	16185	18690
W.Bengal	15262	17344	19597	20678	20994	20502	21212	23223	26123	28800

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DVC	5201	6918	6915	6837	6673	7299	7706	8140	8193	777 <sup>a</sup>
Sikkim	30	34	55	49	64	43	26	37	325	383
Assam	1070	98	1255	1434	1362	1072	939	921	1063	990
NEEPCO	0	0	0	1052	1389	1527	1921	2214	2555	2766
Meghalaya	1290	1490	1241	539	480	598	544	634	658	613
Tripura	166	145	166	193	244	302	344	312	312	289
Manipur	545	617	515	480	497	535	531	506	551	569
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	20	15	17	13	16	14	13	19
Total All India	301066	323531	351025	380084	394800	420622	448367	480682	499548	515247

*[English]***Old Coaches in Rajdhani Express**

2703. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many coaches of the Rajdhani Express involved in the recent rail mishaps near Rafiganj on September 9, 2002 were old and not in good stead;

(b) if so, whether these coaches received intensive pit inspection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the year in which these coaches were procured from the factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) All coaches of the 2301 Rajdhani Express involved in the rail mishap near Rafiganj on 9th September, 2002 were well within the codal life and in fit condition. The train was properly attended during primary maintenance at Howrah, during which all coaches were examined on pit line.

(c) and (d) There were 18 coaches in the rake of this train. The details of the coaches are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

S.No.	Coach Type	Coach No.	Year of Manufacture
1	2	3	4
1.	Pantry Car	NR-82803A	11/1982
2.	-do-	NR-92802A	11/1992
3.	Air Conditioned 2 Tier coach	NR-94128A	11/1994
4.	-do-	NR-94115 A	10/1994
5.	-do-	NR-94112 A	09/1994
6.	-do-	NR-00105 A	6/2003
7.	-do-	NR-99132 A	6/1999
8.	-do-	NR-94108 A	8/1994
9.	-do-	NR-01102 A	9/2001
10.	Air Conditioned 3 Tier Coach	NR-9272 A	1/1992
11.	-do-	NR-95052 A	5/1995
12.	-do-	NR-93053 A	3/1993
13.	-do-	NR-89075 A	3/1989

1	2	3	4
14.	-do-	NR-92071 A	1/1992
15.	Power Car	NR-00856 A	4/2001
16.	-do-	NR-6696 A	12/1992
17.	Air Conditioned First Class Coach	NR-90016 A	12/1990
18.	-do-	NR-99002 A	10/1999

[Translation]

### Heavy Industries in Madhya Pradesh

2704. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the heavy industries being run by the Union Government in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the names of heavy industries and public enterprises out of them running in profits/incurred losses;

(c) the number of public sector undertakings which are declared as sick at present;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive them; and

(e) the names of the public enterprises being considered for disinvestment in the State and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) As per Public Enterprises Survey 2000-01, as on 31.3.2001, there are five Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) registered in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

Out of the above mentioned five, 2 CPSUs are sick and have been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Restructuring (BIFR). The details of names of these CPSUs along with their performance in terms of profit/loss, their status with respect to BIFR and disinvestment is given in enclosed statement. Enterprise specific steps are being taken by the Administrative Ministries/Departments/Management of CPSEs on case-to-case basis to improve their performance which is a continuous process. Some of the steps include financial restructuring, modernization of plant and machinery, cost control measures, improved marketing strategies, formation of Joint Ventures, rationalization of manpower etc. as the case may be.

Disinvestment of CPSUs is being done as per the declared policy of the Government to bring down the Government equity in all non-strategic PSUs to 26% or lower as decided on case by case basis.

### Statement

S.No.	Name of CPSU	Profit / (-) Loss (Rs. in Crore) during 2000-01	BIFR Status as on 30.6.2002	Disinvestment Status	Administrative Ministry
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>					
1.	Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited	(-)0.57	--	M.P. Ashok Hotel is a subsidiary of ITDC. Disinvestment Commission (D.C.) had given its recommendation for hiving- off Hotels as separate corporate identities and sale.	Ministry of Tourism
2.	Narmada Hydro Electric Development Corporation	Under Construction	--	--	Ministry of Power

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	NEPA Limited	4.86	Under Enquiry	A BIFR referred CPSU referred to D.C. by Department of Heavy Industries as per restructuring plan of the company	Department of Heavy Industries.
4.	Northern Coal Fields Limited	703.48	--	--	Ministry of Coal
5.	NTC (Madhya Pradesh) Limited	(-)100.78	Revival Scheme Sanctioned		Ministry of Textiles

..indicate nil.

[English]

### Non-Electrification of Villages of U.P.

2705. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh without electricity as on date, district-wise, particularly in Mohan Lal Ganj, Gonda & Kheri (Lakhimpur);

(b) the time by which total electrification is likely to be achieved in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove such impediments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) According to Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL), the number of un-electrified villages in Mohan Lal Ganj, Gonda (including Balarampur) and Kheri are 9, 1464 and 668 respectively as on 31.10.2002. The number of un-electrified villages in other Districts of Uttar Pradesh are given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) In the Chief Ministers' conference held on 3rd March, 2001, it was resolved to complete electrification of all villages by 2007 and achieve coverage of all household by 2012.

To facilitate the achievement of these objectives, village electrification is now treated as a Basic Minimum Service under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) from the year 2001-02. During 2001-02, a sum of Rs.94.17 crores and Rs.39.23 crores under PMGY and MNP respectively was released to Government of Uttar Pradesh for Rural Electrification. Again during 2002-03, a

sum of Rs.75.00 crores (1st instalment of 50%) under MNP for rural electrification and Rs.185.43 crores (1st instalment of 50%) under PMGY covering all six components of PMGY including rural electrification has been released to Uttar Pradesh. Under the revised guidelines of PMGY formulated by the Planning Commission, the States would have flexibility to decide the interse allocation of ACA among the six PMGY sectors as per their own plan priorities and discretion.

In addition, Government of Uttar Pradesh can also access funds from Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for the programme.

### Statement

*District-wise un-electrified villages in  
Uttar Pradesh as on 31.10.2002*

S.No.	Mandal/District	No. inhabited villages (1991 census)	No. of un-electrified villages
1	2	3	4
1.	Saharanpur		
	Saharanpur	1278	322
	Mujaffarnagar	886	52
	Total	2164	374
2.	Meerut		
	Meerut	900	0
	Bagpat		
	Ghaziabad	685	24
	Gautam buddha Nagar		



1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
	Bulandshahar	1359	319	7.	Jhansi		
	Total	2944	343		Jhansi	760	183
3.	Muradabad				Lalitpur	689	311
	Bijnore	2132	849		Jalaun	942	371
	Muradabad	2475	843		Total	2391	865
	Jyotoba Phule Nagar			8.	Chitrakut		
	Rampur	1098	528		Hammirpur	926	365
	Total	5705	2220		Mahoba		
4.	Agra				Banda	1204	416
	Aligarh	1706	721		Chitrakut		
	Mahamaya Nagar (Hatrass)				Total	2130	781
	Mathura	871	70	9.	Allahabad		
	Agra	904	110		Allahabad	3539	1157
	Ferozabad	795	399		Kaushambhi		
	Mainpuri	826	332		Fatehpur	1352	485
	Etah	1507	862		Pratapgarh	2181	694
	Total	6609	2494		Total	7072	2336
5.	Bareilly			10.	Lucknow		
	Bareilly	1851	511		Lucknow	824	20
	Badaun	1780	707		Raibareilly	1737	222
	Shahjahanpur	2130	1277		Unnao	1693	675
	Pilibhit	1210	662		Sitapur	2314	1196
	Total	6971	3247		Hardoi	1883	881
6.	Kanpur				Lakhimpur Khiri	1712	668
	Farukhabad	1571	732		Total	10163	3662
	Kannauj			11.	Faizabad		
	Etawah	1461	590		Faizabad	2647	1502
	Auriya				Ambedkar Nagar		
	Kanpur Nagar	247			Sultanpur	2495	670
	Kanpur Dehat	1622	777		Barabanki	2050	932
	Total	4901	2099		Total	7192	3104

1	2	3	4
12.	Devi Patan		
	Gonda Balrampur	2818	1464
	Behraich Shravasti	1890	756
	Total	4708	2220
13.	Varanasi		
	Varanasi Chandauli	3702	1868
	Gazipur	2583	1707
	Jaunpur	3269	1827
	Total	9554	5402
14.	Mirzapur		
	Mirzapur Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi)	1722	676
	Sonbhadra	1346	592
	Total	3068	1268
15.	Azamgarh		
	Azamgarh	3721	2292
	Mau	1472	799
	Balia	1792	610
	Total	6985	3701
16.	Gorakhpur		
	Gorakhpur	2880	1092
	Maharajganj	1207	316
	Devaria Kushinagar	3550	1346
	Total	7637	2754
17.	Basti		
	Basti Sant Kabir Nagar	4504	2919
	Sidharath Nagar	2437	1448
	Total	6941	4368
	Grand Total	97135	41237

**Constitution of DSBs**

2706. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms prescribed for the constitution of Dealer's Selection Board for petrol/diesel, kerosene and L.P.G.;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to re-constitute the Dealer Selection Boards for every State; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that regard?

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): (a) to (c) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector on 1.4.2002, all the Dealer Selection Boards (DSBs) in the country were dissolved with effect from 9.5.2002. The Government have no proposal to reconstitute the DSBs.

**Setting up of Institute for Energy and Environment**

2707. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Oil Institute for Energy and Environment to conduct studies on alternate fuels and environment conservation;

(b) if so, whether a Netherland based consultant has been assigned task to conduct feasibility study;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to draw expertise from similar institutions abroad namely the US based Bettele and Epri of UK;

(d) if so, whether any technical tie-up has been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) Indian Oil R&D Centre has proposed the setting up of an institute for energy and environment for studies on alternate fuels.

(b) No, Sir

- (c) No, Sir
- (d) No, Sir
- (e) Not applicable.

[Translation]

#### Use of Biogas and Wind Energy

2708. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special Schemes/programmes are being run by the Government to spread the use of Biogas/Wind energy in view of the special importance of non-conventional energy sources in the context of rural development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP), biogas plants based on cattle dung are promoted in all States and Union Territories. The programmes provides for Central subsidy for setting up of biogas plants; turn-key job fee to non-governmental organizations and entrepreneurs for construction of plants and providing free maintenance servicing during the first three years; training courses for masons, technicians, entrepreneurs and women-users; State level Biogas Development and Training Centres; publicity; and extension, etc. A target of setting up of 1.70 lakh family type biogas plants has been planned with a Budget Estimate of Rs. 59.50 crore for the year 2002-03. Under a separate demonstration scheme, water pumping wind mills, small aero-generators and wind-solar photovoltaic hybrid systems are promoted specially in remote areas. The scheme provides for a fixed amount of Central subsidy ranging from Rs.20,000 to Rs.45,000 per wind mill depending upon the type of the pump. For aero-generators and hybrid systems, 75 per cent of the ex-work cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.2.00 lakh per kW and 50 per cent of the ex-work cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.1.25 lakh per kW are given as grant for community and other applications, respectively. A target of deploying 200 wind mills and a total capacity of 125 kW aero-generators/hybrid systems has been planned with a Budget Estimate of R.s. 2.50 crore for 2002-03.

- (c) Does not arise.

#### Railway Over Bridge near Bhagalpur Railway Station

2709. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct railway over bridge at Paschim Muslim High School near Bhagalpur Railway Station and Western side of Nathanagar and Sultanganj Stations;

(b) if so, whether there is also a proposal under consideration of the Government to construct a level crossing bridge near Muslim High School, Bhagalpur;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of old ROB No. 153 (Ultapul) has been sanctioned at Bhagalpur on cost sharing basis but no proposals, for construction of ROB near Nathnagar and Sultanganj Railway Stations, have been received from the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Completion of ROB at Bhagalpur depends upon construction of approaches by the State Government as Railways construct only Bridge proper (Bridge over tracks) and approaches are constructed by the State Government concerned. Railway's portion of work is likely to be completed by 31st December 2003.

[English]

#### Major Collisions in Eastern Railway

2710. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the rules, especially classified as 'safety category' are impractical and not supported by corresponding equipments for implementation;

(b) if so, whether the major collisions in Eastern Railway occurred in the recent past due to the aforesaid reasons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measure taken/likely to be taken to rectify the short-comings in thus regard?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Important steps taken or being taken to check accidents are as under:

- (i) A non - lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000/- crs. has been set up for renewal of over aged assets and for safety enhancement works.
- (ii) Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark (FM to FM) track circuiting on entire 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' and 'D Spl.' routes where speed is more than 75 kmph. have been completed. Remaining portion of the work is under progress.
- (iii) Extended field trials of Anti Collision Device (ACD) have been started on Northern Railway. After successful completion of extended field trials, a decision would be taken for its application on other routes of Indian Railways.
- (iv) State of the art technology of Digital Mobile Train Radio Communication has been sanctioned on some important sections for providing duplex radio communication between driver/guard and control.
- (v) Walkie-talkie sets have been provided to Drivers and Guards of all trains for faster and better means of communication.
- (vi) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance. Also, Track Renewal Trains are being used.
- (vii) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being used progressively.
- (viii) For detection of rail fractures/weld failures, adequate double rail/Ultrasonic Flaw Detectors have been procured. Self-Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.
- (ix) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons

have been modernised and upgraded in many depots.

- (x) Routine Over Hauling Depots have been equipped with Ultrasonic Testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles so as to prevent cases of cold breakage of axles.
- (xi) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.
- (xii) Periodical Safety Audit of different divisions by inter-disciplinary teams from Zonal Headquarters is being conducted.
- (xiii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training courses also.
- (xiv) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff and road users.
- (xv) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.

#### Tidal Power Projects in Kerala

2711. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to boost up the power production in Kerala by using above 500 km. Sea shore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) At present there is no proposal for power production in Kerala based on Tidal Energy. However, Department of Ocean Development has set up a National Wave Energy Test Facility of 50 kW installed capacity at Vizhinjam Harbour in Kerala on which several power modules have been tested. Based on these tests, Department of Ocean Development aims at developing wave power devices of ratings from 100 watt to 50 kW which have potential, among other uses, for supplying

limited power to isolated islands. The expenditure details of these future efforts are not available.

[Translation]

### Rail Projects from Railways Safety Funds in Rajasthan

2712. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects likely to be undertaken from the special Railway Safety Fund in Rajasthan, during the Tenth Five Year plan;

(b) whether the Union Government have sent a proposal to the Government of Rajasthan for providing free land for laying of new railway-lines in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Central Government has set up a non-lapsable "Special Railway Safety Fund" (SRSF) of Rs. 17000 Crore to wipe out the arrears in renewal of over aged assets such as track, bridges, rolling stock and signalling gears etc. within

a fixed time frame of 6 years. The SRSF came into existence in October 2001.

The Railway Budget is prepared Railway zone-wise and not State-wise. The works being undertaken from the Special Railway Safety Fund in Rajasthan are listed in the Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme, Part-III (Green Book) for 2002-03, under Northern and Western Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Achievements by Oil Companies

2713. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the targets set and achievement made by various oil companies in the production of petrol and diesel during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The information is given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

Figures in Thousand Metric Tonnes

Name of the Oil Company	Motor Spirit		Diesel	
	OEB* target	Actual Production	OEB target	Actual Production
	IXth Plan	IXth Plan	IXth Plan	IXth Plan
IOCL	13,060.60	12,670.60	57,125.70	60,079.50
CPCL	1,683.90	1,609.50	11,371.70	12,131.00
BRPL	247.10	323.40	3,359.10	3,095.40
HPCL	3,874.40	3,457.20	19,133.90	18,336.30
BPCL	3,941.40	4,212.50	15,223.10	16,149.80
KRL	3,395.80	3,545.40	16,080.70	15,897.40
NRL	-	2.80	3,264.90	2,313.60
ONGC (Tatipaka)	-	-	8.000	2.20
MRPL	4,502.80	3,224.00	15,662.60	10,948.20
RPL	6,232.00	5,0389.00	30,338.00	24,886.80
Grand Total	36,938.00	34,434.40	171,567.70	163,840.20

\*Oil economic Budget

IXth Plan period 1997-2002

### Grid for Gas Delivery

2714. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any country-wide plan for transmission of gas has been drawn up;
- (b) if so, whether any grid have been planned for gas deliveries in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, GAIL (India) Limited has conceptualized plan for setting up 6400 KM long countrywide pipeline network connecting different production sources of natural gas to the major gas consuming centers in different parts of the country.

### Increase in Prices of LPG and Kerosene

2715. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the some State Governments including Andhra Pradesh have urged not to increase the prices of LPG and Kerosene;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the regains for increasing the prices of these products;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to decrease the prices to LPG and Kerosene as the subsidy reduction on these products is causing serious hardship to consumers particularly those belonging to the poorer sections of the society;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the stand of the Union Government in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) to (e) The consumer prices of PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG were last increased effective 1st March 2002. Andhra Pradesh Government had requested sometime back for not increasing the prices of Kerosene and LPG to reduce the hardship to the consumers.

As per the Government decision, effective 1st April 2002, the subsidy on PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG is to be on specified flat rate basis and the retail prices of these products will then vary as per the changes in the international oil prices. Taking into account the current international oil prices, there is no case for reducing the prices of these products.

[Translation]

### Involvement of Private Companies in Petroleum Sector

2716. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the entry of the private companies in the petroleum sector is likely to cast any impact on fluctuation of prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the petrol pumps and LPG agencies of the private companies are likely to be available for the consumers in the country?

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): (a) and (b) In a free market scenario, the fluctuations in the international oil prices are bound to get reflected in the domestic consumer prices. However, the entry of private companies in the marketing of retail petroleum products is likely to increase the competition in the sector.

(c) The Government has already granted authorization to market the transportation fuels to two private companies. As of now, the subsidized domestic LPG is not distributed through the private sector companies.

### Development of Solar Energy by Private Sector

2717. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to take any effective steps at public and private level for generation and development of solar energy in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the action being taken by the Government for implementing the solar energy projects in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Government has been implementing various schemes for the deployment of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, solar thermal systems and solar power generation all over the country, including the State of Rajasthan. These schemes are being implemented in Rajasthan mainly through the state nodal agency viz. Rajasthan Energy Development Agency now known as the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RREC). Other organizations involved in implementation of the schemes are the Social Work & Research Centre (SWRC), Tilonia and the World Renewal Spiritual Trust (WRST), Mount Abu, which are Non-Governmental Organizations. A few private manufacturers/suppliers and a public sector company namely Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd. are also engaged in the installation of solar devices.

To encourage the private sector to set up power generation plants in the State, the Government of Rajasthan has adopted a policy to provide certain incentives to Independent power producers (IPPs) proposing power plants based on non-conventional energy sources, including solar energy. The major incentives provided in the policy are:

- (i) State Electricity Company (SEC) to buy electricity produced by an IPP at the rate of Rs. 3.34 per unit (base year 2002-03) with an escalation @ 5% per annum.
- (ii) SEC to allow wheeling of this electricity on their electricity network at a charge of 2 % of the wheeled energy any where in the State.
- (iii) Allowing IPP to sell electricity to a third party in the High Tension tariff category, in addition to SEC.
- (iv) Exemption of electricity duty on the electricity sold by an IPP to a third party.

In addition, policy support is being extended by the Central Government to private investors by way of accelerated depreciation, tax holiday, concessional custom duty, exemption from excise duty, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) To ensure large scale utilization of solar energy devices in the country including Rajasthan, Government has been providing incentives to the

beneficiaries in the form of soft loans and direct subsidies. Financial support is also being provided to state nodal agencies and some other organizations for promotional activities and establishment of Aditya solar shops. The following are some of the achievements and recent developments in the State of Rajasthan:

(i) Around 4,716 solar lanterns, 28,464 home lighting systems, 6,395 solar street lights, 253 solar water pumps, 36,600 solar cookers, and 7,660 sq. m. of collector area for solar water heating systems have been installed till 31.03.2002.

(ii) The world's second largest solar steam cooking system has been functioning at Brahmakumaris Ashram, Taleti, near Mount Abu, since April 1999.

(iii) An Aditya Solar Shop has also been established at Brahmakumaris Ashram, Taleti to make solar products available to users and provide repair services.

(iv) Solar power plants of 25 kWp each have been installed at the Vidhan Sabha Building and the Secretariat Building in Jaipur. Smaller plants have been established in the campus of SWRC in Tilonia.

(v) A 140 MW Integrated Combined Cycle power project has been sanctioned for installation at Mathania near Jodhpur. The project comprises a solar thermal power plant of 35 MW capacity based on parabolic trough collector technology and a 105 MW combined cycle plant to be run on re-gasified natural gas.

[English]

#### Heritage Conservation Project in A.P.

2718. SHRI K. E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent proposals for the release of funds for Heritage Conservation Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the funds have been released for this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Government of Andhra Pradesh requested the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in June and November 2002 for conservation and restoration of the heritage monument 'Warangal Fort' at a total cost of Rs.2.65 crore in three phases.

(c) to (e) IOC has formed a non-profit Trust, namely, Indian Oil Foundation for preserving one heritage site in each State and Union Territories in collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). In the first phase, one-heritage sites of ASI each in Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa has been identified for the project.

[Translation]

#### **Kerosene Dealership under PMSY**

2719. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot the Kerosene dealership under the Pradhan Mantri Swarajgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the percentage of reservation that is likely to be provided to various categories in it; and

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be allotted by the Government?

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): (a) to (c) The Prime Minister's Self Employment Scheme was introduced in March, 1999 for award of SKO dealerships in the country. Thereafter, in November, 2000, after due consideration, the Scheme was discontinued by the Government.

[English]

#### **Generation of Electricity By Sugar Waste**

2720. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn a plan to generate electricity from sugar mills waste and garbage in urban areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of co-operative sugar mills which have applied for generation of electricity in U.P. so far by such method?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Under the programmes for surplus power generation through bagasse co-generation in sugar mills and energy recovery from urban and industrial wastes, a capacity of about 325 MW has already been installed in the country.

For the Tenth Plan (2002-07), targets of 400 MW for surplus power generation from bagasse cogeneration and 80 MW power generations from urban and industrial wastes, have been set.

(c) Nil.

#### **Passing on Sensitive Military Information to Pak Official**

2721. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the defence personnel were found involved in passing on classified information to Pak official during the last three years, till date;

(b) the action taken by the Government on each case; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government so far to revamp the system in dealing with sensitive documents to make their leakage fool proof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) As per available reports, forty five Defence Personnel have been found involved in passing sensitive information to Pakistan officials, during the last three years.

(b) Out of forty five persons, eight defence personnel have been dismissed/removed from service. One person has committed suicide and another is reported to be absconding. Disciplinary/General Court Martial/ Investigation proceedings are in progress in respect of the remaining thirty five persons.

(c) Vigil at various stages against leakage of sensitive information to hostile elements has been stepped up and suitable preventive measures have been initiated from time to time to thwart the efforts of hostile intelligence agencies.



### Development of Multi-Role Jet Fighter

2722. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether indigenous multi-role jet fighter developed by our scientists is ready for launching;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the fighter jet is likely to replace MIG aircraft; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) programme is in advanced stage of flight testing on two technology demonstrator aircrafts. Sanction has also been accorded for building 5 additional prototypes of LCA for further accelerated flight testing to achieve Initial Operational Clearance by the year 2005-2006.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The LCA has been designed and developed against requirements of Air Force to replace MiG-21 aircraft.

### Land Allotted to Sweekar

2723. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any defence land in Secunderabad cantonment area has been allotted to any charitable trust during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent of land that has been given/allotted to 'Sweekar' a non-Governmental organisation by the Secunderabad cantonment authorities and the terms and conditions thereof;
- (d) whether there is any misuse of the land for other than charitable purposes;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (f) whether said organisation also charges 'Fee' from the disabled persons in violation of free service; and
- (g) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) 0.95 acres of land in Secunderabad Cantonment was leased in March 1981 to Hyderabad Special School, since renamed as 'Sweekar' Rehabilitation Institute for Handicapped. The lease was given for 30 years on payment of one time premium of Rs. 38,920 and annual rent of Rs. 3892, revised to Rs. 9662 in June 1984. The lease is subject to renewal for another 2 equal terms of 30 years each on enhancement of annual rent by 50 per cent on each renewal.

(d) Government are not aware of any misuse.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government have no knowledge of the fee charged by the Institute.

(g) Does not arise.

### New Exploration Licensing Policy

2724. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the new exploration licensing policy being followed by the Government now;
- (b) the number of blocks allocated under the new policy so far; and
- (c) the future prospects and plans in this regard?

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): (a) to (c) To impart greater thrust and efficacy to exploration efforts in the country, the Government has formulated New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in 1997. This policy provides a level playing field for both private and public sector companies for award of exploration acreages through global competitive bidding. The salient features of NELP are given in statement enclosed. Since April 2000, Government has signed contracts for 47 blocks for exploration of oil and gas under the two NELP rounds and has recently awarded 23 blocks under the third round of this policy. The exploration activities including identification and offer of blocks through NELP is a continuous and ongoing process.

**Statement**

The broad terms of NELP are as under:

- No signature, discovery or production bonus.
- No mandatory state participation.
- No carried interest by National Oil Companies (NOCs)
- Income Tax Holiday for seven years from start of commercial production.
- No customs duty on imports required for petroleum operations.
- Biddable cost recovery limit upto 100%
- Option to amortize exploration and drilling expenditures over a period of 10 years from first commercial production.
- Biddable sharing of profit petroleum based on pre-tax investment multiple achieved by the contractor.
- Royalty for onland areas is payable at the rate of 12.5% for crude oil and 10% for natural gas. For offshore areas, it is payable at the rate of 10% for oil and natural gas. Royalty for discoveries in deepwater areas beyond 400 m iso-bath will be chargeable at half the applicable rate for offshore areas for the first seven years of commercial production.
- Fiscal stability provision in the contract.
- Freedom to the contractor for marketing of oil and gas in the domestic market.
- Provision for assignment.
- Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1996 will be applicable.

[Translation]

**Construction of Transmission Lines**

2725. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Power-Grid Corporation has taken any action to connect Sasaram-Bihar Sharif and Farakka with a transmission line of 400 K.V.A.; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof including other lines

of 400 KVA which are presently under construction in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has constructed Farakka-Kahalgaon 400 KV D/C Line, Kahalgaon-Biharsharif 400 KV D/C Line and Biharsharif 400/220 KV sub-station as part of the scheme for Transmission System associated with Farakka Stage-II (2x500 MW) and Biharsharif-Sasaram 400 KV D/C Line as part of the scheme for Eastern-Northern Inter-regional HVDC Transmission System to connect Sasaram-Biharsharif and Farakka. Another 400 KV D/C Line from Kahalgaon to Biharsharif is being constructed by POWERGRID as system strengthening scheme linked with Transmission System associated with Kahalgaon Extension (2x660 MW) Project. This line is expected to be completed by 2006-07.

A list of 400 KV Transmission lines under construction in the Central and State Sector in the country is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*List of 400 kV transmission lines under construction in the country*

*400 KV Transmission lines being executed by POWERGRID under Central Sector:*

1. Meerut-Mandola S/C Line
2. Kolar-Chennai Transmission System
  - (a) Kolar-Arakkonam (Karnataka portion) S/C Line
  - (b) Arakkonam, Chennai (Tamilnadu portion) S/C Line
3. Kolar-Hosur-Palakkoddu S/C Line
4. Palakkoddu-Salem S/C Line
5. Salem-Udamptet S/C Line
6. Kolar-Hoody D/C Line
7. Jamshedpur-Rourkela (2nd Ckt) S/C Line
8. Kolapur-Mapusa D/C Line
9. LILO of Bassi-Balabgarh at Bhiwadi D/C Line
10. Agra (PGCIL)-Agra (UPPCL) D/C Line
11. East-West Inter-regional Link

(a) Raipur-Kanaktura (Western Region portion) D/C Line

(b) Kanaktura-Rourkela (Eastern Region portion) D/C Line

12. Vijyawada-Upallpadu D/C Line

13. Upallpadu-Nellore D/C Line

14. Nellore-Sriperumbudur D/C Line

15. Madrui-Thiruvananthapuram D/C Line

16. LILO of Bongaigaon-Malda (ckt.I) at Siliguri D/C Line

17. LILO of Bongaigaon-Malda (ckt.II) at Purnea (New) D/C Line

18. Talcher-Meramundali D/C Line

19. Meramundali-Jeypore S/C Line

400 kV Transmission lines being executed under State Sector:

1. SSNL-MP border D/C Line (Gujarat)

2. LILO of Wanakborisoja at Dehgam D/C Line (Gujarat)

3. Sardar Sarovar (MP border)-Nagda D/C Line (Madhya Pradesh)

4. LILO of Karad-Parli at Solapur D/C Line (Maharashtra)

5. Dabhol-Nagothane (2nd Ckt) S/C Line (Maharashtra)

6. Dabhol-New Koyna (2nd Ckt) S/C Line (Maharashtra)

7. Vizag S/S - Vemagiri D/C Line (Andhra Pradesh)

8. Vemagiri-Nunna D/C Line (Andhra Pradesh)

9. Vemagiri S/S-Konaseema-PS-D/C Line (Andhra Pradesh)

10. Vemagiri S/S-GVK - PS D/C Line (Andhra Pradesh)

11. Vizag S/S - Khammam: 400 kV S/S D/C Line (Andhra Pradesh)

12. 400 kV Link Line Talaguppa D/C Line (Karnataka)

13. Meramundali-Mindhasal (Chandaka) D/C Line (Orissa)

14. Ib-Meramundali D/C Line (Orissa)

15. Meramundali-Dubri D/C Line (Orissa)

16. LILO of KTPS-Durgapur S/C Line at Arambagh (West Bengal)

### **Supply of Inferior Quality of Blankets in Rajdhani Express**

2726. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item published in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 6, 2002 under the caption "Yatri Suvidha Varsh may Ghatiya Kambal Miltey rahey hain - Rajdhani Express main";

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

(c) the efforts being made to provide superior quality food, blankets, beddings, towels etc. to the passengers in the various trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) News item published in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 6, 2002 under the caption "Yatri Suvidha Varsh may Ghatiya Kambal Miltey rahey hain- Rajdhani Express main" has come to the notice of Government.

Railways procure blankets, beddings, towels etc., as per well defined specifications from reputed manufacturers or their authorized dealers. The supplies are inspected by the nominated inspection agency before acceptance. To ensure that the supplies are as per laid down specifications, various checks are also carried out from time to time.

Railways make all endeavour to serve good quality catering services in trains and Railway premises which includes review of menu, introduction of three piece casserole packed meal in place of open thali, introduction of eco-friendly packaging materials, supply of curd in kullarhs, ensuring ISI approved packaged drinking water, procurement of reputed brand eatables etc. Frequent and surprise checks are conducted by officers at various levels from Commercial and Health Directorates. Whenever any discrepancies come to light, stringent punitive action is taken to curb complaints of such nature. With a view to upgrade and professionalise catering services on Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways have set up Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).

### **Inferior Quality of Food in Major Trains**

2727. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received many complaints regarding supply of inferior quality of food in

major trains like Shatabdi Express and other express and superfast trains;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the staff found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) About 980 complaints have been received during 2001-02 regarding catering services on trains and stalls at Railway stations. Some of these are related to supply of inferior quality of food on trains. The complaints are examined and action is taken which includes termination besides imposition of fines and issue of warning. Disciplinary action is also taken against the staff found responsible. In 2001-02, 199 staff were taken up under disciplinary proceedings.

#### **Losses to New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express**

2728. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express into Jan Shatabdi Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

#### **Website of Railways**

2729. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways' Website is not functioning and disappeared for last few days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be updated and restarted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Indian Railways have several websites. There was degradation in performance of the web site on Passenger Reservation System from October 27th to October 30th, 2002 which was set right. All sites are working satisfactorily now.

[Translation]

#### **Fixing of Criteria for Reservation Quota in Trains**

2730. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for fixing reservation quota in a particular train for particular railway station;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from some members of Parliament and various organisations to increase the number of reserved sleepers, particularly in Jaipur-Mumbai Superfast Express from Sadalpur station;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The reservation quota at any station is allotted taking in to account the availability of reserved accommodation in the train and the demand pattern at various stations.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received for allotment/enhancement of reservation quota at Sadulpur by various trains including Jaipur-Mumbai Super Fast Express.

(d) Computerised Passenger Reservation System facility has been provided at Sadulpur and now passengers of this station can access berths in any train including Jaipur-Mumbai Super Fast Express in any class on first come first served basis.

#### **Inordinate Delay in Power Projects of Maharashtra**

2731. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power plants of Maharashtra are lagging much behind as against the targeted date;

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

(c) the extent of time lag as per the position last month;

(d) the cost overrun due to inordinate delay in their completion, plant-wise;

(e) whether the Government have held any officer responsible and guilty for this inordinate delay; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (f) Ghatghar Hydro Electric Project (250 MW) which was scheduled for commissioning in 1995-96 at the cost of Rs 485.96 crore in the State Sector is now scheduled for commissioning in 2004-05 at the cost of Rs. 1184.60 Crore. The reasons for the time and cost overrun are delay in land acquisition, general price escalation, delay in award of major works, etc.

Dabhol CCGT Phase-II (1444 MW) in private sector which was scheduled to be commissioned in 2000-01 is delayed due to ongoing dispute between Maharashtra State Electricity Board and Dabhol Power Corporation.

[English]

#### Revised Tariff in DERC

2732. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) have recommended increase in the tariff for both the domestic and the industrial units;

(b) if so, the revised tariff recommended and the decision taken by the Government in this regard,

(c) the date from which the revised tariff is to be made effective; and

(d) the details of different tariff stages for consumers of electricity of both domestic and industrial in different States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The last tariff Order was issued by Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) on 23rd May, 2001 and was made effective from 1st June, 2001 and is still effective. The tariff schedule contained in this tariff order is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(d) The detail tariff of both domestic and industrial consumers in different States is given in enclosed Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

##### Tariff for the year 2001-2002

Category	Minimum Charges (Rs./k/W/ Month)	Demand Charges (Rs./kVA/ Month)	Energy Charges (Paise/kWh)		Normative	
					Limit (kWh/ month)	Charges (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>1. Domestic</b>						
1.1 Domestic Light/fan and Power (Single Delivery Point)	60		Lifeline (upto 50 units)	125		
			Units/month	Energy Charges		
			0-100	150		
			101-200	210		
			201-400	300		
			above 400	360		
1.2 Domestic Lighting/ Fan and Power on Separate Delivery Points/ Meters						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(a) Lighting/Fan	60	-	Same as in 1.1	-	-	-
(b) Power	60		360	-	-	-
1.3 Domestic Lighting/ Fan and Power on 11kV single delivery points for CGHS and other similar Group housing complexes	Rs. 150/kV A or part thereof per month on maximum demand		Consumption /month <sup>2</sup> First 22.2% Next 22.2% Next 44.4% Next 11.2%	Energy Charges <sup>3</sup> 150 210 300 360	-	-
1.4 Domestic Lighting/ Fan and Power connections in regularised/unautho- rised colonies. Left out pockets and villages both electrified and unelectrified plot sizes:						
(i) Up to 50 Sq. yds.			Rs. 150 per month	-	-	-
(ii) between 51-100 Sq. yds			Rs. 255 per month			-
(iii) between 101-150 Sq. yds	-		Rs. 360 per month			
(iv) between 151-200 Sq. yds.			Rs. 510 per month			
(v) more than 200 Sq. yds. only through installation of meters by DVB			Same as 1.1			
1.5 Misuse	As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse	600		As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse
<b>2. Non Domestic</b>						
2.1 Non-Domestic (Low Tension) <sup>4</sup> - NDLT-1						
(a) Single Phase (<10 kW)	200		440		200	30
(b) three phase (>10 kW)	200		500		200	30
2.11 Non-Domestic Light/ Power on 11kV Single Delivery Point or commercial complexes NDLT-II	Rs. 200kV A or part thereof/ month on billing demand	-	500 <sup>5</sup> with a rebate of 15%			
2.1.2 Misuse as industrial	As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse	600		As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse
2.2 Mixed Load (High Tension) - MLHT <sup>6,7</sup>						
(a) Supply on 11 kV		150	390 Paise/kVAh <sup>8</sup>			
(b) Supply on LT (400 volts) -		200	465 Paise/kVAh			
2.2.1 Misuse as industrial		As in 2.2	510 Paise/kVAh			
<b>3. Industrial</b>						
3.1 Small Industrial Power - SIP <sup>9</sup>						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(a) Non continuous industry	200		410		300	30
(b) Continuous industry	200		410		400	30
3.1.1 Misuse						
(a) in non-continuous industry	300	As per category of misuse	600		300	30
(b) in continuous industry	300		600		400	30
3.1.2 Industrial Power (SIP) on 11kV Single Delivery Point for Group of SIP Consumer	Rs. 200/ kV A or part thereof per month on billing demand		Same as 3.1 above with rebate of 15%			
3.1.2.1 Misuse	350	As per category of misuse	600		As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse
3.2 Large Industrial Power LIP <sup>12</sup>		150	340 Paise kWh <sup>13</sup>			
a) Supply on 11kV		200	425 Paise/kVAh			
b) Supply on LT (400 Volts)						
3.2.1 Induction/Arc furnaces	Minimum consumption guarantee charges <sup>14</sup>	As in 3.2	As in 3.2			
3.2.2 Misuse		As in 3.2	510 Paise/kVAh			
4 Agriculture			75			
4.1 Mushroom cultivation	100		200			
4.2 Misuse	As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse	600		As per category of misuse	As per category of misuse
5. Public Lighting	Maintenance charges @ Rs 60/month/street lighting point		360			
6. Railway Traction <sup>15</sup>	Capacity blockage fixed charges <sup>16</sup>	As in 3.2	As in 3.2			
7 Licensees (NDMC/MES)			270 Paise/kVAh			
<b>8. Temporary Supply</b>						
8.1 for a total period of						
(a) less than 16 days	50% of the relevant category	Same as that of relevant category	Higher by 50% (temporary surcharge) of the relevant category of tariff		Same as that of relevant category	Same as that of relevant category
(b) more than or equal to 16 days	Same as that of relevant category					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.2	for residential cooperative group housing connections	Same as that of relevant category	-	Domestic tariff without any surcharge from the date of payment of their payable share in full towards electrification cost. Normal tariff available after one year from release of electrification scheme		
8.3	for religious functions of traditional and established characters and cultural activities	Same as 1.1	-	Same as 1.1 without temporary surcharge	-	
8.4	for major construction projects	Same as that of relevant category	Same as that of relevant category	Same as that of relevant category with temporary surcharge	300	30
8.5	for threshers					
a)	during the threshing season for 30 days	Electricity tax of MCD; Rs. 1.50 per connection	-	Flat rate of Rs. 3000 on pro-rata basis for each week or party thereof		-
b)	for extended period					

- Minimum charges are to be levied on per kW or part thereof sanctioned/connected/declared connected load, whichever is higher.
- The entitlement of various slabs under domestic category shall be worked out on pro-rata basis depending upon the duration billing cycle.
- With a rebate of 15%.
- Connection sanctioned for dispensaries, Hospitals, Public Libraries, Schools Run/Aided by MCD/Government of NCT of Delhi other schools as recommended by Department of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Places of worship, Shelters for animals including Go-sadans, Chaupals, community halls in Rural Areas and J.J. Bastles/Condoms. Recognised Centres for welfare of Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Spastic Children and Physically Handicapped Persons. Working Women Hostels run/aided by MCD/Govt., Cheshire Homes/Orphanages Charitable homes and Small Health Centres approved by Directorate of Health Services, Govt. of NCT of Delhi for providing Charitable Services only, electric crematoriums or any other similar establishment as may be approved by the Board/licensee shall be billed at domestic category tariff if such premises are being used exclusively for the specified purposes.
- Where the MDI reading exceeds contract demand by more than 5% a surcharge of 30% shall be levied on the total demand plus energy charges for such billing cycle.
- Same as 4 above.
- Where the MDI reading exceeds contract demand by more than 5%, a surcharge of 30% shall be levied on the total demand plus energy charges for such billing cycle.
- The incumbent shall be entitled for a rebate of 2.5% on the energy charges on 11 KV rates for availing 3 phase supply on 33/66 kV and 4% for supply on 220 kV.
- For industrial consumers having valid MCD licence/Lal Dora Certificate in case of Rural Villages.
- Industrial activity without municipal licence including that in urbanised villages, non-conforming areas.
- Same as 5 above.
- Same as 7 above.
- Same as 8 above.
- Comprising of demand charges plus consumption charges of 360 kVAh per kVA or part thereof per month of the billing demand. Constant 'K' shall be applicable as in the case of Normative Consumption, for the purpose of calculating minimum consumption guarantee charges. (i): The MCG shall not be chargeable for the period of recorded load shedding from grid substations duly certified by District Executive Engineer with reason(s) and recorded breakdowns for the period exceeding 12 hours in a billing cycle.
- (ii) The Demand Charges will, however, be chargeable for this period as in (i) above.
- The above tariff is based on the supply being given through a single delivery and metering point at single voltage.
- Rs.1260x(2.97A+5) where 'A' is contract/maximum demand, whichever is higher, in MVA subject to a minimum of Rs.25000.
- The simultaneous maximum demand, for all metering points, shall be considered for levying demand violation charges.



## Statement-III

## Consumer Category-wise Average Tariff, 2001-02 (Annual Plan)

(Paise per Kwh)

States	Domestic	Commercial	Agriculture/ Irrigation	Industrial
1	2	3	4	5
<b>I. SEBs</b>				
1. Andhra Pradesh	174.00	426.00	15.00	439.45
2. Assam	186.76	468.66	272.41	429.66
3. Bihar	109.50	276.60	13.37	362.26
4. Delhi (DVB)	149.86	415.81	50.00	424.80
5. Gujarat	243.00	448.00	39.00	439.57
6. Haryana	259.33	411.73	37.02	428.00
7. Himachal Pradesh	104.00	261.00	50.00	265.00
8. Jammu & Kashmir	85.00	160.00	220.00	135.00
9. Karnataka	198.00	572.12	30.51	409.93
10. Kerala	81.02	436.40	67.21	225.18
11. Madhya Pradesh	159.58	430.64	7.20	437.77
12. Maharashtra	248.02	456.39	82.28	419.93
13. Meghalaya	135.53	192.23	51.72	208.26
14. Orissa (GRIDCO)	175.72	369.74	107.73	322.98
15. Punjab	211.46	368.56	0.00	300.26
16. Rajasthan (Transco.)	190.87	429.76	46.26	392.88
17. Tamil Nadu	169.26	401.70	1.31	379.60
18. UP (Power corp.)	185.17	431.50	107.83	464.44
19. West Bengal	148.88	237.28	57.87	320.01
Average: SEBs	184.16	406.65	35.38	368.37
<b>II. EDs</b>				
1. Arunachal Pradesh	300.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
2. Goa	134.41	390.48	112.84	379.76
3. Manipur	181.90	250.00	171.00	198.50

	1	2	3	4	5
4. Mizoram	129.00	199.00	0.00	245.00	
5. Nagaland	160.00	280.00	0.00	225.00	
6. Pondicherry	94.95	235.82	7.51	205.54	
7. Sikkim	97.00	152.00	0.00	135.00	
8. Tripura	92.00	120.00	68.00	118.00	
Average of EDs	119.09	254.45	41.69	266.74	
All India Average	183.13	404.21	35.40	366.50	

Source: Planning Commission Document

### Action on Charges of Criminal Offences

2733. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken action on the charges of criminal offences by Defence personnel for which cases are pending in courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) As per Service Acts, criminal cases against Defence service personnel can be taken over by the Services from Criminal Courts and tried under the concerned Service Acts (Army Act, 1950, Navy Act, 1957 and Air Force Act, 1950) in accordance with Section 475 of the Criminal Procedure Code, subject to service exigencies. After taking over the case, the person concerned is invariably tried under the concerned Service Act. The cases which are not taken over by the Services are dealt with by the Criminal Courts in accordance with the Law. If a Defence service personnel is punished by any court, the

court orders are implemented and wherever required, further appropriate action is taken by the Armed Forces.

### Rail Projects in J&K

2734. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new/pending/on-going rail projects/surveys in Jammu and Kashmir alongwith the progress made so far on each of the project;

(b) the expenditure incurred so far on each of the project;

(c) the target date fixed for completion of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The project-wise details of new/ pending/ on-going projects/surveys falling partly/fully in Jammu and Kashmir are as under:

S.No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost	Approximately Expenditure upto 31.3.2002	Outlay 2002-03	Target date	Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	New rail line between Jammu-Udhampur (53.6 Kms.)	Rs. 445.95 crore	Rs. 386.59 crore	Rs. 36 crore	31.3.2004	Section from Jammu Tawi to Bajatla (11.75 Kms.) completed and commissioned. On the remaining section i.e. Bajatla-Udhampur, the work is in advanced stage of progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	New line between Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla	Rs. 3244 crore	Rs. 439.53 crore	Rs. 400 crore	Udhampur-Katra and Qazigund-Baramulla sections by March 2005 and the entire project by 15.8.2007	The work is being done in phases. In first phase, work on Udhampur-Katra (26 Kms) is in progress where earthwork, tunneling and bridge works are in progress. In phase-II, Qazigund-Baramulla has been taken up where earthwork and bridge work has been taken up. Construction of Srinagar Station Building is also in progress. In phase-III, detailed construction survey has been taken up for Katra-Qazigund section.
3.	Doubling between Jalandhar-Pathankot Jammu Tawi (212 Kms.)	Rs. 374 crore		Rs. 19.21 crore	30.06.2007	Requisite clearances for taking up this project were received in March 2002. Tender for earthwork, major and minor bridges have been opened and are under finalisation.
4.	Survey for new line from Baramulla to Kupwara (60 Kms.); Udhampur to Bhaderwah via Doda (85 Kms.) and Doda to Kishtwar (55 Kms.)	25.87 lakh	13.95 lakh			The Survey is in progress and expected to be completed during 2003-2004. Further consideration of these lines would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

(d) The progress of these projects are being monitored regularly. Funds as required have been allotted for timely completion of these projects. Arrangements have been made to take up work on intermediate section between Katra-Qazigund also

[Translation]

#### Allocation of Funds to Bihar

2735. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from the Government of Bihar to the Union Government in connection with enhancing the plan allocation in respect of Power Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission after discussions with the State Government of Bihar has approved for Annual Plan 2002-03 an allocation of Rs.275.30 crore for power sector. This is considerably higher than the allocation of Rs.61 crore approved for the Annual Plan 2001-02.

[English]

#### Basic Facilities at Bhandewadi Railway Station

2736. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway has failed to provide basic facilities at many railway stations in different States including Bhandewadi railway station in South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railway has received any memorandum to provide these facilities at Bhandewadi railway station; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No. Sir. The basic facilities have been made available at nearly all stations. The deficiencies, wherever existing, are in quantitative terms. For example, a station is counted as deficient in drinking water arrangement if 10 taps are available as against norms of 12 taps at a particular category of station though the arrangement for drinking water is available. Railways are endeavouring to eliminate such cases also.

As regards basic facilities at Bhandewadi halt station, all basic facilities, as per laid down norms, have been made available at this station.

(c) A letter has been received from Shri M. Shende, Secretary, Republic Party of India, East Nagpur.

(d) Works of provision of urinals and benches and repairs to waiting hall are in progress.

[Translation]

#### **Privatisation on Doordarshan**

2737. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to announce their decision in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is neither desirable nor necessary.

[English]

#### **Procurement of Stealth-Frigate**

2738. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Navy personnel are camping in Russia for the last few months to take delivery of the Stealth-frigate from the Russian shipyard;

(b) whether the delay in delivery of the frigate is due to unsatisfactory performance of its surface-to-air missile system which is still under upgradation by Russians;

(c) whether the Indian Navy had earlier recalled its team from Russia after waiting for the delivery of 'Talwar' class frigate due to delay in delivery; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Government has approved import of three Frigates from Russia to strengthen the

existing fleet of Indian Navy. The delivery of the first such Frigate has been delayed on account of unsatisfactory performance of one of the weapon systems. Naval personnel have been deployed to Russia for training and for taking part in acceptance trial. Crew of the first Frigate is being recalled due to unsatisfactory performance of the Weapon System.

Crew of second Frigate has been recalled after completion of training due to delay in completion of trials.

#### **Revenue Sharing**

2739. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is going to sign agreements with the private parties for operation and revenue sharing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether railway lines have been identified for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof, especially in respect of Tamil Nadu; and

(e) the target fixed in this regard for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. There is no specific proposal under consideration.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Revision of RDO Dealers Commission**

2740. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the oil PSU's are delaying the matter of finalisation of revision of RPO dealers commissions;

(b) if so, the effect of the delay over dealers;

(c) the time by which the oil companies shall finalise the matter of RPO dealers commission; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

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): (a) to (d) Oil marketing companies have revised the dealers' commission for petrol and diesel with effect from 1st November 2002. The commission on petrol has been revised from Rs.613 per kilolitre (KL) to Rs.639 per KL and on diesel from Rs.365 per KL to Rs.385 per KL.

#### Return of Capital Investment

2741. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total return on investment i.e. net profit earned after deduction of depreciation, interest and loss of all Public Sector Enterprises during last three years;

(b) whether any comparative study has been made by the Government to assess the performance of PSEs after the start of Economic reforms in 1991;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the return on capital invested or profitability in PSEs?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The details of net profit earned after deduction of depreciation and interest i.e. Profit Before Tax (PBT) are given in Public Enterprises Survey (PE Survey) of respective years. Loss of loss incurring Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) during last three years is given in Statement - 7B of Public Enterprises Survey 2000-2001 which was laid in the Parliament on 7.3.2002 and is a published document.

(b) and (c) such comparative study has been made by Government. However, the figures of various parameters about the performance of CPSEs are given in the PE surveys of successive years since 1991.

(d) Enterprise specific steps are being taken by the Administrative Ministries/Departments/Management of CPSEs on case to case basis to improve their performance which is a continuous process. Some of the steps include financial restructuring, modernization of plant and machinery, cost control measures, improved marketing strategies, formation of Joint Ventures, rationalization of manpower etc. as the case may be.

#### Rakes for Karnataka

2742. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to shortage of rakes export firms of various cereal items in Karnataka are facing problems;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received requests for providing more rakes in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate railway rakes to meet their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Requests have been received in Karnataka for transportation of cereals to Bangladesh. There is no shortage of Rakes for transportation of export cereals/foodgrains from Karnataka to Bangladesh. However, Bangladesh Railway's acceptance capacity is limited. In view of the high demand for rakes on Indian Railways, loading for all destinations on Bangladesh Railway has to be regulated.

#### Construction of Residential Accommodations

2743. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had accorded sanction with the approval of CCPA for establishment of Common Inspection Agency at Hyderabad, stipulating that no expenditure would be incurred on construction of residential accommodation;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken note of construction of 28 married quarters at a cost of Rs. 3.19 crores by DRDO despite CCPA's specific ban and overlooking surplus accommodation already available with them;

(c) if so, the officials responsible for deliberately flouting CCPA's specific ban;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the DRDO officials responsible for flouting CCPA's ban order; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The married accommodation of 28 quarters constructed at Hyderabad by DRDO is against the authorization of married accommodation for DRDO personnel to make up the existing deficiency. There is no surplus accommodation with DRDO at Hyderabad. In fact, there is a shortage of accommodation.

(c) There is no violation of Government instructions

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

### **Serious Lapse in Cumulative Balances**

2744. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about Outstanding Bills Registers of Doordarshan were maintained year-wise but the outstandings were not carried forward to arrive at the cumulative balances consequent to which bills of Rs.363.51 crore were outstanding on August 2001 pertaining to the years 1997-98 to 2000-01;

(b) if so, whether an interest amount of Rs 157.94 crore became due thereon by August 2001;

(c) if so, the action taken/likely to be taken against the people responsible for this serious lapse; and

(d) the measures taken to recover the outstanding amount with full interest?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that DD is maintaining a ledger programme-wise and agency wise, giving full details of amount billed and payment received. Year-wise outstandings of each agency are also maintained. C&AG in its report No.2 of 2002 (Civil) has observed that outstanding Bills Registers were maintained year wise and the outstandings were not carried forward to arrive at the cumulative balance and that bills of Rs. 363.51 crore, relating to years 1997-98 to 2000-2001, were outstanding as on August 2001.

The C&AG Para is under examination in consultation with Prasar Bharati.

(d) Outstandings are monitored on monthly basis and agencies are reminded regularly for the clearance of the outstanding dues. No fresh programme is allotted to any defaulting agencies/producers. Agencies and producers who have outstanding, have been asked to follow a payment plan to wipe off the arrears. Defaulting agencies are allowed to run their programmes only on advance payment. Legal action has also been taken against defaulting agencies.

### **Approach for Critical Data from Jaguar Manufacturers**

2745. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to old and outdated technology of MiG-21 and Jaguar aircraft, the cases of air crashes are on the increase for the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the manufacturers of these aircraft have not provided design data to the Indian manufacturers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Indian Air Force has approached the British Aerospace, the manufacturers of the Jaguar aircraft, to seek critical data that may help understand the reasons behind the November 5 crash near Ambala;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and?

(f) the time by which the said critical data is likely to be received from the British Aerospace and processed?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. However, Indian Air Force (IAF) has approached the Royal Air Force and British Aerospace for some information on similar aircraft accidents, which might have happened in United Kingdom to help the Court of Inquiry investigating into the Jaguar accident that occurred on 5th November, 2002.

[Translation]

### **Fare Concession to Students in Railway Reservation**

2746. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways provide concession in fares to students in reservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of students who have availed of this facility during the last three years?

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

(b) The students of educational institutions recognised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India or the Education Departments of the concerned State Governments and students of colleges affiliated to recognised Universities are granted 50% concession in Second & Sleeper class Mail/Express fares for visiting home-town during vacations and for travel on Educational tours. However, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students are granted another 50% concession over and above the normal students' concession, i.e. 75% concession in effect.

(c) The approximate number of students who availed concession on computerised tickets issued from Passenger Reservation System during the last three years is as under:

1999-2000	-	21,42,108
2000-2001	-	23,60,466
2001-2002	-	25,97,687

[English]

#### Sale of Multi Utility Vehicles

2747. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of Multi Utility Vehicles (M.U.V.) is higher in comparison to conventional vehicles in rural and semi-urban regions of the country;

(b) if so, whether road conditions in such areas are most conducive to use of such MUVs;

(c) if so, whether fiscal incentives are being envisaged or provided to this sector for both indigenously manufactured vehicles as well as imported vehicles of this category; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM),

the sale of Multi-Utility Vehicles (MUVs) is higher as compared to conventional vehicles in rural and semi-urban regions of the country. MUVs do have certain design advantages over conventional vehicles for running on rural roads and rough terrains.

(c) and (d) Auto Policy of the Government contemplates fiscal incentives for MUVs due to their being an economical mode of transport.

[Translation]

#### Theft of Luggage of Railway Passengers

2748. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY:

DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the luggage of a number of railway passengers is stolen while travelling;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years and the compensation paid in each case, zone-wise;

(c) the number of railway officers against whom action has been taken in this regard, zone-wise; and

(d) the measures taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The maintenance of law and order and the security of passengers and their belongings in the running trains and Railway premises being the constitutional responsibility of the State Government concerned, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by their Government Railway Police (GRP). The crime figure maintained by GRP is available State-wise only. However, as per the available information, details for last three years are as under:-

Year	Total No. of reported cases of theft of luggage of passengers.
1999	13711
2002	10672
2003	11765

No compensation is paid on theft of luggage in passenger's charge whether at station or on train.

(c) Although the responsibility for prevention and detection of theft of luggage personally carried by passengers, is that of State Government concerned, action is initiated against Railway Officials concerned whenever specific charges of dereliction of duty in such cases are brought against them.

(d) The following measures are in vogue to check such incidents:-

1. Anti-social elements are being removed from Railway premises and trains by Railway Protection Force (RPF).
2. Proper watch is being kept by Coach Attendants/TTEs on the passengers entering/detraining from the coaches and the coaches are properly locked during their run especially in night hours.
3. FIR forms are made available with the Train Guards/Stations Masters/RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their reports immediately.
4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is being done at all levels.
5. Announcement through Public Address system and CCTV at important Railway Stations to alert the travelling passengers against theft of their belongings etc.
6. Wherever the State Government wants to establish mobile post in the running trains, necessary facilities like accommodation etc. are provided.
7. Periodic High Level co-ordination Meeting with Government Railway Police and Local Police are being conducted to analyse the crime position on Railways with a view to take suitable preventive measures.

[English]

#### **VRS for Army Officers**

2749. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for senior officers of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether over 2,000 senior officers would be

eligible for Voluntary Retirement Scheme with the financial package ranging from Rs. 10.00 lakhs to Rs. 20.00 lakhs; and

(d) if so, the Government plans to fill up the vacancies created once these over 2,000 senior officers take VRS?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No scheme for Voluntary Retirement for senior officers of the Armed Forces is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **New Time Table for Bihar Bound Trains**

2750. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to revise the time table and imposition of speed limit on all trains passing through Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor with its impact on Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains;

(c) whether such imposition on speed of trains is also taken by Government in case of defective tracks and weak bridges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for early maintenance of such tracks and bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a temporary speed restriction of 75 Km/h has been imposed during night time on Dhanbad, Mughalsarai and Danapur Divisions of East Central Railway and Madhupur-Jhajha section of Eastern Railway as a precautionary measure on security considerations, as a result of which the punctuality of some Rajdhani & Shatabdi Express trains is adversely affected.

(c) Temporary speed restrictions are imposed on track and bridges depending on its condition and these speed restrictions continue round the clock for some time and the time loss on such speed restrictions is generally within the permitted engineering time allowance and does not need any change in time tabling.



(d) and (e) The imposition of temporary speed restrictions on track and bridge in connection with taking up the repair work is an on-going exercise to ensure safety. Prompt action is taken to relax such temporary speed restrictions by replacement/ strengthening.

[Translation]

#### Separation of Nanded Division from South Central Railways

2751. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge the Nanded Division of the South Central Railway with the Central Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Construction of Rail Line between Nirmali and Saraigarh

2752. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a former Railway Minister had inaugurated the construction of Nirmali-Saraigarh Rail Line;

(b) if so, the present stage of said rail line;

(c) whether there is proposal for construction of rail and road bridge over Koshi river in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the present stage of the project?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Proposals to take up separate rail and road bridges over river Kosi with common guide bund and protection works are under examination. The hydraulic model studies have been entrusted to Central Water &

Power Research Station, Pune by National Highway Authority of India and the studies are in progress. The survey report for restoration of Nirmali-Bhaptiahi rail line including rail bridge across river Kosi has been updated and is under process. The road bridge is being planned by National Highway Authority of India.

#### ONGC Control on Panna Mukta and Tapti Gas Oilfields

2753 DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ. No. 2867 on March 21, 2002 regarding conflict on ownership right of Panna, Mukta and Tapti Gas oilfields and state:

(a) whether the control of the Panna Mukta and Tapti Gas oilfields has since been taken over by ONGC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) In the Panna-Mukta and Tapti fields, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has 40% participating interest and 30% stakes each are held by Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and British Gas Exploration & Production (India) Ltd. (BGEPI). These fields are being operated by BGEPI as an interim arrangement till the issue of operatorship is resolved.

[Translation]

#### Joint Exercise with USA

2754. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether para troopers of the Indian Army participated in Joint Exercise with US Army in Alaska, in October, 2002;

(b) if so, the number of Indian personnel who took part in the exercise;

(c) whether such exercises are likely to be held in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Paratroopers of the Indian Army participated in Joint Exercises with US Army in Alaska, USA. One platoon with one aircraft IL-76 participated in the exercise. Consequent upon Indo-US Defence Policy Group and Military Cooperation Group Meetings held in May 2002, future exercise between Special Forces and Paratroopers of both countries would be finalized in the next Executive Steering Group Meeting to be held in December, 2002. A joint exercise with US Special Forces is being planned in Jungle Terrain, in April 2003.

[English]

### High Speed Goods Trains

2755. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has started high speed goods trains in some sections for movement of container traffic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total earning made by railways by running these high speed goods trains during the last three years;
- (d) whether keeping in view the profitability and viability, the Government propose to introduce some more such trains in other sections;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) the number of accidents these trains met during the last three years; and
- (g) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to run trains with high speed wagons in the mineral circle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways has introduced high speed container trains for movement of international traffic on some sections of Indian Railways like Ludhiana-Delhi-Tughlakabad-Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Mumbai), Ahmedabad-Vadodra-Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Mumbai), Delhi-Jaipur/Jodhpur-Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Mumbai), etc.

- (c) Separate earning of high speed rakes are

not maintained. However, running of high speed container trains has enabled Railways and CONCOR to increase inland penetration and handling of containers by reduced transit time and improved turn-round of rolling stock. The freight earnings of Railways have accordingly gone up on account of higher volumes of traffic being moved as a result of high speed trains.

(d) and (e) CONCOR plans to introduce more such trains in other sections also such as Delhi-Chennai, Delhi-Bangalore, Bangalore-Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Mumbai), Mumbai-Chennai, Chennai-Kolkata, etc.

(f) There has been no case of accident on these trains since their introduction.

(g) Indian Railways are already running freight trains with high speed wagons for transportation of minerals.

[Translation]

### Profit Earned by C.C.I

2756. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total profits earned by Cement Corporation of India during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, unit-wise; and
- (c) the share holding of the Government of India which would be left after the disinvestment of the Cement Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) There are ten units of CCI, out of which seven are non-operational and three are in operation. Only one unit is making profit. The details are as under:

### Losses Sustained by C.C.I. during the last three years

	(Rupees in crore)
1999-2000	216.91
2000-2001	230.76
2001-2002	215.33

Unit-wise break up (Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Unit	Net Profit/Loss		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Mandhar	-1521	-1616	-1570
2.	Kurkunta	-1637	-1392	-1383
3.	Bokajan	35	150	100
4.	Rajban	-524	-432	-223
5.	Nayagaon	-7150	-7473	-7760
6.	Delhi Grinding Unit			
7.	Akaltara	-2627	-2544	-2919
8.	Charkhi Dadri	-1296	-1406	-1097
9.	Adilabad	-2250	-2793	-3101
10.	Tandur	-4549	-5302	-3595
	Corporate Office (unallocated)	-172	-268	15
Total		-21691	-23076	-21533

(c) CCI has been declared sick by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 (SICA). The BIFR, which is a Quasi Judicial body has directed the Operating Agency to process the sale of CCI as a whole or its plants individually or collectively.

[English]

### Closure of Bokaro Thermal Power Station

2757. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Bokaro Thermal Power Station 'A' plant is lying closed down/shut down for the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of losses suffered per month;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal/representation to re-start the BTPS 'A' plant; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. Bokaro 'A' thermal Power Station (3x45 MW + 1x40 MW) of Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has been under shut down since July 2000 due to non-fulfilment of Pollution Control measures. These units were fitted with mechanical dust collector only as per the technology available at the time of their commissioning. As a result, the emission through the chimneys was much above the stipulated limits.

(b) All these units have since long outlived their useful economic life and are not considered fit for operation by the Central Pollution Control Board. Hence, the question of financial loss on account of non-operation of the plant does not arise.

(c) and (d) The revival/restoration of BTPS 'A' Plant has been taken up in the priority agenda of DVC. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been requested to furnish techno-economic viability assessment for renovation and modernisation/life extension work. The decision in regard to start of construction work for revival of these units could be taken only after techno-economic viability of reviving the operations is established.

[Translation]

### Production of Bio-Diesel

2758. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has set up a Joint Working Group with the Indian Railways to plant sapplings on the vacant land along the rail lines in order to produce bio-diesel from the seeds of plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether bio-diesel so produced is likely to be cost-effective and environment friendly;

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) the time by which bio-diesel is likely to be introduced in the country; and

(f) the progress of the R&D studies conducted in this regard?

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): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation and Indian Railways have set up a task force to look into the possibility of taking up a model plantation project on the surplus railway land. To begin with it is proposed to plant *Jatropha curcus* on about 500 hectares of land.

(c) and (d) Bio-diesel produced for pilot study may not be cost effective vis-a-vis diesel as this project will not have the benefit of economy of scale. Bio-diesel is environment friendly as it has zero sulphur and no aromatics. In addition, there is reduction in the emission of carbon-mono-oxide.

(e) Government have not taken any decision in this regard.

(f) R&D studies have indicated that bio-diesel enhances lubricity of diesel and the blended fuel is environment friendly.

[English]

#### **Review of Import Policy on Gas and Oil**

2759. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review its import policy on gas and oil in view of huge quantity of gas discovered by RIL in K.G. Basin recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have negotiated with RIL to acquire gas and oil from its fields; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Permission to DTH**

2760. DR. V. SAROJA:

DR. N.VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted DTH (Direct to Home) Television Services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of licences issued to the service providers as on October 31, 2002; and

(e) the number of service providers which are providing DTH services in the country as on October 31, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Detailed guidelines for starting DTH service were issued in March, 2001. The guidelines, inter-alia, provide that –

- The licensee company shall be an Indian company, registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956;
- Licensee shall adhere to programme and advertisement codes laid down by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting from time to time;
- All foreign personnel likely to be deployed by way of appointment, contract, consultancy etc. by the licensee for installation, maintenance and operation of the licensee's service shall be required to obtain security clearance from the Government of India prior to their deployment;
- All content provided by the DTH platform to the subscribers, irrespective of its source, shall pass through the encryption and conditional access system, located within the earth station situated on Indian soil;
- The licensee shall ensure that its facilities are not

used for transmission of any objectionable or obscene content, messages or communication inconsistent with the laws of India;

- The licensee shall provide the necessary facility for continuous monitoring of the DTH broadcasting service at its own cost and maintain the recordings of programmes and advertisements carried on the platform for a period of ninety days from the date of broadcast and produce the same to the licensor or its authorized representative, as and when required;
- The licensee will, if required by the licensor or its authorized representative, provide necessary facilities for continuous monitoring for any particular aspect of the licensee's activities and operations;
- The applicant is required to fulfil the eligibility criteria laid down in the DTH guidelines and is also subject to security and technical clearances from the concerned departments.

The guidelines are available on this Ministry's website: [mib.nic.in](http://mib.nic.in).

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Two applications have been received seeking permission to start DTH service in the country.

(e) At present, there is no DTH service provider in the country.

[English]

#### **Defence Cooperation with France**

2761. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level delegation has participated in annual meeting of the committee for defence cooperation in France;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified for cooperation; and

(d) the achievement made regarding cooperation in defence sector?

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

(b) During November 2002 the 5th meeting of Indo-French High Committee on Defence Cooperation was held in Paris. The Indian delegation was led by the Defence Secretary. The two sides discussed matters regarding bilateral defence cooperation.

(c) and (d) It would not be in the interest of national security to give details of achievement / areas identified for Indo-French defence cooperation.

[Translation]

#### **Procurement of Defence Materials**

2762. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the group of Ministers set up for defence sector has made any recommendations for simplifying the procedure for procurement of defence material;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Group of Ministers recommended creation of a separate and dedicated institutional structure, viz., Defence Procurement Board (DPB) to undertake the entire gamut of procurement functions including laying down procedures to facilitate a higher degree of professionalism and cost effectiveness and closer participation by the Armed Forces in the process of decision making resulting in higher operational efficiency. The DPB is functional.

[English]

#### **Pipeline Project of Reliance**

2763. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reliance Company is planning to lay a gas pipeline project connecting the country's eastern with western coasts;

(b) if so, whether the company also applied to the Government for the right of use;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) M/s Gas Transportation and Infrastructure Company Limited (GTICL) a company promoted by Reliance Industries Ltd., is executing two pipeline projects viz. (i) Goa-Hyderabad-Kakinada Pipeline Project and (ii) Jamnagar-Bhopal Pipeline Project. Phase-I which will be extended upto Cuttack. Orissa in Phase II.

For the above pipeline projects the process of acquisition of land under Petroleum & Mineral Pipeline (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 is on.

#### **Programme Generation Facility of Doordarshan**

2764. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned/propose to sanction facility of Programmes Generation Centres of Doordarshan in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, location-wise, centre-wise particularly in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal; and

(c) the time by which these centres are likely to be commissioned/re-commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that 12 Studio projects are presently under implementation. State-wise details of these projects are given in enclosed statement.

(c) The above-mentioned studio projects are expected to be completed/commissioned, in phases, during the next three years.

#### **Statement**

##### **Studio projects presently under implementation**

1. Calicut (Kerala)
2. Patiala (Punjab)

3. Gangtok (Sikkim)
4. Warangal (Andhra Pradesh)
5. Rajouri (J&K)
6. Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
7. Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
8. Delhi ( DD Bhavan Phase II)
9. Dehradun (Permanent set up) (Uttaranchal)
10. Gorakhpur (Permanent set up) (Uttar Pradesh)
11. Ranchi (Augmentation) (Jharkhand)
12. Raipur (Augmentation) (Chhattisgarh)

[Translation]

#### **Supply of Solar Energy**

2765. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been envisaged for solar energy being supplied to the various cities of the country per year; and

(b) if so, the percentage of solar energy provided to Nashik district of Maharashtra annually during each of the last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Solar energy products such as water heaters, solar lights, solar pumps and solar cookers are being promoted in the country by the Ministry through various schemes. Amongst these technologies, solar water heaters are finding increasing application in urban areas. For promoting the wider use of this technology, the following steps have been taken:

a soft loan scheme is being implemented through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and a few designated banks to help finance the purchase of such systems by users.

a model amendment to building bye-laws for making solar assisted water heating systems mandatory has been circulated to all states. To encourage municipalities/corporations to amend their building bye laws, a scheme to provide grants has been introduced.

(b) A number of solar energy systems have been installed in Nashik district. However, the energy generated by these systems is not yet significant compared to the total energy consumed in the district. Based on the available information, the number of solar energy systems installed in Nashik district during the last three years is estimated as follows:

System/Year	99-00	2000-01	2001-02
Solar water heaters (litres per day)	4000	10700	25375
Solar cookers (nos.)	10	10	30
Solar street lights (nos.)		10	15
Solar home lighting systems (nos.)	18	28	15
Solar lanterns (nos.)	243	71	60

[English]

#### Speedy Justice to Litigants

2766. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Kalimath to recommend reforms for speedy justice to litigants:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether recommendations of the Committee have received by the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

A Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Justice V.S. Malimath has been set up to consider measures for revamping of Criminal Judicial System and to make recommendations for the consideration of the Government.

(b) The terms of reference for the committee are given in enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*Terms of reference of Justice V.S. Malimath Committee for revamping Criminal Justice System.*

- i. To examine the fundamental principles of criminal jurisprudence, including the constitutional provisions relating to criminal jurisprudence and see if any modifications or amendments are required thereto;
- ii. To examine in the light of findings on fundamental principles and aspects of criminal jurisprudence as to whether there is a need to rewrite the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Indian Penal Code and the Indian Evidence Act to bring them in tune with the demand of the times and in harmony with the aspirations of the people of India.
- iii. To make specific recommendations on simplifying judicial procedures and practices and making the delivery of justice to the common man closer, faster, uncomplicated and inexpensive;
- iv. To suggest ways and means of developing such synergy among the judiciary, the prosecution and the police as restores the confidence of the common man in the criminal justice system by protecting the innocent and the victim and by punishing unsparingly the guilty and the criminal;
- v. To suggest sound system of managing, on professional lines, the pendency of cases at investigation and trial stages and making the police, the prosecution and the judiciary accountable for delays in their respective domains; and
- vi. To examine the feasibility of introducing the concept of "federal crime" which can be put on List I in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

#### Funds to Regional Newspapers in N.E. States

2767. SHRI K.A. SANGATAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DAVP had failed to allocate funds to regional newspapers with regard to advertisements particularly related to interview and service matters in the North East State:

(b) if so, details of the pending cases with the DAVP along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear the pending cases and guidelines being laid for future in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Review of Status of Navratna PSUs**

2768. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the status of Navratna PSUs is being reviewed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government intend to accord Navratna status to more PSUs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) In order to appraise the performance of PSEs from time to time an institutional mechanism has been created for review of performance of Navratna CPSUs and grant of Navratna status to more CPSUs. An Apex Committee has been constituted for the purpose. The review of performance of the existing Navratna PSUs and according of Navratna status to more PSUs is a continuous process.

[Translation]

#### **Setting up of Defence Production Unit**

2769. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up any defence production unit in adivasi and rural/backward areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which this unit is likely to be set up; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) At present, there is no proposal to set up a new defence production unit.

- (b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

#### **Acquisition of Land**

2770. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to acquire land for their VRDE establishment near Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of villages from where land is to be acquired;
- (d) whether the villagers are, strongly protested for acquisition of land;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government propose to revise its proposal; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

- (b) to (g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **National Train Inquiry System**

2771. SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway stations where 'National Train Enquiry System' has been implemented, State-wise including Gujarat;
- (b) whether the commuters are facing lot of difficulties due to lack of satisfactory response in the system; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to determine the accountability of the enquiry system in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) A statement is enclosed.



(b) and (c) The National Train Enquiry System is functioning satisfactorily and being monitored. The monitoring and supervision has been further strengthened and corrective action taken as deemed fit.

**Statement**

S.No.	State	Number of stations having NTES
1.	Assam	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11
3.	Bihar	11
4.	Chhattisgarh	5
5.	Delhi	3
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	Goa	1
8.	Haryana	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10.	Jharkhand	4
11.	Karnataka	5
12.	Kerala	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19
14.	Maharashtra	25
15.	Orissa	6
16.	Punjab	6
17.	Rajasthan	7
18.	Tamil Nadu	8
19.	Uttar Pradesh	18
20.	Uttaranchal	2
21.	West Bengal	11

**Sabotaging of Polls in J&K**

2772. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts for sabotaging the polls were made during the last phase of recently held Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly elections;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the people suspected to have been involved in poll sabotage;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Contesting Election from more than one Constituency**

2773. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Bill is under consideration of the Government to be introduced in the Parliament for restricting the candidates from contesting elections from more than one constituency for the Lok Sabha or the State Legislative Assembly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Outlay of Tenth Five Year Plan**

2774. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Five Year Plan outlay for the Ministry has been increased from the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the outlay has been increased?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As compared to 9th Plan Outlay of Rs.2843.05 Cr (Direct Budgetary Support: Rs.680.05 Cr + Internal & Extra Budgetary Resources: Rs.2163.00 Cr), the 10th Plan outlay in respect of Ministry of I&B is Rs. 5130 Cr (Direct Budgetary Support: Rs.2380 Cr + Internal & Extra Budgetary Resources: Rs.2750 Cr).

### **BAK Loopline**

2775. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Track of BAK Loopline of Eastern Railway has become unsafe for traffic;

(b) whether derailment, collapse in railway track is taking place and speed of passenger trains is only around 35 kmp on this BAK Loopline;

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

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

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

(b) No, Sir. During the last one year, there has been only one derailment on Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa (BAK) section. Trains are running at an average speed of 60 kmph in this section.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Repair and maintenance of Railway track is an on-going activity. Apart from regular maintenance, track renewals are also undertaken whenever required, depending upon the availability of funds. In certain cases, suitable speed restrictions are also imposed to ensure safety. Most of the stretches on BAK section, where track renewals are due, have already been sanctioned. Railway has targeted 17 km of Rail renewal and 7 km of sleeper renewal on this section, during the current year. Work is in progress.

### **DD/AIR Kendras in Bodo-Tribal Areas**

2776. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up few more number of new AIR Stations and Doordarshan Kendras in Bodo-Tribal dominated areas within the Bodoland Territory particularly in Indo-Bhutan bordering areas;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) At present, a Low Power Transmitter (LPT) of Doordarshan at Satrasal in Dhubri District is under implementation. Additional Doordarshan projects for Bodo Tribal dominated areas are envisaged under the proposed Special NE package. These areas are well covered by radio signals of All India Radio from the Stations at Kokrajhar, Dhubri and Guwahati in Assam, Siliguri in West Bengal, Gangtok in Sikkim and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh. In addition, one FM Transmitter is planned at Bomdilla in Arunachal Pradesh.

### **Food Plazas at Railway Stations**

2777. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to open food plazas at certain railway stations;

(b) if so, the details of the stations earmarked for this purpose particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which they are likely to be opened and the rates fixed for meals?

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

(b) One food plaza at Vijayawada in the State of Andhra Pradesh has already been allotted. Six more at Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Tirupati Guntur, Nellore and Rajamundry have been proposed in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Opening of food plaza will be subject to availability of land and suitable operator. The rates will be market driven.

**Financial Grant for Derailed Power Sector**

2778. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from the Government of Orissa for providing special financial grant for the derailed power sector to bring back on the rail;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance sought; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Government of Orissa entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Power on 1.6.2001 for undertaking reforms in the power sector in a time bound manner. Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), Orissa has been sanctioned an amount of Rs.38 crores for renovation and modernisation/renovation and uprating during the year 2000-01. An amount of Rs.14.72 crores was released during the year 2002-03 for metering and distribution transformers under sub-transmission & distribution.

[Translation]

**Contract to Transport Companies in Rajasthan**

2779. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of transport companies got contract from Salawas oil depot in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the details of transport companies alongwith the payment received by them from various oil companies during the last three years; and

(c) the details of transport companies which transported petrol from Salawas depot in Jodhpur district and Kandla Port in Gujarat during the last three years?

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): (a) and (b) Year-wise details of Transport Companies contracted by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for transporting oil from Salawas oil depot in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan and amount paid to them during the last three years are given below:-

Year	No. of transport Companies	Amount Paid (Rs. in crores )
Oct., 1999-Sept., 2000	179	17.69
Oct., 2000-Sept., 2001	219	23.05
Oct., 2001-Sept., 2002	224	25.75

(c) Year-wise details of Transport Companies which transported petrol from Salawas depot in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan and Kandla Port in Gujarat during the last three years are given below:-

Year	Salawas depot	Kandla Port
Oct., 1999-Sept., 2000	179	173
Oct., 2000-Sept., 2001	219	223
Oct., 2001-Sept., 2002	224	203

**Subsidies on Petroleum Products**

2780. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of subsidies given by the Government on petroleum products like kerosene, LPG, Diesel, Petrol etc. annually;

(b) whether the Government propose to remove subsidy given on these items; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) to (c) As of now, only PDS kerosene and domestic LPG are subsidized by the Government. The budgetary allocation for the year 2002-03 on account of "Subsidy on PDS kerosene and domestic LPG" and "Freight subsidy on PDS kerosene and domestic LPG for far flung areas" is Rs 4495.80 crore and Rs.239.14 crore respectively. The subsidies on PDS kerosene and domestic LPG will be phased out in the next 3 to 5 years.

**Pending Power Plants in M.P.**

2781. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact

that several power projects lying pending in Madhya Pradesh:

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the proposals or suggestions have been put forward to the Government to make them complete;

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(e) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to achieve its target to generate more power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) The details of proposals for setting up power projects in Madhya Pradesh which are under examination in Central Electricity Authority for grant of Techno-Economic Clearance are given as under:

Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
Sanjay Gandhi TPS Extn., State Sector	500	The revised technical and cost details of the project are to be submitted as per comments given by CEA.
Maalwa Coal fired TPS - State Sector	1000	Feasibility report received in CEA on 16.10.2002 and returned to State authorities due to non tie-up of essential inputs such as availability of land, clearance from State Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment and Forests.
Amarkantak TPS Extn., State Sector	210	DPR received in CEA on 13.11.2002

A list of ongoing power projects in public and private sector scheduled to be commissioned in 10th Plan is given below:

Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule	Reasons for delay
Indirasagar H.E. Project, Joint Venture of NHPC and Madhya Pradesh	1000	1997-2000 (original) 2004-06 (latest)	Relief and rehabilitation problem. Slow progress due to funds constraints.
Omkareshwar H.E. Project National Hydro Electric Development Corporation (NHDC)	520	2006-07	
Bansagar Tons IV, State Sector	20	1996-97 (original) 2004-05 (latest)	Relief and rehabilitation problem, funds constraints
Madhikheda, State Sector	40	2004-05	
Sardar, Sarovar, Joint Venture of MP, Gujarat and Maharashtra	826.5 (M.P.'s share)	2002-2007	
Maheshwar HEP, Private Sector	400	2001-2002 (original) 2005-07 (latest)	Relief and rehabilitation problem, delay in finalization of package for loan.
Total	2806.5 MW		

All these projects are subject to close monitoring and periodical meetings are held with all concerned to expedite implementation of these projects.

#### **Bottling Plant at Bhagalpur, Bihar**

2782. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a LPG Bottling Plant at Bhagalpur in Bihar in the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

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

(c) whether the Government have fulfilled all the procedural formalities for the setting up of this plant in Bhagalpur;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) to (e) As per the approved plan, a bottling plant was to be set up in Bhagalpur, but due to non-availability of a suitable land, and other commercial considerations, the plant could not be set up.

[English]

#### **Rail Accidents**

2783. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government take disciplinary action against staff held responsible for major Rail Accidents by the inquiry commission set up after such accidents;

(b) if so, whether such inquiry commissions maintains certain other issues and recommends for their proper address;

(c) the details of such recommendations after Gaishal, Khanna, Rajpura, Purusottam Express, Howrah Rajdhani Express accidents; and

(d) the details of steps taken by the Government for implementation of accident-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In recent past, three Judicial Commissions were set up to inquire into the accidents occurred near Khanna on 26.11.1998, Gaisal on 02.08.1999 and Sarai Banjara (near Rajpura) on 02.12.2000.

Justice G.N. Ray Commission was set up to inquire into Gaisal accident and it has since submitted its Report and has made 21 recommendations pertaining to operational improvements like setting of points, indications for trains going on wrong line, track circuiting, Mobile Train Radio Communication, etc. 18 accepted recommendations are at various stages of implementation. Other 3 recommendations could not be accepted due to various administrative reasons.

Reports of the Justice G.C. Garg Commission inquiring into Khanna accident and Justice Saghir Ahmad Commission inquiring into Sarai Banjara accident are, however, awaited.

Commissioner of Railway Safety/Northern Circle inquired into the accident of Purushottam Express on 20.08.1995 on Northern Railway and made some recommendations pertaining to track circuiting, signalling safety works, fitting of coaches with bogie mounted brakes, composite brake blocks, etc.

Commission of Railway Safety/Eastern Circle inquired into the derailment of Rajdhani Express on 09.09.2002 on Eastern Railway and, in his Final Report, has made 25 recommendations pertaining to anti-sabotage measures, design of coaches, telecommunication facilities, etc. However, action has been initiated on the 'immediate recommendations' brought out in his Preliminary Report.

The recommendations are examined from various angles, especially their applicability and relevance to safety and are accepted and implemented in stages.

#### **Investment by PFC**

2784. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of investment by Power Finance Corporation for Power activities during the 9th Five Year Plan along with the loan sanctioned, State-wise;

(b) whether the rate of recovery of loan from the various States has been declined;

- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the scheme formulated by the Government to enhance the rate of recovery of loan;
- (e) the loan proposed to be sanctioned during the 10th Five Year Plan; and
- (f) the number of private projects to whom loan is being sanctioned along with the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a): Details of investment made by Power Finance Corporation (PFC) for power activities (State-wise) during 9th Plan is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) PFC has projected to provide financial assistance of around Rs.43,300 crores during 10th Five Year Plan.

(f) The details of private projects to whom financial assistance has been provided by PFC is given in enclosed Statement-II. The terms & conditions of loan include, inter-alia, the rate of interest, period of loan, due date for payment of interest & principal, adequate security mechanism etc.

#### Statement-I

##### Disbursement From

'01-Apr.-1997 to 31-Mar.-2002'

State Name	Disb. (Rs. in Crores)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1721.72
Arunachal Pradesh	230.36

1	2
Assam	68.24
Chhattisgarh	103.21
Delhi	280.00
Goa	24.94
Gujarat	834.60
Haryana	1051.59
Himachal Pradesh	489.29
Jammu & Kashmir	44.55
Karnataka	1477.93
Kerala	194.53
Madhya Pradesh	1000.11
Maharashtra	1770.47
Meghalaya	0.02
Mizoram	12.03
Nagaland	191.83
Orissa	591.27
Punjab	1204.44
Rajasthan	2926.91
Tamil Nadu	1568.37
Uttar Pradesh	741.60
West Bengal	388.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>16916.40</b>

#### Statement-II

##### Private Sector Projects Financed by PFC

(Rs. in crores)				
S.N.	Name of Company	Name of Project	Capacity	Amount disbursed
1	2	3	4	5
1.	J.K. Industries Ltd.	ADG of captive Co-generation Plant (9 to 19 MW) at Meeraganj (Loan No. J0501001)	19 MW	5.50.00
2.	Jai Prakash Power Ventures Ltd.	4x100 MW Vishnu Prayag HEP in UP (Loan No. J0202001)	400 MW	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Jai Prakash Hydro Power Ltd.	Baspa-II HEP (3x 1 00 MW) (Loan No. J0102001)	300 MW	170.00
4.	Malana Power Corpn. Ltd.	Malana HEP (2x43 MW) at Kultu District (Loan No. M0202001)	86 MW	25.00
5	Maheshwar Hydel Power Corpn. Ltd.	Maheshwar HEP (10x40 MW) (Loan No.20502001 & 20502002)	400 MW	99.33
6.	Bombay Suburban Electric Supply	Upgradation & Improvement of T&D Network (Loan No. 21407001)		47.50
7.	GIPCL	Mangrol TPS (2x125 MW) (Loan No.84301001)	250 MW	18.00
8.	Singhi Industries Ltd.	45.33 MW Captive Power Plant (Loan No. S0601001)	45 MW	57.00
9.	Clarion Power Corpn. Ltd.	12 MW Biomass based Power Project (Loan No. C0301001)	12 MW	23.50
10.	LANCO Kondapally Power Ltd.	Naptha based CCGT at Krishna District (355 MW) (Loan No. 31701003)	355 MW	223.61
11.	BPL Power Projects Ltd.	520 MW Coal fired TPP at Ramagundam (Loan No. B0201001)	520 MW	0.00
12.	BSES-Kerala Power Ltd	165 MW Naptha based CCGT at Udyogmandal (Loan No.B0301001)	165 MW	99.93
13.	Balaji Power Corporation	7x15.143 MWLSFO based DG sets at Samayanallur in Madurai (Loan No B0101001)	106 MW	86.70

#### **Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies to Ex-servicemen and War Widows in Rajasthan**

2785. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen and the family members of war martyrs in Rajasthan who applied for petrol pump and LPG dealership on priority basis during the last three years till date;

(b) the number of applications out of those approved along with the number of applications under consideration; and

(c) the time by which the petrol pumps/LPG dealerships applied for are likely to be given by approving the applications under consideration?

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): (a) to (c) Apart from the 8% reservation provided for the Defence category in the allotment of dealerships/distributorships for petroleum products as per the guidelines for selection of dealers/distributors, the Government have introduced the following two schemes for allotment of dealerships/distributorships to the disabled Defence personnel and the dependants of Defence personnel killed in action:

1. The Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships to the widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil). Under this Scheme, allotments are made on the recommendations of Director General Resettlement, Ministry of Defence.
2. The discretionary quota of the Government has been introduced for allotment of dealerships/distributorships, on genuine compassionate grounds and in deserving cases, to the following categories:-
  - (i) Dependants of Defence/Paramilitary/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.
  - (ii) Dependants of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

Under the scheme mentioned at 1 above, the Government have approved the allotment of 40 retail outlet dealerships and 9 LPG distributorships to persons in the State of Rajasthan.

Under the Scheme mentioned at 2 above, 104

applications for retail outlet dealerships and 13 applications for LPG distributorships have been received from applicants belonging to the State of Rajasthan. The Government have so far approved the allotment of one retail outlet/dealership, under the discretionary quota, to a person belonging to Rajasthan.

As there are a large number of applications for allotment of dealerships/distributorships under the discretionary quota, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the allotments are likely to be approved.

[English]

### **CNG Outlets in Delhi**

2786. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of CNG outlets in Delhi at the moment operated by GAIL or its subsidiaries;
- (b) the number of such CNG outlets a year ago in Delhi;
- (c) whether GAIL and its subsidiaries have not been able to build adequate outlets to keep up with demand for CNG by vehicles;
- (d) the reasons for lack of administrative skills in GAIL that led to failure to meet this demand for CNG; and
- (e) the steps proposed to review functioning of GAIL and its subsidiaries?

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): (a) and (b) GAIL (India) Limited is not operating any Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) outlets in Delhi. CNG outlets are being operated by M/s Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL), which is a joint venture company of GAIL (India) Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. At present Indraprastha Gas Limited is operating 100 CNG outlets in Delhi as against 87 CNG outlets a year ago.

(c) to (e) In order to meet the growing demand of CNG the CNG infrastructure in Delhi is being increased in a phased manner. As against 4.43 lakh KG per day CNG compression capacity one year ago the compression capacity of CNG will be increased to 16.11 lakh KG per day by June, 2003. With the improvement in CNG

infrastructure it is expected that IGL will largely be able to meet the CNG requirement of Delhi.

[Translation]

### **Allotment of Land to Soldiers**

2787. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have followed any criteria for allotment of land to soldiers;
- (b) the role played by the State Governments after allotment of land by the Union Government;
- (c) whether the State Governments have furnished any reasons before the Union Government for delay/pendency in these cases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reasons for harassment of soldiers by the State Administration in providing land to them despite allotment of land by the Union Government;
- (f) whether the Union Government would review such cases; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There is no provision in the existing Defence Land Policy for permanent allotment of defence land to serving soldiers. However, temporary surplus defence land are granted on lease for short durations for agricultural purposes to ex-servicemen subject to prescribed conditions.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

[English]

### **Change in Evidence Act**

2788. SHRI K. E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to bring about changes in the Evidence Act; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proviso to section 146 in the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 is proposed to be inserted to the effect that in a prosecution for rape



and attempt to commit rape, it shall not be permissible to put questions in the cross-examination of the prosecutrix as to her general immoral character. Further, clause (4) of section 155 which provides that when a man is prosecuted for rape or an attempt to ravish, it may be shown that the prosecutrix was of generally immoral character, is also proposed to be omitted. In this regard, the Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2002 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 28.11.2002.

#### **Cartelisation of Manufacturers of Cement Sleepers**

2789. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Accidents are taking place unabatedly due to poor condition of the tracks and the Railways are finding it difficult to change the tracks due to cartelisation of the manufacturers of cement sleepers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome the cartelisation of cement sleeper manufacturers;

(c) whether there is any proposal to use steel sleepers in place of wooden and cement sleepers;

(d) if so, the amount of Railway track that need replacement; and

(e) the time by which the steel sleepers are likely to be replaced by the wooden sleepers to check frequent railway accidents?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no proposal to replace the steel sleepers by the wooden sleepers. Existing steel/wooden sleepers are being replaced with concrete sleepers in a planned manner and on an yearly programme basis to ensure safety of track. It is a continuous activity.

#### **Hydro Electric Projects in Cauvery Basin**

2790. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to set up hydro-electric project in the Cauvery Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to clear this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) No proposal of hydro-electric project in Cauvery Basin is pending with Central Electricity Authority for clearance. However, 11 schemes with an aggregate capacity of 2170 MW in Cauvery Basin have been returned to the concerned project authorities with a request to re-submit the schemes after the inter-state disputes have been resolved between the concerned States.

In order to take up the integrated development of hydro-electric projects based on the interim order of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) prepared a plan for optimal utilization of the untapped hydro potential estimated at 1140 MW in respect of four projects on the Cauvery river. With the consent of the Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, NHPC was requested on 6.1.2001 to initiate action for survey, investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Reports of Cauvery Power Projects. Ministry of Environment & Forests has, however, rejected the proposal for site clearance in respect of Mekedatu, Rasimanal and Hogenakkal projects as the proposed project sites/areas are either fully or partially coming within the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. Though site clearance for Stage-I in respect of Shivasamudram Project has been accorded, the Government of Tamil Nadu have been insist on execution of all the four projects as a 'package' and not on stand alone basis.

#### **Power Generation and Supply**

2791. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP) that aimed to facilitate completion of ongoing generation projects;

(b) whether the Government propose not to extend the AG&SP during the Tenth Plan period;

(c) if so, the reason therefor;

(d) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government to extend the Programme during the Tenth Plan;

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

(f) the time by which the ongoing projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) The extension of Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP) upto 2007 has been approved by the Government with following modifications:

- (i) Interest subsidy has been reduced from 4% to 3%. Interest subsidy would be limited to difference of lending rates and benchmark rate subject to a maximum of 3%. The benchmark rate will be prescribed rate of interest of 12 years of Government security for that particular financial year. An additional 1 % interest subsidy will be given for projects in North-Eastern Region.
- (ii) The eligibility for funding has been linked to performance on agreed minimum milestones of reforms. Only those states, which perform satisfactorily with respect to the agreed milestones of the reform Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) entered into with the Ministry of Power and of the Action Plans to achieve commercial viability in accordance with the Reform programme, would be eligible for funding under AG&SP.
- (iii) The coverage of AG&SP has been extended to projects financed by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).
- (iv) The scope of assistance under AG & SP scheme will be limited only to State Sector Generating and Renovation & Modernisation (R & M) in Thermal and Hydel projects.

Several State Governments had also requested for extension of this Scheme to Xth Plan.

(f) Several Projects of generation and Renovation & Modernization (R&M) would be taken up for financial assistance under this scheme and completion of these projects would depend upon tying of inputs such as arranging finances, fuel supply agreements, Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) etc.

#### **Recruitment in Air Force**

2792. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that people from all the regions are not appropriately represented in the air force;

(b) whether it is also a fact that air force is not getting sufficient number of airmen during its recruitment drives; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that sufficient number of airmen are recruited and

also appropriate representation is made from all regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Air Force does not follow a region based recruitment system: Eligible candidates from any region can apply for selection.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Demand and Generation of Power**

2793. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity, demand and generation of power in Bihar at present;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to augment the installed power generation capacity to ensure supply as per the demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The present average peak demand of Bihar is about 950 MW. Bihar has total installed capacity of 598 MW and normal generation in Bihar from its own sources is 100 to 120 MW.

(b) and (c) Eastern Region as a whole (of which Bihar is a constituent) at present is having substantial surplus of power out of which about 1300 MW is being already transferred to neighbouring regions. Bihar, however, is not able to draw adequate power from the Central Sector Stations from Eastern Regional Grid to meet its full requirement due to its limited paying capability and inadequate T&D system particularly in North Bihar. New capacity addition of 135 MW at Bihta has been planned in Bihar in the private sector during the 10th Plan. In addition, Bihar will also get share from Central Sector and Mega Projects of Eastern Region and from Tala HEP (1020 MW) in Bhutan.

#### **Express Trains During Kumbh Mela**

2794. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of express trains to be provided

on account of Kumbh Mela in Nasik in 2003 and the details of the cities and States of their points of origin:

(b) the arrangements made to provide a stoppage to trains passing through Nasik and the number thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide passenger amenities in these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Railways will make all efforts to clear the extra rush of traffic on account of Kumbh Mela in Nasik in 2003 by running special trains, augmenting the loads of the existing trains, providing additional stoppages and passenger amenities subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources in consultation with the Mela Authorities. The details of the arrangements are not finalised.

[English]

#### **Equity Structure of Petronet LNG**

2795. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the equity structure of Petronet LNG has been decided by the Government;

(b) whether the Indian Farmers and Fertilisers Corporation (IFFCO) and the Krishak Bharati Cooperatives (KRIBHCO) have decided to pick up 20 per cent stake in the company;

(c) if so, details of the total investment in Petronet and the stake of share holders investment; and

(d) the schedule for the completion of the project?

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): (a) Yes, Sir. Four Public Sector Oil Companies viz. GAIL (India) Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., have promoted Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) as a Joint Venture Company with the authorized capital of Rs.1200 crore. The participating Public Sector Oil Companies have 12.5 % equity each in PLL and the balance equity has been earmarked for LNG supplier, strategic partner and public etc.

(b) and (c) IFFCO and KRIBHCO are in the process of carrying out due diligence of Petronet LNG Limited for investing 10% equity each.

(d) Dahej LNG Project of PLL is scheduled to be mechanically completed by December, 2003.

#### **Second Unit of Simhadri Power Plant**

2796. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether second unit of Simhadri plant of NTPC has been commissioned fully;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it had set up new bench marking in the power sector;

(d) if so, whether any plan has been firmed up for replicating the example set up by Simhadri Unit II in respect of all NTPC power plants which are under gestation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The second unit of Simhadri has, been commissioned in August, 2002 against the schedule of December, 2002.

(c) Yes, Sir. The second 500 MW unit in Simhadri was commissioned in 45 months from the date of main plant award against schedule of 49 months.

(d) and (e) National Thermal Power Corporation is making all efforts to commission all future projects with 500 MW units in similar time-frame and/or with improvement on it.

#### **Purchase of Digital Cameras**

2797. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that another scam worth

crores of rupees has come to the light in the purchase of around 500 digital Cameras and other equipments for troops deployed in the Northern Command area as reported in the "Times of India" dated September 6, 2002;

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

(c) whether the Government have ordered Departmental Court of Enquiry to look into this alleged scam;

(d) if so, the number of officers involved therein and the source of information based on which the Government have ordered Departmental Court of Enquiry;

(e) the reasons for not referring the case for CBI Enquiry; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to sort out the corruptions from the Defence Forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (f) Prior to publication of news items dated 6th September, 2002, a pseudonymous complaint alleging irregularities in the procurement of information technology stores and 500 digital cameras by the Army Headquarters was received in the Ministry in July, 2002. In order to ascertain the facts of the case, a court of inquiry had been ordered by the Army Hqrs. to look into all major purchases of IT systems. The said inquiry is still in progress. The irregularities, if any, and the persons responsible therein, will be known only on completion of the inquiry. The question of referring the matter for investigation by CBI or any other agency shall be considered on the basis of the outcome of the inquiry.

Besides others, the following important steps have been taken to bring transparency in defence purchases:

- (i) Government have issued orders, in consultation with the CVC & C&AG for mandatory and time-bound scrutiny of all major procurements/purchase decisions, involving cost of above Rs. 75 crores, by C&AG and where necessary by the CVC.
- (ii) Defence Procurement Board consisting of senior officers of the Ministry, three services and the Defence Finance Wing has been set up to handle major Defence purchases in a professional, transparent and cost effective manner.

- (iii) In order to make the Defence procurement procedures fully transparent and to ensure probity of the highest order, the Government after careful consideration of the recommendation of the CVC, have issued instruction for involvement of authorized representatives/agents in Defence purchases. This would enhance transparency level and provide the service Hqrs., additional information about latest advances in sophisticated technology.

*[Translation]*

### **Work Undertaken by BRO**

2798. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Border Road Organisation;

(b) the details of the works undertaken by the Border Road Organisation during the last two years;

(c) the funds provided to Border Road Organisation during each of the last three years alongwith the break-up of the amounts spent by it on the Plan and Non-Plan works; and

(d) the work proposed to be undertaken on the border roads in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The main function of the organisation is to develop and maintain roads to meet the operational and strategic requirement of the Army. B.R.O. also contributes to socio-economic development of the Border areas of the country in North, West and North East by taking up road development projects in these areas.

(b) and (c) The details are given in enclosed statement.

(d) There is no proposal yet for undertaking work on border roads in Gujarat.

### **Statement**

Part (b) The details of the work undertaken by the Border Roads Organisation in the last two years are as follows:-

S. No.	Item of Work	Unit	GS works			Agency/Deposit Works		
			2000-2001	2001-2002	Total	2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
1.	Formation	Km	466	331	797	500	389	889
2.	Surfacing	Km	677	744	1421	682	589	1271
3.	Protective Works	Rs. Lacs	14328	14647	28975	16663	17223	33886
4.	Major Bridges	Mtr.	512	958	1470	518	885	1403

Part (c) The funds provided to this Organisation during the last 3 years along with the break up of the amounts spent on Plan/ Non-plan work are as follows:-

Financial year	Allotment (Rs. in crores)		Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)		Total (Rs. in crores)
	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan	
1999-2000	127	751	127	751	878
2000-2001	145	843	145	843	988
2001-2002	175	970	175	970	1145

[English]

#### **Censor Board for Doordarshan**

2799. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received spate of representations to set up a Censor Board for telecasting the various serials and other programmes on Doordarshan and Cable T.V.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the government thereto;

(c) whether in the absence of any Censor Board for electronic media, the programmes being telecast on Doordarshan and Cable T.V. are obscene, full of vulgar language and destructive in nature;

(d) if so, the time by which the Censor Board for Doordarshan and Cable T.V. is likely to be set up; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Some such suggestions have been received in the past, Programmes telecast on Doordarshan are governed by the

Broadcast Code, which inter-alia prohibits programmes which contain anything obscene. All programmes telecast on Doordarshan are previewed before telecast, to ensure that they are suitable for family viewing.

The Programmes telecast on private satellite channels are required to adhere to the provisions of the Programme Code, prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder, which inter-alia prohibits telecast of any programme which offends good taste or decency.

There is no proposal to set up a Censor Board for serials and other programmes carried on DD and Cable TV.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Slackness of Chief Justice of High Courts**

2800. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new Chief Justice of India has given some suggestions to root out the corruption prevailing in judiciary due to slackness of various courts/High courts;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (c) Government have consulted the Supreme Court of India.

The Court has informed as below:

"The Statement of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is based on his perceptions which he has gathered from various sources or the publications at times in the newspapers. The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has been trying to get even the minimum materials from the concerned Chief Justices of the High Courts in support of the allegations so that he can proceed with the In-House Procedure Inquiry which has been adopted by the Supreme Court as well as all the High Courts."

#### **Review of Gas Price Structure**

2801. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up an expert panel to review price structure of gas throughout the country;

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

(c) the time by which the committee/panel is likely to submit its report;

(d) whether the difference in sales tax levied by each State Government has also been examined by the panel; and

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

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): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Caller Identification System**

2802. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Central Railway has introduced a caller identification system at railway stations and with senior officials;

(b) whether this system is proposed to be introduced on all railway zones; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Considering the threat from the extremists' groups, Caller Identification facility has been provided on Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) telephones of certain identified Railway stations and Railway officials.

(b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce Caller Identification facility on all the BSNL telephones on the Zonal Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Appointment of Judicial Members**

2803. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of posts of Judicial Member of the Railway Claims Tribunal are lying vacant for long;

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

(c) the total posts at present lying vacant;

(d) the number of posts filled by Railways during the last three years; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by Railways to fill these vacancies to speedy disposal of claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. At present, ten posts of Member (Judicial) are lying vacant in various benches of Railways Claims Tribunal. There is one post of Member (Judicial) lying vacant in each of the tribunals of Gorakhpur, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Patna, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Jaipur and two posts of Judicial Members at Kolkata Bench of the Tribunal. Some of the officers selected and offered the appointment of Member did not eventually join the Bench which has resulted in these vacancies not being filled up.

(d) 14 posts were filled during last three years upto November 2002.

(e) Selection of the persons to fill up the vacancies is in advanced stage of finalisation.

[Translation]

### **Clearance of Enron Projects**

2804. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Enron projects cleared by the Government;

(b) the names of the projects which have been implemented in Maharashtra; and

(c) the time by which the problem of shortage of power in the Maharashtra state at present is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Dabhol power project being implemented in Maharashtra by Dabhol Power Company which has a Power Purchase Agreement with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board, is the only power project involving majority shareholding by Enron, which has been accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(c) Supply and distribution of electricity within a State is in the purview of concerned State Government/ State Power Utility. The priority of power supply to various categories of consumers in the State is decided by the State Government, keeping in view the total availability of power from various sources in the State.

The Ministry of Power in the Government of India on its part is taking following steps to augment availability of power and thereby mitigate shortage of power in the country:

- (i) Besides capacity addition of 1944 MW in the State/Private Sector, generation capacity of 2480 MW is proposed to be implemented in the Central Sector during 10th Plan period in the Western region in which the State will also have its entitlements.
- (ii) Strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution network of the state system for reduction in T & D losses and improving quality in power supply. Funds are being provided to States for undertaking schemes for strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution system under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP).

(iii) Establishment/Strengthening of international transmission links for enhancement of inter-state and inter-regional transfer of power for optimal utilization of existing generation capacity in the country. Already, 220 KV Budhipadar-Korba project has been commissioned which has enabled flow of surplus power from Eastern region to Western region.

(iv) Renovation, Modernisation and Life Extension (R&M&LE) of old and inefficient generating units for improving generation performance. Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation will provide loan with interest subsidy to Power Utilities for undertaking R&M&LE works under Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP).

(v) Demand side management and Promoting energy efficiency and conservation measures.

(vi) Strengthening/Augmentation of Transmission system and formation of National Grid by the end of 11th Plan which will facilitate smooth flow of power from surplus States/Region to deficit States/Region.

[English]

### **Relief to Victims of Rajdhani Express Accident**

805. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press news item captioned "stench of death over Rafigani" as reported in the Statesman dated September 11, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Government machinery have totally failed to provide relief and rescue measures to the victims of the Rajdhani Express train;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any responsibility have been fixed on those who have not timely provided rescue and relief; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir. The best possible available resources were deployed for rescue and relief operation for the victims of derailment of Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express near Rafiganj on 09.09.2002.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

**International Conference on Maritime Search and Rescue**

2806. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Maritime Search and Rescue Conference was held in Chennai recently;

(b) if so, the names of the countries who were participated in the conference;

(c) the objectives of the conference; and

(d) the achievement of the conference?

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

(b) Delegates from 13 maritime nations viz. Australia, China, France, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UK and USA and six International Organisations viz., Royal National Lifeboat Institute (UK), International Maritime Satellite Organisation (INMARSAT) (London), International Maritime Organisation (London), World Maritime University (Sweden), COSPASSARSAT (London) and Sri Lankan Lifeboat Institute (Colombo) have attended the conference.

(c) The main objectives of the conference were:

(i) To foster a friendly and Cooperative relationship among maritime states.

(ii) Search & Rescue (SAR) services to all mariners by resource sharing under cooperative programmes.

(iii) To introduce the ship reporting system (INDSAR) for SAR operated by the Indian Coast Guard.

(d) The objectives were broadly achieved.

**Memo Submitted to Government by Lawyers**

2807. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether eight lakh lawyers all over the country went on hunger strike, fast, dharna on November 8, 2002 following a resolution passed by Supreme Court Bar Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have submitted a memorandum to the Government and other authorities to amend 'Legal Authorities Act', for Lok Adalats and other demands;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the outcome thereof; and

(g) the number of demands accepted, those rejected and under consideration of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Lawyers are reported to have gone on hunger strike, fast, dharna to press for recall of the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002

(c) and (d) In their memorandum submitted to the Government the lawyers have opposed the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002 claiming that it is anti-litigant.

(e) to (g) The Supreme Court of India has by its order dated 28.10.2002 in S.N. Pandey Vs. Union of India, upheld the constitutional validity of the aforesaid Act. The Supreme Court of India has inter-alia stated that the Act ensures that justice will be available to the litigant speedily and impartially. In view of this, there is no proposal to amend or recall the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002.

**Appointment on Compassionate Ground**

2808. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for appointment on compassionate grounds in Defence Ministry;

(b) the number of employees died while in service during 1999, 2000 and till date;

(c) whether all the eligible dependants of the



expired employees who expired during the above years have been provided with the suitable jobs on compassionate grounds;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for providing employment to those dependants whose candidatures have been rejected by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The criteria for appointment on compassionate grounds in Defence Ministry is as laid down in the Scheme of Compassionate Appointment issued vide Department of Personnel & Training OM No. 14014/6/94-Estt(D), dated 9.10.1998 as amended from time to time.

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

(c) and (d) All requests for appointment on compassionate grounds are considered in the light of the instructions issued from time to time by Department of Personnel & Training. Appointment on compassionate grounds is offered only to those candidates whose cases are recommended by the Committee constituted for the purpose keeping in view the availability of 5% Direct Recruitment vacancies in Group 'C' and 'D' posts within a year.

(e) Under the existing Scheme of Compassionate Appointment there is no provision for providing employment to those dependants whose case have been rejected. There is no change in the existing scheme nor any change is proposed.

#### **Power Generation**

2809. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power generated in Public Sector as well as in Private Sector during the Ninth Five

Year Plan and proposed to be generated during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of power generated against the target fixed during the year 2002; and

(c) the steps being taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) State-wise electricity generated in Public and Private Sector during the 9th Plan year-wise is given in enclosed Statement-I. Energy generation targets are fixed on year to year basis. State-wise electricity generated in the public and Private Sector during April-October, 2002 (i.e. first year of 10th plan) is given in enclosed Statement-II.

(b) and (c) Electricity generated during 2002-03 (upto October, 2002) was 307836 MUs against the target of 315813 MUs (i.e. 97.5%). Though the thermal generation and nuclear generation was 100% and 112% of the target, hydel generation was 82.5% of the target due to poor monsoons.

The hydel generation has been less than the target due to inadequate rainfall in many parts of the country in view of weak south west monsoon this year. Keeping this in view a meeting of Power Ministers of States (barring NER States) was held in August, 2002 in order to evolve strategy to tackle power demand during drought conditions. The major decisions taken in the meeting were:

- Increase of generation from existing thermal power plants by reducing overhauls.
- Maximization of generation from gas/liquid fuel plant.
- Connectivity of Captive Power Plants (CPPs) to the grid.
- Sale of unutilized power from IPPs.
- Maximization of Inter-regional transfer of power.
- Installation of shunt capacitors to improve voltage and facilitate transfer of power over long distances.

#### **Statement-I**

#### *State-wise Electricity Generation during the Five Years of 9th Plan*

(In Million Units)

Name of the State/Utility	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6
BBMB	10695	14106	12067	10424	9939
Delhi	6984	6931	7555	7981	7952

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jammu & Kashmir	6120	6477	5810	5284	5558
Himachal Pradesh	3956	4570	3748	3926	3895
Haryana	3782	3754	5100	6085	8175
Rajasthan	11157	12820	14570	16695	18988
Punjab	12993	14393	17057	17599	18406
Uttar Pradesh	67489	69818	72913	72615	74787
Uttaranchal	--	--	--	3648	3326
Gujarat	39711	44845	46372	46151	44446
Maharashtra	55997	59097	64263	63552	65319
Madhya Pradesh	44598	46709	48291	29062	30324
Chhattisgarh	--	--	--	23628	24740
Andhra Pradesh	45911	47820	52066	51961	51172
Karnataka	16914	17067	20930	23523	24851
Kerala	5250	7829	8829	9099	8874
Tamil Nadu	38090	37908	40559	43685	45419
Pondicherry	--	--	132	233	250
Bihar	7093	8212	7906	5591	5244
Jharkhand	--	--	--	2828	2680
Orissa	11991	12772	16443	16185	18690
West Bengal	20502	21212	23223	26123	28800
D.V.C.	7299	7706	8140	8193	7779
Sikkim	43	26	37	325	383
Assam	1072	939	91	1603	990
NEEPCO	1527	1921	2214	2555	2766
Meghalaya	598	544	634	658	613
Tripura	302	344	312	312	289
Manipur	535	531	506	551	569
Nagaland	--	--	--	--	4
Arunachal Pradesh	13	16	14	13	19
Total All India	420622	448367	480682	499548	515247

**Statement-II**

*State-wise Electricity generated in the public and private sector during  
April-October, 2002 vis-a-vis April-October, 2001*

States/Systems and Type of Generation	Generation (GWH)			
	Programme Apr. 2002 to Mar. 2003	Programme 2002	April-October	
			Actual 2002 2002*	Actual 2001
1	2	3	4	5
<b>(1) Northern Region:</b>				
BBMB (Pub.) Total	9650	6426	7447	6444
Delhi (Pub.) Total	9960	5574	5023	4688
J&K Total	6119	4978	4633	4192
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
H.P. Public	4280	3417	3329	2971
H.P. Private	375	322	305	147
Total H.P.	4655	3739	3634	3118
<b>Haryana</b>				
Har. (Pub.) Total	8802	5184	5139	4675
<b>Rajasthan</b>				
Raj. (Pub.) Total	21202	11570	11822	10316
<b>Punjab</b>				
Punjab (Pub.) Total	18320	11533	10920	11231
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
U.P. (Public) Total	74137	42250	42654	42341
<b>Uttaranchal</b>				
Uttaranchal (Pub) Total	3810	2714	2732	2406
<b>(2) Western Region :</b>				
<b>Gujarat</b>				
Guj. Public	39878	22867	22023	20668
Guj. Private	7420	4554	4844	4662

1	2	3	4	5
Guj. Total	47298	27421	26867	25330
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
Maha. Public	51922	28917	28533	28602
Maha. Private	13225	7979	8671	8499
Maha. Total	65147	36896	37204	37101
<b>Madhya Pradesh: M.P.E.B.</b>				
M.P. (Pub.) Total	33380	18975	19125	16495
Chhattisgarh				
Chhat. (Pub.) Total	24430	13137	13447	13424
<b>(3) Southern Region :</b>				
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
A.P. Public	51716	28774	28615	26106
A.P. Private	7722	4621	3675	2555
A.P. Total	59438	33395	32290	28661
<b>Karnataka</b>				
Kar. Public	24361	13334	12351	13080
Kar. Private	3161	1819	1535	1210
Kar. Total	27522	15163	13886	14290
<b>Kerala</b>				
Kerala Public	10033	5719	4887	4938
Kerala Private	1305	727	157	308
Keral Total	11338	6446	5044	5246
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>				
T.N. Public	43330	24828	22917	24576
T.N. Private	4150	2517	2834	1809
T.N. Total	47480	27345	25751	26385
<b>Pondicherry</b>				
Pondi. (Pub.) Total	235	138	155	152
<b>(4) Eastern Region:</b>				
<b>Bihar</b>				
Bihar (Pub.) Total	5450	3166	2946	2865

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Jharkhand</b>				
Jharkhand (Pub.) Total	2440	1523	1469	1653
<b>Orissa</b>				
Orissa Public	16465	9507	8493	10188
Orissa Private	650	379	669	377
Orissa Total	17115	9886	9162	10565
<b>West Bengal</b>				
W.B. Public	24824	14318	14009	12860
W.B. Private	6400	4011	3967	3804
W.B. Total	31224	18329	17976	16664
D.V.C. Public Total	8900	5356	4995	4551
<b>Sikkim</b>				
Sikkim (Pub.) Total	385	290	286	281
<b>Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</b>				
A&N Islands Public	13	8	0	0
<b>(5) North Eastern Region:</b>				
<b>Assam</b>				
Assam Public	870	475	407	504
Assam Private	180	102	81	85
Assam Total	1050	577	488	589
NEEPCO Public	4378	2794	1838	1501
<b>Meghalaya</b>				
MESEB (Pub.) Total	600	378	408	378
<b>Tripura</b>				
Tripura (Pub.) Total	554	284	168	166
<b>Manipur</b>				
Manipur Public	500	327	319	331
<b>Nagaland</b>				
Nagaland Public	0	0	2	0
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>				
Ar. Pradesh Public	20	11	6	7

**HPT at Jawhar**

2810. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation to install High Power Transmitter at Jawhar, District Thane, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that no representation for setting up of an HPT at Jawhar has been received in the last three years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**MOU Between BHEL and ONGC**

2811. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an MoU with ONGC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the units of BHEL involved in this new-found business?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) has signed an MOU with ONGC for supply, refurbishment and modernization of various equipments.

(c) The following units of BHEL shall be involved in catering to this business:-

- Heavy Power Equipment Plant, Hyderabad.
- Heavy Electricals Plant, Bhopal
- Industrial Systems Group, Bangalore.

*[Translation]*

**Facilities at Railway Stations**

2812. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the railways stations especially in tribal areas of Gujarat have severe crisis of drinking water and the quality of water is also low;

(b) whether the Government have conducted/propose to conduct any survey in this regard, particularly in Western railways in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The general availability of water: in the tribal areas of Gujarat is satisfactory. However, there may be occasional short supplies because of electrical load shedding by State Electricity Board, short supply of water by Municipalities, equipment breakdowns, etc.

Drinking water, supplied at all Railway stations in Gujarat, is potable water. At all stations, water is supplied from either Railways' own sources or from outside sources like municipality, etc. after chlorination to ensure that drinking water is safe. Also, requirement vis-a-vis availability of water of various stations is reviewed every year ahead of the summer season and necessary action taken to ensure adequate supply of water.

*[English]*

**Weak Transmission of DD at Shevgaon**

2813. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan transmission at Shevgaon, Pathardi Tehsil in Ahmednagar district is weak consequent to which many of villagers are deprived of Doordarshan facility;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to strengthen the transmission tower;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be strengthen the transmission?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Two LPTs at Ahmednagar and Sangamner are presently functioning

in Ahmednagar District. In addition, parts of Ahmednagar District receive TV coverage from HPT (10 Kw) at Aurangabad. Good quality signals are reported to be available at Shevgaon.

(b) There is no proposal to further augment the power of HPT, Aurangabad or to upgrade LPTs at Ahmednagar and Sangamner.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Distribution of Power by SEBs

2814. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state.

(a) whether the responsibility of distribution of power to the consumers in the States has been given to the respective State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the average power distribution as well as expenditure incurred thereon per annum by the State Electricity Boards, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to put a limit on the expenditure under improvement programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Electricity is a concurrent subject and distribution is the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) Details of provision of outlays for transmission and distribution for various states for the year 1992-93 to 2000-01 are given in enclosed Statement-I. Details of sale of power by various SEBs are given in enclosed Statement-II

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above

### Statement-I

#### Outlay on Transmission and Distribution

(Rs. Crores)

		1992-97	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
		(8th Plan)								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>SEBs</b>										
1	Andhra Pradesh	1000.00	168.00	192.74	160.00	160.00	354.75	467.69	399.28	703.00
2	Assam	355.09	67.77	48.98	83.15	67.95	50.00	60.00	59.74	37.11
3	Bihar	460.00	121.97	120.35	134.01	104.00	38.72	156.73	16.00	97.38
4	Delhi	955.53	200.00	229.20	311.50	356.35	276.00	396.50	301.38	428.45
5	Gujarat	1100.00	200.00	289.00	255.04	280.36	374.69	560.00	501.37	477.95
6	Haryana	783.00	81.00	124.27	50.83	126.30	148.33	386.60	381.60	389.40
7	Himachal Pradesh	120.00	30.00	36.70	55.40	35.00	36.17	38.40	38.40	35.75
8	Jammu & Kashmir	450.00	95.00	94.76	102.04	125.05	162.78	165.72	81.99	109.73
9	Karnataka	973.00	159.00	263.26	211.66	232.00	162.41	248.12	258.97	236.18

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	Kerala	693.00	105.00	139.30	200.00	179.00	335.68	286.35	286.35	383.78
11	Madhya Pradesh	1300.00	265.00	262.00	262.00	304.00	209.80	198.33	352.80	159.66
12	Maharashtra	1530.00	250.00	246.25	383.85	397.71	500.00	504.25	609.94	568.05
13	Meghalaya	61.11	14.12	20.85	21.00	21.59	11.84	7.60	7.60	9.14
14	Orissa	620.00	75.92	71.88	120.31	126.79	149.08	332.96	659.90	280.00
15	Punjab	939.00	172.00	150.00	78.00	100.00	110.00	300.00	314.00	287.37
16	Rajasthan	972.11	129.00	164.30	203.41	279.15	239.83	321.33	321.62	395.60
17	Tamil Nadu	1383.60	170.00	160.00	198.60	239.65	416.12	466.28	529.49	549.77
18	Uttar Pradesh	2800.00	257.72	437.30	770.87	1063.85	715.81	1060.20	971.00	830.82
19	West Bengal	900.00	93.50	52.00	66.34	100.00	267.48	163.00	342.73	352.50
20	Jharkhand									50.00
21	Chhattisgarh									24.82
<b>EDs</b>										
1	Arunachal Pradesh	68.00	10.00	13.80	17.00	29.50	21.30	3.12	30.00	NA
2	Goa	46.06	9.28	11.60	16.74	16.50	18.73	13.80	29.40	29.90
3	Manipur	77.00	19.50	21.58	24.68	30.23	24.11	17.00	16.79	22.43
4	Mizoram	43.00	11.41	8.35	6.03	9.31	17.30	22.62	25.36	28.55
5	Nagaland	28.10	7.26	4.06	4.00	4.76	3.20	3.43	5.46	3.19
6	Pondicherry	38.22	10.70	12.90	17.15	23.91	15.69	13.20	18.07	19.24
7	Sikkim	40.00	6.00	6.00	10.00	10.50	11.66	12.45	15.51	12.29
8	Tripura	40.00	7.50	7.50	4.95	14.83	14.66	20.43	20.00	9.33

Source: Planning Commission (Annual Report on the working of SEBs and Electricity Department) May, 2002

**Statement-II***Sale of Power*

(In Mkwh)

		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
		Actual	Actual	Actual	(Provi)	(RE)	(AP)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>State Electricity Boards</b>							
1	Andhra Pradesh	21033	23944	25232	25809	28418	29781
2	Assam	1960	1877	1753	1809	1916	2060



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Bihar	6855	7337	7066	7662	7897	9099
4	Delhi (DVB)	6860	7956	8168	8407	9154	10259
5	Gujarat	26696	26783	28828	31178	31435	32693
6	Haryana	9062	8864	9290	9693	10958	11707
7	Himachal Pradesh	2721	2901	3047	3118	3268	3650
8	Jammu & Kashmir	1988	2578	2873	2638	2812	3375
9	Karnataka	15194	17586	15910	16150	17276	19553
10	Kerala	7021	7666	9134	9793	10700	11830
11	Madhya Pradesh	23664	24612	26660	23474	25571	26531
12	Maharashtra	42698	43894	46328	41982	41598	47063
13	Meghalaya	462	551	518	589	606	608
14	Orissa	4877	5241	5169	10642	10822	11400
15	Punjab	17767	18808	21004	21837	22385	23081
16	Rajasthan (Transco)	14065	15380	16346	16915	17686	18294
	Rajasthan (GENCO)					0	0
17	Tamil Nadu	25659	26943	27862	30434	33290	36350
18	Uttar Pradesh (Power Corp)	27041	27130	27130	26376	25310	28011
	Uttar Pradesh (TPG Corp)				0	0	0
	Uttar Pradesh (JVNL)				0	0	0
19	West Bengal	9647	9790	9927	9561	10000	10500
	Sub Total-I (SEBs)	265272	279841	292245	295367	311103	335844

**Electricity Departments**

1	Arunachal Pradesh	99	111	100	81	102	122
2	Goa	931	1057	1065	1024	1204	1322
3	Manipur	286	322	180	173	182	250
4	Mizoram	124	84	103	114	138	172
5	Nagaland	127	132	129	138	165	182

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6	Pondicherry	845	938	1058	1240	1413	1559
7	Sikkim	86	92	101	106	108	119
8	Tripura	259	314	397	406	419	490
9	Others		759	759			
Sub-Total-II (EDs)		2759	3810	3891	3282	3732	4216
Grand Total (I+II)		268031	283650	296136	298649	314835	340061

Source: Planning Commission (Annual Report on the working of SEBs and Electricity Department) May, 2002

[English]

#### Plan to Tap Capital Market

2815. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Ministry has directed National Thermal Power Corporation and other corporations to firm up plans to tap capital market to meet their investment requirements in the coming years;

(b) if so, whether this is in view of massive capacity addition programme being planned by Power Ministry;

(c) if so, the extent to which these corporations have agreed to the directive of the Ministry; and

(d) the extent to which have successful in meeting the investment requirements for developing power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Power has asked the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) to augment their share capital base by tapping the domestic capital market by way of an Initial Public Offering (IPO) in order to meet their investment requirements for capacity addition/expansion and other connected programmes. These Corporations have initiated preparatory action for approaching the capital market.

[Translation]

#### LPG Agencies / Petrol Pumps in Bihar

2816. SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI SUBODH ROY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the LPG agencies and diesel/petrol retail outlets proposed to be opened in Bihar during the current year;

(b) the number of the LPG agencies and petrol pumps operating in Bihar at present; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of LPG cylinders in the State?

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): (a) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have 77 LPG distributorships and 120 Retail Outlets proposals pending at various stages for commissioning in the State of Bihar. However, it is not possible to indicate the exact number of LPG distributorships and Retail Outlets likely to be commissioned in the State during the current year. It generally takes 6 to 12 months for commissioning of a LPG distributorship/dealership after the date of interview.

(b) As on 1.12.2002, OMCs are operating 219 LPG distributorships and 813 Retail Outlets in the State of Bihar.

(c) The demand of LPG customers enrolled with OMCs in the State of Bihar is being met by and large in full.

#### Programme Consultative Committees

2817. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Programme Consultative Committee of Doordarshan/All India Radio have been constituted;

(b) whether the said Committee has also been constituted on Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith its composition;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the functioning of the department is being adversely affected in the absence of such committees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Road Over Bridges**

2818. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an immediate requirement of over-bridges near Goomti No.1 and Manpur in Gaya district to connect Nalanda, Barh, Rajgiri Blocks headquarters where there is huge traffic running up and down;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide road over-bridges at the said locations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU LATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The work of Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 67/A between Manpur-Bandhua has already been sanctioned on cost sharing basis. State Government has not yet furnished estimate for approaches (their portion of work). However, site plans and general arrangement drawing have already been approved. Rs. 20 lakhs have been provided during the current year for this work.

(c) Depends upon construction of approaches by State Government. Railway will complete their portion

of work (Bridge over tracks) before or simultaneously with the work of approaches.

[Translation]

#### **Compensation to the People whose lands acquired by NTPC**

2819. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of persons whose land was acquired by NTPC in Bhagalpur and Kahalgaon villages of Bihar;

(b) whether the landowners were given assurance at the time of acquisition that at least one member of their family would be given job in NTPC;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the number of persons provided with jobs and yet to be given jobs; and

(d) the reasons for delay in giving jobs to rest of the persons; and

(e) the time by which the rest of the persons will be employed by NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Land was acquired for National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC) Kahalgaon project in Bhagalpur and Godda districts. There are altogether 4246 nos. of land oustees in 66 villages of Godda district of Jharkhand State and Bhagalpur district of Bihar State.

(b) No assurance was given to land oustees for the job in NTPC at the time of land acquisition or otherwise.

(c) to (e) In view of the above, do not arise.

[English]

#### **Vacancies in Safety Category**

2820. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of staff in the safety category forcing the existing staff to work on overtime resulting in fatigue the main cause of human error;

(b) if so, the quantum of such shortage in each category, e.g. Locomotive, Guards, Station Master, Signal Staff; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and they are filled up by recruitment or by promotion of serving employees etc. While a few vacancies are bound to exist in this continuous process at any given point of time, the policy of Government is to fill up the vacancies promptly. Norms provide for working by the staff beyond the limits prescribed only in exceptional exigencies of accidents, floods, agitations, equipment failures etc. However, the information regarding the number of vacancies as on 1.11.2002 in the safety categories of Drivers, Guards, Station Masters and Signalling staff is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Standing procedure already exists to conduct selection/ suitability/ trade tests regularly for filling up vacancies timely, especially in safety categories. However, Zonal Railways have been directed in April' 2002 by way of reiteration of the existing procedure to devise a suitable mechanism for ensuring strict monitoring of filling up safety category posts and that the matter should form a part of the standing agenda of various Meetings.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of Loco and Carriage Factories in Rajasthan**

2821. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the historical Loco and Carriage factories situated at Ajmer in Rajasthan are being under utilised as compared to their installed capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to modernise these two factories;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work relating to modernisation of these factories is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. The loco and carriage workshops at Ajmer are being fully utilised as per the available capacity and arising of the rolling stock for periodic overhauling.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A comprehensive workshop modernisation project was undertaken for Ajmer carriage & wagon and loco workshops during 1984-92 at a sanctioned cost of Rs.31.81 crores. There is, at present, other proposal for further modernisation of Ajmer workshop.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Availability of CNG in Cities**

2822. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plans to make all major cities in the country depend only on CNG for transport purposes;

(b) if so, whether any estimate has been made by the Government on the annual requirements of CNG for all metropolitan cities;

(c) if so, whether provisions have been made for building the infrastructure necessary for delivery of CNG to all cities;

(d) if so, the funds earmarked for this purpose; and

(e) the schedule of making these arrangements for all cities?

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): (a) to (e) In pursuance of the directives of the Supreme Court of India, GAIL (India) Limited have undertaken Detailed Feasibility Studies which have established feasibility of creating CNG network in Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Faridabad and Pune at an estimated cost of Rs.554.24 crore. Subject to adequate availability of natural gas and other statutory approvals etc., while the CNG project in Pune can be completed within 24 months from the date of approval, whereas the other four projects can be completed within 18 months.

#### **Seminar on Catalytic Reforming Process Technology**

2823. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Petroleum organised a seminar on "Catalytic Reforming Process Technology" recently;

(b) if so, the details of persons participated in the seminar;

(c) the outcome of the seminar deliberations on the overall economics of refinery operations;

(d) whether any more studies on gasoline technology have been conducted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Private Sector Participation in Power Sector**

2824. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought private sector participation in the power sector;

(b) if so, the response of private sector thereto; and

(c) the number of power projects presently being set up by public sector, private sector and joint sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on date, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) to 59 Nos. of private sector power projects aggregating to 29806.5 MW. In addition, there are several power project proposals which do not require the TEC of CEA and are cleared at the State Government level.

(c) In the private sector, out of the 59 projects accorded TEC, 4 projects with a total capacity of 1772.7 MW are no longer being pursued through private sector by the respective State Governments and the balance 55 projects are presently in the pipeline at different stages of implementation. Of the said 55 projects, 16 projects (including Phase-I of the Dabhol power project), have been commissioned and 4 projects plus phase-II of the Dabhol power project in Maharashtra, are under construction.

The sanctioned/ongoing power projects in the Central Sector include 16 thermal & 12 hydroelectric power projects, in the state Sector, 22 thermal & 22 hydroelectric power projects and 2 hydro-electric projects in the Joint Sector.

#### **Achievement of NCES during 9th Plan**

2825. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Non-Conventional Energy Sources was not given adequate priority during the 9th Plan period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the funds allocated, released, utilized and achievements made in this sector during the 9th Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) Wide ranging Non-Conventional Energy Programmes based on Solar, Wind, Biomass and Small Hydro are being implemented throughout the country. Considerable progress was made in implementation of various programmes during the 9th Plan Period. Significant achievements included power generation capacity addition of about 1340 MW; installation of about 4.168 lakhs of Solar Photovoltaic Systems aggregating to 13.02 MW; and, installation of 8.3 lakhs Family Size Biogas Plants and 97.9 lakhs Improved Chulhas. Details of the fund released/utilized during the 9th Plan, State-wise, are given in enclosed Statement-I and details of the physical achievements made under various Non-conventional Energy programmes during 9th Plan, State-wise, are given in enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

*State-wise funds released/utilized under various Non-conventional Energy programmes during 9th Plan period.*

Sl.No.	States/UT	Amount Rs. in Crores
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	80.99
2	Arunachal Pradesh	25.30
3	Assam	6.03

1	2	3	1	2	3
4	Bihar	7.82	21	Sikkim	21.44
5	Goa	0.61	22	Tamil Nadu	23.66
6	Gujarat	29.70	23	Tripura	8.48
7	Haryana	16.71	24	Uttar Pradesh	76.20
8	Himachal Pradesh	28.35	25	West Bengal	65.89
9	Jammu & Kashmir	8.83	26	Andaman & Nicobar	11.06
10	Karnataka	56.31	27	Chandigarh	0.54
11	Kerala	24.19	28	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.03
12	Madhya Pradesh	40.87	29	Daman & Diu	0.07
13	Maharashtra	51.74	30	Delhi	3.58
14	Manipur	5.15	31	Lakshadweep	10.37
15	Meghalaya	4.82	32	Pondicherry	0.57
16	Mizoram	21.36	33	Chhattisgarh	10.77
17	Nagaland	6.23	34	Jharkhand	0.13
18	Orissa	33.95	35	Uttaranchal	1.42
19	Punjab	39.99	36	Others	148.15
20	Rajasthan	32.39	Total		903.69

**Statement-II**

*State-wise physical achievements made under various programmes during 9th Plan period.*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Wind Power	SPV Power	SHP	Biomass Power	Biomass Gasifiers	Waste to Energy	Biogas	CBP/ IBP/ NBP	Improved Chulhas	SPV Pumps
		MW	KW	MW	MW	KW	MW	Nos.	Nos.	Nos. in lakh	Nos.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	38.30	275.00	68.60	100.20	8720.00	9.20	101061	10.00	10.33	203
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	933	0.00	0.02	0
3	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	722	2.00	0.08	0
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	3211	0.00	0.19	38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	745	0.00	0.19	1
6	Gujarat	20.10	0.00	0.00	0.50	8175.0	2.45	48223	42.00	4.60	8
7	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10667	0.00	2.76	100
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	31.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	4005	0.00	0.65	5
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	12.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	1.16	2
10	Karnataka	62.80	30.00	41.80	74.60	3170.00	1.00	96057	5.00	2.55	204
11	Kerala	0.00	25.00	23.00	0.00	105.00	0.00	6325	56.00	1.62	472
12	Madhya Pradesh	13.00	100.00	2.41	5.00	1000.00	2.70	67898	5.00	4.01	57
13	Maharashtra	393.80	75.00	31.70	15.50	1300.00	1.90	64666	154.00	5.67	50
14	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	736	0.00	0.10	11
15	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	330	4.00	0.00	5
16	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	9.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	1489	0.00	0.18	4
17	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	778	10.00	.29	0
18	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	48224	11.00	7.93	2
19	Punjab	0.00	100.00	9.30	2.00	40.00	0.75	28129	210.00	2.82	777
20	Rajasthan	16.10	50.00	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	5166	22.00	3.26	110
21	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	1007	0.00	0.26	0
22	Tamil Nadu	181.30	50.00	2.80	51.50	2020.00	0.23	9067	15.00	3.75	297
23	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00	0.00	815	0.00	0.44	0
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	100.00	9.10	40.00	1320.00	1.00	49249	359.00	8.79	146
25	West Bengal	1.10	75.00	0.00	0.00	2715.00	0.00	66581	39.00	13.57	3
26	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12	0.00	0.06	0
27	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	7
28	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4	0.00	0.03	0
29	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0
30	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	21.00	0.06	42
31	Lakshadweep	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
32	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.21	7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
33	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	3000	8.00	0.18	0
34	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0
35	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	634	15.00	0.00	1
36	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	210092	811.00	22.26	0

MW = Megawatt, kW = Kilowatt, SPV = Solar Photovoltaic, SHP = Small Hydro Power,

CBP/IBP/NBP = Community/Institutional/Night soil based biogas plants

Sl.No.	State/UT	Wind	Aerogene-	Solar	Solar Photovoltaic				SADP	IREP
		Mills	rators	Cookers	SLS	HLS	SL	PP		
		Nos.	kW	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	kWp	Nos.	Nos.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	2	12.00	1011	559	418	23028	3.00	6	160
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	31	18	698	3419	0.00	4	5
3	Assam	0	0.00	0	0		1573	366	0.00	9
4	Bihar	12	0.00	0	106	776	24235	0.00	10	280
5	Goa	0	0.00	209	39	20	443	0.00	2	25
6	Gujarat	277	0.00	25463	312	2519	28665	0.00	6	125
7	Haryana	0	0.00	1827	536	9097	23625	0.00	10	190
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	3727	815	7914	12197	0.00	6	225
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0.00	0	30	8758	6477	40.00	7	140
10	Karnataka	17	8.00	0	369	4156	7034	6.00	4	210
11	Kerala	35	8.00	0	122	7633	17966	40.00	1	220
12	Madhya Pradesh	0	0.00	15271	305	87	2216	0.00	8	425
13	Maharashtra	22	54.30	6259	374	640	4888	0.00	13	185
14	Manipur	0	0.00	0	19	650	3116	0.00	10	95
15	Meghalaya	0	0.00	200	5	310	2720	3.00	6	80
16	Mizoram	0	0.00	0	82	385	5252	0.00	6	55
17	Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0	135	95	0.00	5	125
18	Orissa	0	0.00	531	3598	2430	5856	3.00	4	225
19	Punjab	0	0.00	8383	1606	2520	13813	36.00	7	200



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	Rajasthan	150	4.00	1613	1607	27736	4925	25.80	7	180
21	Sikkim	0	0.00	0	34	279	524	0.00	3	20
22	Tamil Nadu	32	24.50	0	391	469	10307	10.00	9	105
23	Tripura	0	0.00	4	512	1440	17260	0.00	7	30
24	Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	11855	638	45557	40572	0.00	11	575
25	West Bengal	0	0.00	3052	534	24608	1542	240.00	5	170
26	Andaman & Nicobar	2	0.00	0	43	15	536	0.00	6	25
27	Chandigarh	0	0.00	165	0	275	1675	0.00	3	5
28	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	5
29	Daman & Diu	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	5
30	Delhi	0	0.00	195	0	375	2184	10.00	4	25
31	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	211	13	6053	0.00	0	5
32	Pondicherry	0	5.00	14	0	0	422	0.00	2	30
33	Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0	363	1157	848	0.00	0	0
34	Jharkhand	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
35	Uttaranchal	0	0.00	0	0	2000	4500	0.00	5	0
36	Others	0	0.00	12469	0	476	19925	0.00	10	0

SLS = Street Lightning System, HLS = Home Lighting Systems, SL= Solar Lanterns, PP = Power Plants, SADP = Special Area Demonstration Programme, IREP = Integrated Rural Energy Programme, kW = Kilowatt, kWp = kilowatt peak

### Catering Facility

2826. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway have not improved catering facilities to a level of international standards;

(b) whether the serving of food in trains is most unhygienic and servers use water from the toilet to wash cups, plates etc.;

(c) the extent to which the railways have failed to ensure that the lower level workers in the catering departments are given proper training in sanitation and hygiene;

(d) whether the railways propose to use the help of NGOs to improve catering facilities; and

(e) if so, the details of steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Railways have made continuous efforts to improve the catering facilities.

(b) Steps have been taken to improve hygiene in food service by using casseroles, bain-maries, opening food plazas and using automatic vending machines for beverages etc. Usage of paper cups and plates has also been encouraged which does not require wash.

(c) Zonal Railways and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) impart training to the catering staff through reputed professional institutes from time to time.

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

#### **Rail Link to Devanahalli Airport**

2827. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Karnataka has approached the Union Government to extend existing Yeshwantpur-Yelahanka railway line upto Devanahalli airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Proposal from Rajasthan to Review Gas Price Formula**

2828. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan to review the gas price formula and fix the gas price and transportation charges at a reasonable level;
- (b) if so, the status of the proposal;
- (c) whether the Government are considering to review the Gas Price Formula and fix the gas price and transportation charges afresh; and
- (d) if so, the time by which Gas price would be reviewed and transportation charges would be refixed at a reasonable level by notifying special gas price for use of Natural Gas resources in Rajasthan?

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): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has laid down a long-term policy for development of hydrocarbon sector which, inter-alia, also provides phased de-regulation of hydrocarbon sector and phased dismantling of Administered Price Mechanism. In

line with the above policy, the natural gas prices should be market determined. Some State Governments including Government of Rajasthan have requested Government against any increase in price of natural gas. No decision has been taken in the matter by the Government. While deciding the issue all factors including requests of State Government will be taken into account.

[Translation]

#### **Private Organization in NCES Schemes**

2829. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to involve the private organizations in implementation of various schemes of Non-Conventional Energy Sources;
- (b) if so, the number of private organizations involved so far in these schemes; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) A total power generation capacity of about 3700 MW has so far been installed in the country from non-conventional energy sources such as Wind, Biomass, Small Hydro and Solar Energy. Of this, 2351 MW has come up as commercial projects through private sector participation. This includes 1639 MW of Wind Power Projects; 415 MW of Biomass Power and Bagasse Co-generation Projects; 275 MW of Small Hydro Power Projects and, 22 MW of Waste-to-Energy Projects. These commercial projects have been set up by a large number of private developers, investors and entrepreneurs in various States.

[English]

#### **Launching of Sub-Local LPTs**

2830. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have launched/likely to be launched sub-local telecast centres in the country particularly in Karnataka and Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the average coverage of LPTs; and

(c) the steps taken to enhance the average coverage of sub-local LPTs to cover the remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Primary range of LPTs is about 15-20 Kms. The LPT centres where narrowcasting has been started/is to be started are as under:

Akola, Hissar, Coimbatore, Palakkad, Amalapuram, Bellary, Bilaspur, Patiala, Sagar, Ferozepur, Nainital and Hazaribagh. Two stations of narrowcasting, at Akola in Maharashtra and Bellary in Karnataka, have been inaugurated during the 1st week of November, 2002.

(c) Upgradation of LPTs to HPTs is a continuous process and is taken up depending upon the availability of resources and inter-se priority of projects.

#### **Loading and Unloading of Parcels**

2831. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway stations where contract system for loading and unloading parcels has been discontinued;

(b) the number of Railway stations where unlicensed coolies, are being engaged by the contractors instead of licensed coolies for loading and unloading of parcels;

(c) whether the Government have decided to discontinue the contract system in loading and unloading of parcels;

(d) whether a decision in this regard has been implemented at all Railway Stations; and

(e) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken to engage the licensed coolies in loading and unloading of the parcels at all Railway Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Contract System for loading and unloading of parcels has not been discontinued.

(b) Contractors engage labourers for loading and unloading of parcels at their own terms.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no proposal to engage licensed coolies for loading and unloading of parcels at Railway Stations.

#### **Power Generated by Solar Energy**

2832. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total capacity and power generated from Solar Energy Power Plants in the country, State-wise and number of families benefited therefrom during the last three years;

(b) whether the power supplied from these plants is sufficient for domestic and other uses; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in the forms of subsidies, tariff structure and incentives to support the States for the facilitation and exploration of existing and new non-conventional energy sources.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The State-wise details of the solar power plants installed in the country as on 31st March, 2002 under the Ministry's programmes and the estimated annual energy generation from these power plants are given in enclosed statement. The aggregate Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) capacity of these power plants is 3,783 kWp, including the 1,329 kWp capacity that was added during the last three years. Out of these, power plants of about 1,200 kWp SPV capacity have been installed in rural and remote areas. These power plants provide electricity for lighting, TV, fan, radio and other domestic uses and small shops for about 4-5 hours daily. Based on an average number of 20 families benefited per kWp installed capacity, it is estimated that around 24,000 families are benefiting from such solar power plants. A further 2.24 lakh families are benefiting from solar home lighting systems installed in their homes.

The Government is also supporting the States for exploration and utilization of the existing and new non-conventional energy sources by providing grants for investigations and resources surveys and preparation of detailed projects reports. Implementation of projects is supported under capital and/or interest subsidy schemes of the Ministry. The interest subsidy schemes of the Ministry are being implemented through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Limited and some banks. Further, tax benefits and concessional duties are also available for manufacturers and commercial users of such systems.

**Statement**

*Details of Solar Power Projects installed as on 31/3/2002 under the Programmes of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and estimated annual energy generation from these plants*

S.No.	State/UT/Others	Solar Power Plants (kWp)	Estimated Annual Energy Generation (Thousand Units)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	296.60	445
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7.9	12
3	Assam	3	5
4	Goa	1.72	3
5	Gujarat	39.70	60
6	Haryana	24.2	36
7	Jammu and Kashmir	40	60
8	Karnataka	33.0	50
9	Kerala	69.70	105
10	Madhya Pradesh	362.40	544
11	Maharashtra	191.44	287
12	Manipur	11	17
13	Meghalaya	42	63
14	Nagaland	6	9
15	Orissa	36.50	55
16	Punjab	151	227
17	Rajasthan	90.40	136
18	Tamil Nadu	242	363
19	Tripura	24.57	37
20	Uttar Pradesh	424	636
21	Uttaranchal	80	120
22	West Bengal	453.70	681

1	2	3	4
23	A & N Islands	167	251
24	Delhi	15	23
25	Lakshadweep Islands	385	578
26	Others (NGOs, PSUs, States programme)	584	877
Total		3783	5675

**Funds for Improved Chullas**

2833. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Programme on Improved Chullas (NPIC) is proposed to be transferred to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether sufficient funds will be allotted to the States for effective implementation of this scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC) is one of many Centrally Sponsored Schemes identified for transfer to the State Plan Sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan, with a view to mainly ensure greater participation of panchayat institutions, thereby achieving decentralized implementation, including maintenance and repair/servicing at the local level.

(c) The Committee of the National Development Council (NDC) on the Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes set up by the Planning Commission is expected to determine the modalities of transfer of schemes, including provision of funds. The term of the Committee is up to 31st December, 2002.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Duty Hours for Drivers**

2834. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the maximum duty hours fixed for the Railway drivers;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Neend ki Halat Mein Chaalak Ne Dehradun Express ko Mugalsarai Pahuchaya" appearing in Dainik Jagran dated September 15, 2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The working hours of drivers are regulated in accordance with provisions contained in Chapter XIV of the Railways Act, 1989. The drivers on Railways are classified as 'Continuous' and they are statutory required to work for 54 hours per week on an average in a two weekly period of 14 days. But their rostered hours have been fixed as 52 hours per week on an average in two weeks.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The driver of 3009 Up on 14.9.2002 had to work beyond prescribed duty hours in the aftermath of the accident of 2301 Up Rajdhani Express near Rafiganj on 9.9.2002 which resulted in disruption of traffic and also necessitated extra stoppages for 3009 Up of 14.9.2002. As

norms provide for working by the crew beyond prescribed limits in exigencies of accidents, floods, agitation, equipment failures etc., no action is warranted in this case.

#### **Rail Projects in Bihar**

2835. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new/pending/on-going rail projects and surveys in Bihar alongwith the progress made thereof, project-wise:

(b) whether some projects are lagging behind as per their target:

(c) if so, whether the Government have reviewed the progress of the above construction work:

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e) The details of various ongoing projects including new projects in Bihar, their cost and status alongwith details of outlay for 2002-2003 and the expenditure incurred together with details of surveys in progress are given as under. The progress of these works is also being reviewed periodically. These projects are being progressed as per their overall priority depending upon availability of resources.

S.No.	Name of Project	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in Cr.)	Expenditure upto 31.3.2002 (Rs. in Cr.)	Outlay 2002-2003 (Rs. in cr.)	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Koderma-Tilaiya	307.71	0.01	10	Final location survey completed except in 3 km length. Land acquisition is in progress. Work targeted for completion by 2005-2006
2.	Rajgir-Hisua-Tilaiya	180.82	20.73	15	Land acquisition is in progress. Possession of land given for 31 village and work taken up. Tender for earthwork and minor bridges under process. Detailed estimate for Natesar-Islampur sanctioned. Work is targeted for completion by 2006-2007.
3.	Fatuha-Islampur Restoration with MM for new line from Biharsharif-Barbigha-Shiekhpora	232.83	42.99	15	Linking completed on Fatuha-Islampur section and work targeted for completion by 15.12.2002. On Biharsharif-Barbigha section, land acquisition completed. Tender for earthwork and minor bridges under process.

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Monghyr-Rail Bridge on Ganga	600	0.01	5	Requisite clearances obtained. Work to be taken up on cost sharing basis with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Part Detailed Estimate sanctioned. Land acquisition and tenders for works have been processed.
5	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	200	5.31	10	Final Location Survey completed and land acquisition proceedings in progress. Earthwork in Sitamarhi Yard for one Km length completed and tenders for earthwork in 20 kms. from Muzaffarpur end awarded.
6.	Ara-Sasaram	120	27.45	15	Final Location Survey completed and land acquisition is in progress. Work in progress on major bridges and on Sasaram-Nokha section where land is available.
7.	Patna-Ganga Bridge with linking lines between Patna and Hajipur	624.47	10.17	50	Land acquisition papers for both the approaches filed. Boulder supply and earthwork in progress. Contract for bridge substructure has been finalised. Tender for Patliputra station building and coaching terminal facilities processed.
8.	Khagaria-Kusheshwarthan	150	5.8	5	Final Location Survey completed and land acquisition proceedings in progress. Earthwork in Khagaria yard completed.
9.	Deogarh-Sultanganj including MM ext. from Banka-Barahat and Banka-Bhitiah Road	312	17.04	15	Final Location Survey in Banka-Sultanganj and Banka-Bhitia Road in progress and rest completed. Land acquisition in progress. Earthwork and bridge works are in progress. Foundation of station building at Banka completed.
10.	Mandarhill-Rampurhat via Dumka	170.47	14.46	7	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition proceedings are in progress. Earthwork, minor bridges and Dumka station building are in progress.
11.	Duraunda-Maharajganj	8.56	1.4	5	Earthwork and bridge work in progress and 75% earthwork completed. Work targeted for completion during 2002-2003
12.	Sakri-Hassanpur	89.7	20.5	10	Land acquisition completed. Earthwork in progress.

**Gauge Conversion**

1.	Mansi-Saharsa incl. MM for extension upto Dauram Madhepura	89.5	26.59	15	Earthwork completed for 35 km length and all 12 minor bridges completed. 4 major bridges out of 10 have also been completed & tenders for 5 bridges awarded. Mansi-Saharsa targeted for completion by 31.3.2004.
2.	Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj	335.77	10.55	15	Earthwork and bridge work are in various stages of progress. Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Sitamarhi targeted for completion by 31.3.2004.

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Samastipur-Khagaria	70	5	5	2 special limited tenders for earthwork reinvited and opened on 12.6.2002. Detailed estimate sanctioned.
4.	Muzaffarpur-Raxaul (Raxaul-Birganj)	130.07	7.1	0.01	Work Completed.
5.	Hajipur-Bachwara	75.56	74.43	0.01	Work Completed.
6.	Samastipur-Darbhanga	41.5	37.97	0.01	Work Completed.
7.	Kaptanganj-Thave-Siwan-Chhapra	268	0.08	10	4 tenders for earthwork and bridges from Kaptanganj-Chhapra awarded. 2 tenders for earthwork from Siwan-Thave awarded and work being taken up.
8.	Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar	67.55	66.84	0.01	Work Completed.
9.	Chhapra-Aunrihar	170.93	170.01	0.01	Work Completed.
10.	Katihar-Jogbani (including Katihar-Radhikapur)	400	1	10	Earthwork and bridges are in progress.
<b>Doubling</b>					
1.	Kajra-Kiul	21.45		0.01	Preparation of plans & estimate is in progress.
2.	Patna-Parsa Bazar	14.39	14.34	0.01	Work Completed.
3.	Parsa Bazar-Punpun	17.46	12.46	5	Bridges works and earthwork is in progress. Work targeted for completion during 2002-2003.
4.	Punpun-Taregna	44.42	12.16	5	Land acquisition in progress. Earthwork and bridgework in progress. 1 major bridge completed.
5.	Taregna-Jahanabar	43.62		0.01	New work included in Supplementary Budget 2002-2003.
6.	Gaya-Chakand	26.12		2	Preparation of plans and tender schedules taken up. Estimate sanctioned.
7.	Karpurigram-Siho	30.98	8.03	10	Earthwork and bridge work in progress. 14 out of 25 minor bridges completed. Part length of doubling targeted for completion during 2002-2003.
8.	Chhapra-Hajipur	73.06	7.6	11	Final location survey completed. 2 tenders for earthwork and bridges finalized.
9.	Sonenagar-Mughalsarai	268.15	253.94	0.01	Work Completed. Residual works in progress.
10.	Sahibganj-New Farakka-Malda	67.07	67.06	0.01	Work Completed.
11.	Katihar-Semapur	17.23	---	1.66	Preparation of plans and estimate taken up.
<b>Railway Electrification</b>					
1.	Sitarampur-Danapur-Mughalsarai	363.36	358.58	3.94	Work Completed. Residual jobs in progress.
2.	Patna-Gaya	41.24	0.0004	5	Work has been taken in hand and targeted for completion by March, 2003.

**Surveys in Progress**

S.No.	Name of Project	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Target date for completion
<b>New Lines</b>			
1.	Jayanagar-Jamtala	1.35	31.8.2003
2.	Joyanagar-Raidighi via Udairampur	1.69	31.8.2003
3.	Gaya-Chatra updating	5.94	31.12.2002
4.	Pirainty-Merry-Go-Round of NTPC	1.78	31.12.2002
5.	Jajha-Giridih via-Sonuchakai	5.74	30.6.2003
<b>Doubling</b>			
1.	Bhagalpur-Barharwa	8.64	31.8.2003
<b>Traffic Facility Work</b>			
1.	Patna, optimization of maintenance facilities	5.00	Not fixed

*[English]***Construction of Roads**

2836. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan for which construction activity have been halted by your Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that construction work of roads sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Grameen Rojgar Yojana, near by the on-going Banad-Jajivaal Bisnoigaon railway line in Jodhpur district has been stopped by your Ministry; and

(c) if so, the time by which aforesaid halted construction works would be restarted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Conversion of one kachcha track into metalled road by the State PWD in general area Banar, Jodhpur, has been stopped in September 2001 as the track was passing through the defence land in the close proximity of sensitive defence installations and hence, resumption of work would not be possible.

(b) No, Sir. Except the road mentioned in answer (a) above, no other road work has been stopped.

(c) Does not arise.

**Study on Administrative Policies**

2837. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways and the Railway Board has made any detailed study to know whether there is any short comings in the systems relating to Recruitment Policy, Promotional Policy, Training Programmes, Practicability of working rules, working conditions and staff morale; and

(b) if so, the outcome of such studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

*[Translation]***Privatisation of C.C.I.**

2838. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatize or disinvest Cement Corporation of India;

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

(c) the scheme of the Government in regard to labourers and employees working therein in case of disinvestment of the C.C.I.?



THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The Cement Corporation of India (CCI), a Central Public Sector Undertaking has been declared sick by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 (SICA). The BIFR, which is Quasi-Judicial body, has already directed sale of CCI as a whole or its plants individually or collectively. The VRS Scheme is already in operation in CCI, to protect the interests of the employees.

[English]

**Indo-France Joint Research and Development in Defence Sector**

2839. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have agreed to establish a Forum to encourage joint research and development activities in Defence Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other agreements between the two countries have also been signed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) It would not be in the interest of national security to give further details regarding ongoing Indo-French defence cooperation.

**Railway Trade Apprentices**

2840. SHRI M.K.SUBBA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway Trade Apprentices, duly trained, awaiting absorption in regular jobs in North East Frontier Railway and other zones for the last three years;

(b) the policy for absorption and utilisation of services of such trained personnel; and

(c) the time by which the existing trade apprentices are likely to be absorbed in different zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Under the Apprentices Act it is obligatory to train apprentices in certain designated trades with the object of providing adequate trained manpower in Industrial skills for the developing industries in the country. Based on a joint survey conducted by Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Railways, quota for trade apprentices has been fixed for different units in Railways. Under Para 10 of the schedule V of the Apprenticeship Rules 1991, it shall not be obligatory on the part of the employer to offer any employment to any apprentice who has completed the period of his apprentice training in his establishment nor shall it be obligatory on the part of the apprentice to accept any employment under the employer. However, Ministry of Railways has issued orders that in the matter of recruitment, where other things being equal, an apprentice trained in the relevant trade in Railways will be given preference over other candidates. The number of Act Apprentices trained during the last three years i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001 & 2001-2002 on Indian Railways was 4229 approximately (including 59 trained in Northeast Frontier Railway). In view of above, the question of Apprentices, awaiting absorption and the time by which existing trade apprentices are likely to be absorbed in different zones does not arise.

[Translation]

**Petrol Pumps in Rajasthan**

2841. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes under which oil companies have provided petrol pumps to various persons to operate in Rajasthan;

(b) the districts where oil companies are operating petrol pumps themselves, the location thereof;

(c) the district in Rajasthan where petrol pumps have not been allotted to anyone and have been provided to land owners on the basis of their ownership presently; and

(d) the number of such petrol pumps?

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): (a) The schemes under which the oil marketing companies (OMCs) have allotted retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps) to various persons in the State of Rajasthan include the marketing plans, the special scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships to the widows/next of kin of the defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil) and the discretionary quota of the Government.

(b) The OMCs are operating a number of retail outlet dealerships at various locations in different districts in the State of Rajasthan on 'Company Owned Company Operated' basis.

(c) and (d) In the State of Rajasthan, none of the OMCs is reported to have allotted any retail outlet dealership to any land-owner solely on the basis of his/her ownership of the land.

[English]

### **Hi-Tech Gadgets**

2842. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway employees classified as working in the "safety category" are not properly trained to handle the Hi-Tech gadgets being installed causing most of the major collisions, which occurred in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to impart proper training to these category of staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No Sir. All staff, including safety category staff, are properly trained before extensive utilization of newly acquired technological aids is adopted. Knowledge and skill of staff are refreshed periodically by revising the training programmes due to change in technology. This is a continuous process.

(b) Does not arise.

### **National Judicial Pay Commission's Recommendation for Salary**

2843. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the

report of the national Judicial Pay Commission which had inter-alia recommended the salary hike and increase in the number of judges;

(b) if so, whether the financial implications involved and the strength of judges recommended to be increased in each State;

(c) whether any consultation have been held with the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the decision taken to implement the various recommendations of the judicial commission as per the directive of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the details made available by the respective 10 States and 4 UTs, the expenditure involved (both recurring and non-recurring expenditure) on account of implementing the recommendations of the First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) would be Rs.372.33 crores. The strength of judges recommended to be increased in each State is from the existing ratio of 13 per 10 lakh population to 50 judges per million people which is given in enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Government has partially accepted the recommendations of FNJPC in respect of Union Territories for which it is administratively responsible and implemented vide implementation orders dated 11.10.2001 and 11.3.2002. As regards the implementation of the directions of the Supreme Court contained in its Judgment of 21st March, 2002 with regard to the recommendations of FNJPC, the State Governments have expressed financial and constitutional difficulties in complying with the Judgment and the Central Government had filed applications before the Supreme Court apprising the Court of these difficulties and seeking an appropriate extension of time. The Supreme Court, in their order dated 25.11.2002, has directed that so far as the implementation of the higher pay-scales of the officers of subordinate judiciary is concerned, the same must be given effect to on or before 1st April, 2003 and for that purpose necessary budgetary provision can be made in the budget of the respective States as well as that of the Union. The matter is listed for next hearing in the 2nd week of May, 2003 for further directions.

**Statement**

*The required increase in Judge strength in the States on the basis of population (50 Judges per 10 lakh people)*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Sanctioned strength of judges		Population as per Census of India 2001	Total judges strength required as per SC direction (50:10 lakh people)	Additional no. of judges required on the basis of population ratio
		Posts	As on			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	682	6/2002	75,727,541	3786	3104
2	Arunachal Pradesh	293	12/1998	1,091,117	55	0
3	Assam	259	6/2001	26,638,407	1332	1073
4	Bihar	1137	5/2002	82,878,796	4144	3007
5	Chhattisgarh	189	6/2002	20,795,956	1040	851
6	Goa	44	6/2002	1,343,998	67	23
7	Gujarat	655	6/2002	50,596,992	2530	1875
8	Haryana	266	6/2000	21,082,989	1054	788
9	Himachal Pradesh	100	6/2002	6,077,248	304	204
10	Jharkhand	551	6/2002	26,909,428	1345	794
11	Jammu and Kashmir	197	5/2002	10,069,917	503	306
12	Karnataka	677	6/2002	52,733,958	2637	1960
13	Kerala	380	6/2002	31,838,619	1592	1212
14	Madhya Pradesh	792	5/2002	60,385,118	3019	2227
15	Maharashtra	1280	7/2001	96,752,247	4838	3558
16	Manipur	32	6/2001	2,388,634	119	87
17	Meghalaya	8	6/2002	2,306,069	115	107
18	Mizoram	35	6/2001	991,058	45	10
19	Nagaland	21	6/2,000	1,988,636	99	78
20	Orissa	483	6/2002	36,706,920	1835	1352
21	Punjab	301	6/2001	24,289,296	1214	913
22	Rajasthan	790	6/2001	56,473,122	2824	2034

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Sikkim		12 6/2001	540,493	27	15
24	Tamil Nadu	767	6/2001	62,110,839	3106	2339
25	Tripura	75	6/2002	3,191,168	160	85
26	Uttar Pradesh	2136	5/2002	166,052,859	8302	6166
27	Uttaranchal	183	6/2002	8,479,562	424	241
28	West Bengal	588	6/2001	88,221,171	4411	3823
Total		12933		1,018,562,158	50927	38232

### Pending Cases

2844. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India has suggested that arrears in courts continue to pose a serious problems and mooted the idea of compulsorily sending cases pending for more than 10 to 15 years to Lok Adalats;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps have been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the total Lok Adalats at present in operation;

(d) the number of cases forwarded to Lok Adalats; and

(e) the extent to which these Lok Adalats have reduced the arrears in courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Hon'ble Shri B.N. Kripal, the then Hon'ble Chief Justice of India while addressing a special gathering after inaugurating the new building of the National Law Institute University at Bhopal as reported in the New Delhi edition of 'The Hindu' dated 21.7.2002 said that arrears in Court continue to pose a serious problem and mooted the idea of compulsorily sending cases pending for more than 10 to 15 years to Lok Adalats.

(b) The procedure for referring cases to Lok Adalats is provided under Section 20 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (39 of 1987). Under this Section a case can be referred to the Lok Adalat by the Court when both the parties agree or when one of the parties makes an application to the Court and the Court is prima-facie satisfied that there are chances of mutual settlement or

when the Court is satisfied, after hearing the parties, that the matter is an appropriate one to be taken cognizance of by the Lok Adalat.

(c) to (e) Till date, over 1.43 crore cases have been amicably settled through 1,39,172 Lok Adalats held throughout the country.

[Translation]

### Installation of Petrol Pumps

2845. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the petrol pumps in the country are not existing as per guidelines issued by the Government;

(b) if so, whether any survey was conducted and the authority who conducted this survey;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the officers found guilty of violation of Government issued guidelines at the time of installation of such petrol pumps?

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): (a) to (d) Apart from some retail outlets (petrol pumps) allotted under the discretionary quota of the Government in the past, all the retail outlets that exist in the country have been allotted by the public sector oil companies in accordance with the

guidelines issued by the oil companies/Government. As per policy, the retail outlets are set up based on volume-distance norms. The locations for setting up retail outlet dealerships are included in the Marketing Plans on the basis of feasibility surveys conducted by the oil marketing companies periodically. Prior to the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector w.e.f. 1.4.2002, the Marketing Plans prepared by the oil companies were finalized with the approval of the Government. Cases of violation of guidelines/instructions, if noticed, are dealt with as per rules by the oil companies/Government.

[English]

#### **Establishment of SID to Maintain Records of Subordinate Judiciary**

2846. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay High Court has established a Special Investigation Department (SID) which maintain records of the subordinate judiciary and their disposal rates, complaints against them by litigants etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up similar departments for the High Courts and Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Under article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of Subordinate Judicial Service vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to article 309 read with articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the State Government frames rules and regulations in consultation with the High Court. Members of State Judicial Services are governed by these rules and regulations.

In case of High Courts and the Supreme Court, Chief Justices Conference, 1999 has adopted a 15 point Code of Ethics for Judges in this regard. However, the Government has a proposal to set up a National Judicial Commission which will, inter-alia, draw up a code of ethics for the judiciary.

Care is taken to recruit/promote persons of integrity. Use of information technology in Courts is being implemented to promote transparency and easy access to information which reduces the scope for corrupt practices.

#### **Oil Refineries at Bhatinda**

2847. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Guru Gobind Singh oil Refinery being set up at Bhatinda, in Punjab got stopped due to non-granting of permission from various Union Government departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to get the required permission; and

(d) the date of commissioning of the refinery?

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): (a) to (d) All approvals for setting up the refinery project at Bathinda (Punjab) by Guru Gobind Singh Refineries Limited have been given by the Government of India. The project is under implementation and is expected to be completed towards the end of the X Plan.

[Translation]

#### **Power Projects in Rajasthan**

2848. SHRI JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of places in Rajasthan where power projects in public and private sector are proposed to be set up during Tenth Five Year Plan along with the quantum of power is likely to be supplied to the State by these projects;

(b) the details of estimated cost of above mentioned projects, project-wise;

(c) the time by which these power projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for the setting up of power plants in Rajasthan during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The details of power projects proposed to be set up during 10th Five Year Plan in the State of Rajasthan are given below:

Name of Project/District	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crore)
<b>Central Sector</b>			
Barsingsar Lignite Based TPP, Distt, Bikaner	250	10th Plan	1138.34
<b>State Sector</b>			
Ramgarh CCGT, St II, Distt. Jaisalmer	75.325	GT- 2: 7.8.2002 ST - 03/2003	300.10
Kota TPS St. IV, Dist. Kota	195	07/2003	634.78
Suratgarh TPS ST. III Dist. Sri Ganganagar	250	06/2003	752.738

In addition to this, Mathania CCPP, Dist. Jodhpur (140 MW) is also targeted to set up during 10th Plan. The cost of the project is Rs. 871.86 crore. The project is to be commissioned in 36 months from financial closure. The financial closure has not yet been achieved. The project is to be executed through financial assistance from KFW, German/Power Finance Corporation.

The Working Group on Power set up in the Planning Commission has recommended an outlay of Rs. 7777 crore for power sector during 10th Plan for the State Government of Rajasthan.

[Translation]

#### **Illegal Gates in Streets and at Thoroughfares in Colonies**

2849. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that almost all the Resident Welfare Associations have taken law into their hands by illegally putting up Gates in the streets and at thoroughfares;

(b) whether Government are aware that the High Court and also the SC have given verdicts against the illegal construction and operation of the Gates in the Colonies; and

(c) whether Government will restore the rule of law and declare all these gates illegal and take suitable action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir; it has been brought to the notice of the Government that some of the

Resident Welfare Associations have put up gates in lanes/bye lanes. Government are also aware of the order passed by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in C.W.No.5523/2000 wherein directions were issued for keeping the gates open and manned in relation to the gates installed in Green Park and Green Park Extension in New Delhi. Guidelines have been issued by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi in consultation with the Delhi Police for regulating the erection of gates by the Resident Welfare Associations.

#### **Novel Scheme of Model Clean Stations**

2850. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a novel scheme of model clean stations under a unique cleanliness operation has been launched by the Railways recently;

(b) if so, the special feature of the scheme;

(c) the names of the railway stations where such scheme has been launched; and

(d) the names of the railway stations to be selected for novel scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) In order to bring about perceptible improvement in the standard of sanitation at Railway stations and in trains, the Railways have planned multi-pronged action by synergising technology, education of users, upgradation of skills of staff and provision of better equipment.

(c) and (d) The scheme has been launched at Hazrat Nizamuddin station of Northern Railway. The following stations have been identified state-wise, for the coverage under the scheme:-

1. Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus - Maharashtra
2. Howrah - West Bengal
3. Patna - Bihar
4. Gorakhpur - Uttar Pradesh
5. Jaipur - Rajasthan
6. Guwahati - Assam
7. Chennai Central - Tamil Nadu
8. Secunderabad - Andhra Pradesh
9. Ranchi - Jharkhand
10. Mumbai Central - Maharashtra

#### **Nagaland Constituency as Reserved Seat For ST**

2851. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nagaland Constituency is a reserved constituency for Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the reasons for not mentioning the same against the constituency; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and steps being taken to declare this constituency as a reserved seat for STs?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delimitation Commission set up under the Delimitation Act, 1972 had declared Nagaland Parliamentary Constituency as a general (unreserved) constituency vide the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1976. The Orders of the Delimitation Commission are final. It is for the present Delimitation Commission to review the issue keeping in view all the facts and circumstances of the case.

#### **Amendment in People's Representation Act**

2852. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have contemplated to provide special safeguard to No.5 Kokrajhar (ST) Parliamentary Constituency on the line of Dipu (ST Hills)

Parliamentary constituency, Sikkim Parliamentary constituency and Lakshadweep (ST) Parliamentary Constituency;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 contains qualifications for membership of the House of the People. General rule in this regard, except with certain modifications in respect of the autonomous districts of Assam, Lakshadweep and Sikkim, is that a person to be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the House of the People, must be an elector for any, parliamentary constituency. Further, the qualification applies equally in the case of the candidates contesting for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes seats. As such, the Government does not consider it appropriate to bring an amendment with regard to the Kokrajhar (ST) Parliamentary constituency.

#### **Seminar on Indo-US Defence Industry**

2853. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US Defence Industry seminar was organised by the CII recently;

(b) if so, the details of the issue discussed therein;

(c) the Government's view thereon;

(d) whether the Government have asked US administration for speedy export clearance; and

(e) if so, the response of US administration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The CII in association with US-India Business Council had organized a half day seminar on "Indo-US Defence Industry" on 12th November 2002.

(b) The issues discussed during the seminar were of a general nature including inter alia, India's security concerns, the prospects and opportunities for cooperation between the US and the Indian Defence Industries and the concerns of the Indian side in this regard.

(c) to (e) During the Seminar, the need for time-bound export clearances and uninterrupted product support was emphasized. Since the Seminar was organized jointly by the CII and the US-India Business Council, and attended by US companies, there was no occasion for an official response.

#### **Equity Participation in Hydro Electric Power Projects**

2854. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for equity participation in Hydro Electric Power Projects being set up by the Central Public Sector Undertakings;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the funds available to the State for hydel power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal has been conveyed to the hydro sector Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). The CPSUs execute hydro-electric projects located in different States through agreements/Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs) entered into with the State(s) where the projects are located. It will be for the States where the projects are located and the concerned CPSUs to consider the request of the Government of Rajasthan while agreeing upon implementation agreements of new hydro projects being set up by CPSUs. The Government of India is keen to implement measures that would accelerate the development of hydro power.

(c) The Government of India does not make any funds available to any State specifically for hydro power generation in the State sector. However, it sets up hydro power projects for the benefit of the States through its own Public Sector Undertakings or with equity participation of the States as joint ventures such as Tehri Hydro Power Development Corporation (THDC), Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (formerly Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation) and the Narmada Hydro-electric Development Corporation (NHDC).

#### **Setting up of Environmental Courts**

2855. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has asked Law Commission to consider the issue of setting up of environmental courts in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has set up any environmental courts on the directives of the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which the environmental cases which are presently pending in High courts and Supreme Court would be resolved by environmental courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) The Supreme Court of India in A.P. Pollution Control Board (II) V s. Prof. M. V. Naidu (Retd.) and others, 2000 (8) SCALE, 23, in Para 71 observed as under:

"In as much as most of the statutes dealing with environment are by Parliament, we would think that the Law Commission could kindly consider the question of review of the environmental laws and the need for constitution of Environmental Courts with experts in environmental law, in addition to judicial members, in the light of experience in other countries".

In view of the above Judgment, the Law Commission has taken up the study of Environmental Laws with the issue of setting up of Environmental Courts in our country. The study on it is still in progress.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As environmental courts are yet to be set up and their powers, jurisdiction and procedure are yet to be worked out, it is difficult to assess their impact on the cases pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court.

[Translation]

#### **Generation and Purchase Cost of Electricity**

2856. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:



(a) whether there is a huge difference of tariff fixed for consumers of States as compared to purchase, generation cost of electricity borne by the State Electricity Boards of the country;

(b) if so, the details of generation and purchase cost of electricity by each State Electricity Board during the year 2001-2002;

(c) the tariff rates of electricity fixed for consumers of different categories by each State during the year 2001-2002; and

(d) the losses suffered by each State Electricity Board during the year 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

12.00 hrs.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- 1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6231/2002]

- (ii) Annual Report of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6232/2002]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6233/2002]

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6234/2002]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 2001-2002.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6235/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I, on behalf Shri K. Jana Krishnamurthy, beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002?

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6236/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 34 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990:-

- (1) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Broadcasting (Engineers) Service Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. N-10/12/2001-PB Cell in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 2001.

- (2) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of

India) (Junior Engineering Posts) Service Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. N-10/11/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2002.

- (3) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Cameraman Grade-II Post Service Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. F. No. N-10/20/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 2002.
- (4) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) (Carpenter, Painter, Driver, Assistant Transport Supervisor and Transport Assistant Posts) Service Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. N-10/12/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2002.
- (5) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) (Helper, Khalasi and Motor Cleaner Posts) Recruitment Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. F. No. N-10/22/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 2002.
- (6) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) (Junior Programme Posts) Recruitment Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. N-10/24/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2002.
- (7) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) (Senior Administrative and Allied Posts) Service Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. F. No. N-10/14/2001-PPC in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6237/2002]

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, I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited for the year 2000-2001 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of accounting year.
- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Kochi

Refineries Limited and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6238/2002]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
  - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Gas Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Gas Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6239/2002]

- (4) A copy of the Notification No. F. No. P-20012/5/99-PP (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2002 containing guidelines for laying petroleum product lines.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6240/2002]

[English]

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, I on behalf of Dr. Vallabhkhair Kathiria, beg to lay to 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 Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6241/2002]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the

Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2001- 2002.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6242/2002]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6243/2002]

- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Kolkatta, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Kolkatta, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6244/2002]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and the Department of Heavy, Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.6245/2002]

12.01 hrs.

## ASSENT TO BILL

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: I beg to lay on the Table

the Petroleum (Bearar Extension) Repeal Bill, 2002 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President.

12.1½ hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

### Action Taken Statement

[Translation]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Statements showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of chapter V of the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Railways (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) regarding action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the 'Railway Finance'.

12.02 hrs.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

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): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 9th December, 2002 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.

2. Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Representation of People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2002 and consideration and passing of the Representation of People (Amendment) Bill, 2002.

3. Discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2002-03.

4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-

- i) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001

- ii) The Companies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2001
- iii) The Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2002
- iv) The Transfer of Property (Amendment) Bill, 2002
- v) The Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2002
- vi) The Representation of People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2002
- vii) The Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Bill, 2002

5. Consideration and passing of following Bills after they have been passed by Rajya Sabha:

- i) The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2002
- ii) The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of misuse) Amendment Bill, 2002.

[English]

SHRI M. CHINNASAMY (KARUR): Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:-

The Union Government should come forward to bring a suitable legislation, empowering States to have their reservations for OBCs and SC/STs of their own, as per the existing population of the concerned States and other prevailing conditions here.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- (i) For strengthening Centre and State relationship implementation of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission is necessary.
- (ii) The workers of unorganised sector should be brought under the Provident Fund.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to kindly include the following items in the next week's agenda:-

- 1. Discussion on financial condition of Bihar.
- 2. Discussion on increase in blackmoney in the country.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (SATNA): Mr. Speaker,

Sir, please include the following items in the next week's agenda:-

- 1. Discussion on early completion of canals from the inter-state irrigation Dam Bansagar so that the farmers could get water for irrigation from the said dam by the year 2003 and more power could be generated from the chachai fall.
- 2. Pending irrigation projects of Satna district of Madhya Pradesh due to Central forest Act, 1960.

Discussion on clearance by the Department of Environment and Forest of the Union Government in regard to Patna reservoir and Syam Nagar and Parhat irrigation schemes and early completion of dams and canals.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- 1. There are lakhs of child labourers in our country even today. Instead of sending these innocent children to schools they are forced to work. Their childhood is ruined. Even the Act enacted for abolition of child labour has not been able to liberate them. In order to save the children from exploitation, for imparting education to them and for providing opportunity for their overall development on the lines of the National Commission for women, a National Commission for children should be set up. It is imperative to take steps like constituting the Parliamentary Committees to ensure the rights of children. There is a need to have a discussion on the important issue of child welfare.
- 2. The country is in the grip of drought, hence it is absolutely necessary to frame a long term and comprehensive policy for water conservation to solve this problem forever. We will have to undertake the construction of check dams, stop dams renovation of ponds, digging of new ponds and completion of irrigation schemes lying pending for years by preparing a time bound programme. Therefore, there is a need to have a discussion on comprehensive and long-term water conservation policy.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I would like the following items to be included in the next week's business:

1. The Government has decided to close down Smith & Stain Street pharmaceutical unit. This unit is located at Kolkata. The Government had not made any attempt to revive this company. There is uncertainty in regard to payment of VSS to the employees.
2. The AAIFR has sent back the winding up decision of BIFR and has asked to review the decision of winding up of Durgapur and Barauni units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited. The Government should submit a proposal before BIFR for the revival of two units of HFCL.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZZHA): Sir, I suggest the following items for the next week's agenda:

1. The fishermen engaged traditionally in fishing are in poverty due to large-scale mechanized fishing and entry of multinationals and corporates in this field. Their children are not getting good education and jobs as they get no reservation in this competitive field. To raise them to the level of others, it is necessary to give them the status and benefit of the status of Scheduled Tribes.
2. The backlog for jobs for Scheduled Castes and Tribes are to be filled up. The beneficiaries should get full benefit of their Constitutional rights. The State Governments who have not conformed to this Constitutional obligation should be made answerable and necessary legislations in this regard may be brought forthwith. Job opportunities for minorities also may be safeguarded and action may be taken urgently.

[Translation]

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN (JALGAON): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. My parliamentary constituency Jalgaon (Maharashtra) is at number one in production of Banana in the country. A large number of traders from every part of country come here daily but they have to face a lot of difficulties as the express trains do not have a stoppage there. Therefore, there is a need to provide stoppage to all the express trains at Jalgaon.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (BILASPUR): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. There is need of a body for children in the country to carry out a deep study in regard to the issues like child education/child labourers and child

marriage which will apprise the Union Government as well as the State Governments on these issues so that the Government could prepare effective programmes in this regard.

2. Approval should be accorded for construction of the National Highway from Bilaspur to Pauri Mandla via Mugeli. The above mentioned state Highway of Chhattisgarh should be declared the national highway.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item No. 11, Calling Attention.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, before the Calling Attention is taken up. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, as per the procedure we should take up Calling Attention first and then comes 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me go by the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): The time allotted for Zero Hour will be consumed in discussion on Calling Attention. ...(Interruptions) It is not proper. ...(Interruptions) We should also be given time to speak. An attempt is being made to suspend the Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You know the procedure. I am bound by the rules. The rule says that the House will take up the Calling Attention first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Calling Attention stands in the name of three hon. Members. The first name is that of Shri Laxman Giluwa.

12.11 hrs.

# CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

## **Difficulties Being Faced by People in Tribal Areas due to Forest (Conservation) Act**

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA (SINGHBHUM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he should make a statement in this regard.

"The situation arisen due to difficulties being experienced in providing basic facilities in Adivasi areas owing to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the steps taken by the Government in this regard."

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, at the outset, I would like to bring to the kind attention of this august House the healthy tradition of living in harmony with nature that is an inherent part of our culture. The close relationship between the long-term survival of mankind specially the tribals, and maintenance of natural forests has always been appreciated by our society. However, after Independence, the pressure of development led to massive diversion of forest lands for various non-forestry purposes. The rate of diversion of forest land was of the order of 1.5 lakh hectares per annum during the period 1950 to 1980, which became a cause for serious national concern.

Having realised that loss of forest cover is a serious national problem where Centre and States have to play a positive role, the subject 'Forest' was brought from State List to Concurrent List by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976. Thereafter, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was enacted by this august House, I while leaving other important issues pertaining to protection, development and management of forests with the States. The Act has achieved its objective to a great extent as the rate of diversion of forest land has been brought to about 25,000 hectares per year from the pre-1980 level of 1.5 lakh hectares per year. The approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land involves various checks and balances from the forestry as well as environmental angles. In this way, this Act has been able to check the indiscriminate diversion of forest land. In fact, by conserving the forests, the Act safeguards the interests

of tribals and other local people who are heavily dependent on forest resources for their sustenance.

Since 1980, a total number of 8015 proposals for diversion of 5.76 lakh hectares of forest land have been approved under this Act for various development projects. I personally monitor the progress of all important cases and issues that are brought to my notice by the hon. Members and ensure that these are attended to on priority basis. After my assuming the office of Minister of Environment and Forests in October 1999, the Government has approved 3487 proposals including 2492 proposals which were freshly received during the period, thereby clearing a backlog of almost 1000 proposals.

Insofar as providing basic amenities to tribals or tribal areas is concerned, I would like to mention that all proposals involving public utilities and basic amenities, especially those catering to the needs of the tribals are given top priority and special attention, while processing and taking a decision on them.

The Ministry has also clarified that the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 do not interfere with or restrict in any manner the rights, concessions and privileges of the tribal people. However, in certain areas, the tribal people may face a problem on account of some of them being treated as encroachers on forest lands due to faulty settlement by the State Governments. The Ministry is committed to the settlement of pre-1980 disputed settlement claims of the tribal people arising out of faulty forest settlement process. If the State Governments submit such proposals with relevant records, the issue of rights of tribals on forest land can be settled. In this regard, the Ministry has issued a letter on 30.10.2002 to all the States to send proposals in a time bound manner.

I would like to inform the hon. Members that the Ministry has recently ordered regularisation of tribal encroachments over 65,000 hectares in the State of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Similarly, the Ministry has also recently approved conversion of forest villages into revenue villages in three districts of Madhya Pradesh involving 9,940 hectares of forest land. The Ministry is committed to settle these kinds of issues, provided the States submit their proposals.

Besides these initiatives, some other measures of far-reaching importance for the livelihood of the tribal population have also been taken by the Central Government under the concept of Joint Forest Management (JFM). The programme has picked up quite well during the last three years and over 14 million hectares of forest areas are

being managed in collaboration with around 65,000 JFM committees in 27 States. Out of nearly 27 lakh families under JFM, more than 12 lakhs are the tribal families. The Ministry has also created employment opportunities besides regeneration of forests through the Forest Development Agencies which are the federations of village level JFM committees. This not only provides alternative economic sustenance to the villagers who are mainly tribals but also involves them as stake-holders in the decision making process.

I propose to continue this momentum in favour of tribal people. The Government will continue to be innovative and adopt strategies to ensure that perfect harmony is maintained between the conservation of forests and development of tribal areas.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the Pashchimi Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. The Saranda Forest is situated in this district. Saranda is the largest forest in the country with a series of 700 hills. This forest is in a shabby condition today due to unrestricted felling of trees. If this situation continues, I think this forest won't take too long to turn into a desert. I want to submit that this forest is the property of the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. If the responsibility of protecting this forest is entrusted to the tribal or the primitive people in time, I think the rate of tree felling will come down and it will also reduce pollution to some extent. I would like to draw your attention particularly towards problems being faced by the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes living in that forest. First of all, the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people living in that area or the forest have not so far been provided the facilities which they should have been provided.

Sir, we talk of tribal people. These people should get all the facilities. They should get safe drinking water which they don't. There are no roads for the forest people to go from one village to another which also makes their lives miserable. So I would like to submit that there should be roads to reach these people. The Government do admit that the scheduled castes and scheduled tribe people belong to the lowest strata of the society. The Government should provide facilities to them. The tribals living in that area have a lot of difficulties regarding irrigation also. I want that tubewells, ponds, check dams etc. should be constructed in that area in order to provide sources of irrigation so that the people living there may irrigate their fields and earn a livelihood. There are no revenue villages,

there are forest villages. Revenue villages should be set up there and they should get their rights. With this I conclude my speech.

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT (LOHARDAGA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, let's see the condition of the forests today. The tribal and other local people living in forests are instrumental in saving the forests. The people in our Jharkhand state check felling of trees and protect them but the officers of the Department of Forest are involved in denuding the forests. Our state Jharkhand is surrounded by forests. If the local and tribal people work collectively to save the forests, the forest will certainly be saved. Amenities and facilities must be provided to those who work towards saving the forests.

Sir, no good schools are there for their education. There is no drinking water facility. Proper arrangements for drinking water should be made there. When water is blocked on the hills, it trickles down slowly and when water trickles down, the forest remains green. So a lot of work in this direction need to be done in the forest area so that forests could be saved. Tribal people are living for years and centuries in the hills and forests but they have no irrigation facility. In such a situation, proper irrigation facilities should be provided to the people living in that forest. Check dams should be constructed, water should be managed properly, ponds and tubewells should be constructed. Only then they will be able to save the forests and the whole area will develop.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the forest areas have no electricity, no drinking water. Roads cannot be made there because they are reserve forest areas. I urge the hon. Minister of Forest to take bold steps to solve these problems and work in this direction so that not only the forests but also the tribal community could be saved and the forests could be maintained well.

SHRI SALKHAN MURMU (MAYURBHANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given my name.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Excepting Shri Bangarappa, nobody will be allowed to speak. I am sorry. I am bound by the rules

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: In this, there is no provision to associate also.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The rules are quite clear in this regard that only those will get an opportunity to speak who have given notice.

No other member shall be allowed to speak. I have the notices of three members out of which two are yet to speak. In fact, only questions on this remain to be asked. Now I call Shri Bangarappa.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 300 districts in the country where there is no forest. There is nothing for them. Our projects for the protection of forests are not being completed. Those who have saved the forests are getting punishment. I want that I may be allowed to speak under rule 193.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We are having this discussion only at the instance of Shri Bangarappa. Since Shri Bangarappa has insisted that this issue be discussed, I have taken it up in the House. And, since both the Members, who have already spoken, are adivasis, I have permitted them to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: The Forest Department is delaying the projects. ...(Interruptions) we want a discussion under rule 193. ...(Interruptions) Eviction notices have been issued in four districts.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Bangarappa has given the notice. So, he will be allowed to speak. This issue has been taken up today only because of Shri Bangarappa's persuasion. Please go ahead.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while thanking the Chair for having put this matter on today's Agenda, I crave your indulgence if you permit me, since this matter is likely to take a little lengthy time. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you ask for my permission, I am sorry, I cannot give it. You can make a lengthy speech but if you ask for my permission, I cannot give you the permission.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: I understand it.

I thank the hon. Minister for having made the statement. According to his statement, the matter relates to the tribal people living in the midst of the forest area. However, my intention was not limited to that. If you go through my notice, it relates to the poor people who have taken birth and lived in the forest for centuries and who have been cultivating very small piece of land for their livelihood. So, it includes not only tribal but other people also. Maybe, while wording my notice, I restricted it only to the tribal people and that is why, perhaps, the hon. Minister has made a statement relating to what the Government has done with regard to the tribal people living in the forest. So, with your permission, I may be permitted to speak here not only with regard to the tribal people but also other people living in the midst of the forest.

There are three or four aspects relating to this matter. Firstly, what exactly is the position as far as the ground realities are concerned? Then there is a legal aspect and Constitutional aspect. What exactly is the remedy? These are three or four issues which revolve around this discussion. As far as the status of the tribals is concerned, through you, Sir, I must thank my friends who have just now spoken. To have a number of projects, people have sacrificed a lot in this country. For example, in Karnataka, in my own constituency, for Sharavati Valley Hydroelectric project, which was the biggest project in Asia once upon a time, people have sacrificed to the tune of lakhs and lakhs of acres of land.

Those people were taken in lorries and trucks, and were dumped in the midst of forests in 1960s. This happened about 30 to 40 years back. Some people were given *pattas* under the State laws because, as you are well aware, the Central Forest Conservation Act came into being in the year 1980. Before that, all the State Governments were having their own Acts because it was in the State List. Now, it has been brought in the Concurrent List. No *pattas* have been given to those people who had sacrificed their lands and are still living in forests.

For example, we can take the people who are living in areas of Idukki and Wayanad in Kerala. We can also take the tribals living in Nilgiri, Tamil Nadu; in Western Ghats; in Ratnagiri and Vidharbha, Maharashtra; in Madhya Pradesh where the situation is horrible; in Andhra Pradesh; in West Bengal; in Assam; in North-Eastern States; in some areas of Rajasthan; in Saurashtra, Gujarat; and in Orissa. So, I want to say that there are many places like



this where dams have been constructed for power generation and irrigation purposes. People belonging to all castes, creeds, and *dharma*s are living in the midst of forests. They have taken births there. They have lived with trees and plants. They have also guarded those forests.

Sir, as per the Central Act of 1980, the States are the agencies of the Central Government for guarding the forests. After all, the Central Government cannot have its own officers to safeguard all the forest land of the country. So, under the Act of 1980, it manages all these things through State Governments. Earlier, the State Governments had powers to release certain forest land for the sake of poor people. Usually, it was given to them by the Revenue Department through Committees or through its own officers. That was the position earlier. I do not say that you should deplete the entire forest land. I know there is around 30 per cent to 33 per cent forest land in the world. In Europe, there is 41 per cent forest land. In South-East Asian countries like Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Philippines, and Myanmar, the forest land is very less. In India, we have only 19 per cent forest land. I know depletion of forest land is not a good thing. I understand that. Over growth of population and vehicles has resulted into higher rate of pollution in the atmosphere. It has adversely affected the rainfall also. But at the same time, we have to help those tribal people also who are living in forests for the last so many years. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): Can you yield for a minute?

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not that you should yield. How can you yield?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, I do not want to yield. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Sir, the hon. Member from Karnataka is speaking about the destruction of forest and about the rehabilitation of tribals. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That is permitted. He can talk about it.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: But the biggest

destroyer of forests in Karnataka is Veerappan. He is robbing the forests. What have you done about him? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not an issue concerning Veerappan.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Sir, a couple of days ago, there was a report in the 'Pioneer' saying that a retired official of the Government of Karnataka has written in his book that the Government of Karnataka had paid Rs.20 crore for getting the release of Shri Raj Kumar. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. If you want to speak on this issue, you have to take the permission of the Chair. Without the permission of the Chair, you cannot speak like this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Sir, I have to make an appeal. A very serious matter is being discussed. All these frivolous interruptions should be expunged from the record.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE): The real issue is, as the hon. Minister has made it very clear, that the State Government should send the proposal. The Government of India is ready to grant permission. That is exactly what he has said. He has made it very clear.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is here. He will make the position clear.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: There is no point in beating around the bush. If we are really interested in getting the solution, the State Government will have to make the proposal and the Government of India will grant permission. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: It is not the question of Veerappan. What has he got to do with this issue? You do not understand all these things. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not try to reply to him. You make your point.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have not permitted you to speak.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not an issue on which we

should quarrel among each other. This is a very serious issue pertaining to Adivasis. Let him reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have stopped him already.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: I was saying that the agency under the 1980 Act is the State Government. Everywhere this question comes. There are people who have half an acre of cultivated land without the permission of the Government. They are there in your State and in every nook and corner of the country. We have to deal with these hapless and voiceless millions of people who are poor and who are living in tribal areas throughout the length and breadth of the country. I am trying to place it on record as to what exactly we are doing as far as safeguarding the long-term interests of these people is concerned. This is the situation that has arisen in the entire country. Actually the Government did not do this. I can see this point. That is why I am not blaming the hon. Minister.

Coming to the legal aspect of the matter, in 1995-96, in 2000 and in 2002, several Public Interest Litigations were filed in the Supreme Court. These cases have been disposed of with a new judgement by the Supreme Court. The earlier judgements are also there to safeguard the interest of the tribal people.

Coming to the tribal people, the Central Government has given an undertaking in their favour. The point is that judgements regarding tribal people are already there. But the latest Judgement of the Supreme Court is going against the earlier judgements of the Supreme Court. I am not trying to find fault with the Supreme Court. With all their good intentions they have passed the orders saying that because of depletion of forest land, we have to maintain the ecological balance and see that forest area gets larger in order to safeguard the interest of the country. I can see that point. I am not taking an exception to the tenor or the letter and spirit of the judgement passed by the Supreme Court. But the point is, unless the earlier judgements are reversed by the latest judgement, the earlier judgements in fact remain as they are. Those judgements are in favour of this kind of cultivators. But they are not yet reversed.

Now there is a Public Interest Litigation filed in the Supreme Court in the year 2002 whereby on an application, an interim order has been passed by the Supreme Court. It is a very serious interim order. That matter relates to the safeguarding of the forest which led to the eviction of the unauthorised cultivators of the land across the country. They have now laid down certain principles. They have

given certain directions also. What are those directions? According to the court of law, it is well within the peripheries of the four walls of the 1980 Act and no court can go beyond this.

A Central Empowered Committee has been formed on the direction given by the Supreme Court. This is a temporary order. As per this order, the Central Empowered Committee is chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Environment and the Chief Secretaries of various States are its members. At the district level also committees are formed. I can see the point and I am not trying to find fault with that.

But the point is, if the State Government is unable to evict a person with one hectare or 2.5 hectares of forest land, then a fine of Rs.5000 per month is levied against the State Government as per that order. In Karnataka, we have filed a petition in the Supreme Court under Public Interest Litigation. About 91,000 to 92,000 hectares of land is under unauthorised cultivation by the landless poor people. This is the statement made by the Karnataka Government in the Supreme Court. Likewise, the Governments of Assam, West Bengal, Maharashtra and other States have also filed petitions. Now, if you take this Rs.5000 per month per acre, it accrues to hundreds of crores of rupees per year. I do not know how a State Government can be run if it goes on accounting this money in the name of the Central Empowered Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, please conclude.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: With your permission, I may take just another ten minutes. That is all.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me tell you the rule. You can ask only clarificatory questions. Even a speech is not allowed.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: I understand it, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: As a special case, I permitted you to make a speech. So, please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Mr. Minister, please listen to me. After all, you are now heading that Central Empowered Committee under the Central Government as per the directions of the Supreme Court. It is not going to be a small matter.

This problem is there even in the Nilgiri area of your own home State, Tamil Nadu. It is there everywhere. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am not yielding.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, I am in agreement with him. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: If an officer does not evict a person, then Rs. 100 per month will be cut from his salary. It goes to the account of the Central Empowered Committee.

Another point is, eviction notices are going to be issued across the country to people who are cultivating the land. Our friends were telling that it is happening in other States also. Now, the last date for evicting people, according to the direction of the Supreme Court, was 30th October, 2002. It was just two months back. According to that direction, officials of the Forest Department can take the help of the police. If the police officers go, then forest officers also go and start evicting the people who are without livelihood on account of not cultivating their piece of land, say, one or two acres. They will be left without anything to live. Should you not see the social aspect of the matter? Suppose you evict crores of acres of land across the country will you take away and dump the people in the open on the road or on the national highways or the State highways or the periphery of the forest areas? Sir, this social aspect of the matter is completely brushed aside or forgotten.

Therefore, I now appeal to the Government to immediately take up the point with the court and take all possible steps to stop eviction of people. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, you may please allow a full-fledged discussion of the subject. It is a very important matter. Tribals are suffering throughout the country. So, it is better to allow a full-fledged discussion on this subject in the course of the next week so that several Members would participate in it. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Sir, I also suggest that a full-scale discussion should be allowed on this subject. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, lakhs and lakhs of people will be thrown on the roads and there will be chaos. So, a full-fledged discussion is required on this subject. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: A suggestion has been made by Shri Yerrannaidu that a full-fledged discussion on this issue is necessary. I have no difficulty from my side. But the matter will have to be taken to the BAC and if the BAC would find that the issue is so important, then we can always take up a full discussion. But in the meantime,

since the discussion on the Calling Attention has started, I think the hon. Minister will reply.

Shri Bangarappa, I have given you more time than what I should have given. Now, I request the hon. Minister to reply.

*...(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, other Members may also be allowed to speak one minute each. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection even for that.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has made a suggestion that a few other Members should also be allowed to make submission. Then, 'Zero Hour' will not take place.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): 'Zero Hour' should be allowed. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If Members want 'Zero Hour', then let the Minister proceed now.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: This is a very serious issue. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Before the hon. Minister rises to give the reply, I would like to put only one or two questions. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, this is not possible.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak because I have not said what exactly we want. *...(Interruptions)* After the issuance of eviction notices, a lot of hue and cry has taken place. *...(Interruptions)* It may amount to criminal cases which may be filed against the poor people. *...(Interruptions)* Please permit to ask the questions. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, please ask pointed questions.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: After Shri Bangarappa finishes, we may be allowed to speak on this issue. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: The Supreme Court judgement is there against the powerful lobbies who are undertaking mining operations in forest areas. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Mr. Minister, you please make a reply.

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: The Government should bring an amendment to the Forest Act, 1980 and also make an appeal to the Supreme Court to modify it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, Shri Bangarappa. I will not be able to allow you to speak further.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Sir, please allow me to speak. This is not fair. I would like to have certain clarifications from the hon. Minister. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, a full length discussion may kindly be allowed on this issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have made up my mind. Now, the Minister will reply. I am sorry. There is permission to allow only three Members to speak, which I have done. If you want a discussion, then we can take it up in the Business Advisory Committee and then decide.

...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, many a time, Speaker has allowed more Members to speak on important issues. This is also an important issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, interruptions are being made deliberately to avoid the 'Zero Hour'. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Let the hon. Minister answer only two questions. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down. I have already said that even if there is a discussion under Rule, 193, the Members should be allowed to speak.

Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that you should cooperate with me. There are only ten minutes for the first half of the day to be completed. Therefore, it is for the hon. Minister to reply now. Thereafter, if the hon. Members are so desirous of raising it, I will take up the issue in the Business Advisory Committee. Prof. Malhotra, you are a Member of the BAC.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: He is on a point of order. Shri Yerranna, what is your point of order?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: My point of order is this. Please refer to Rule 197 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha relating to Calling Attention. Clause (2) says:

"There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made but each member in whose name the item stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a clarificatory question and the Minister shall reply at the end to all such questions..."

So, it is not possible to permit everybody as per this Rule. That is why I request you to allow a full discussion on this issue. The Hon. Minister will reply now. They may seek any clarification. So, please allow a full discussion so that we can also participate in it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerranna, I uphold the point of order raised by you. The Rule is clear. I can permit only three Members whose names are in the notice. Individual notices have been given.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): I am on a point of order. It is connected with his point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you raising another point of order?

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me first dispose of, his point of order. Then, you can raise another point of order, but not now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pandian, you were a Speaker once upon a time.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the residuary powers, you can exercise your power and allow the Members to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, I uphold the point of order raised by you. You are absolutely right in saying that only those Members who have given notices should be allowed to speak. Three Members gave notices. They were supposed to ask only questions. But I know that these are the two Members from this side who never speak in the House. They are from the adivasi community. So, I thought that they should be given permission and so I allowed them as a special case to make a speech. That was more than enough. Shri Bangarappa was the person who was instrumental in bringing this issue. He really wanted to give this notice. He was trying for a very long time. Therefore, as a special case, those members who were supposed to put only questions were allowed to make small speeches. The only thing is if the other Members want to put questions, if they want a debate, I have absolutely no objection. I understand that the issue is very important. For that, I will have to go before the Business Advisory Committee, take a decision there and thereafter you can speak on this issue. He has been trying to bring this issue before the House for a long time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is more than enough.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, the Chair can always suspend the Rule.

MR. SPEAKER: That is done in rare circumstances.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please start your reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, the hon. Minister can reply after the 'Zero Hour'. Please take up the 'Zero Hour'. Am I being punished for cooperating with you. Sir? ...*(Interruptions)* Are we being punished for cooperating with you? The 6th December, 1992 issue relating to demolition of Babri Masjid was to be taken up during 'Zero Hour.' ...*(Interruptions)* This is a punishment for cooperating with you, for being a disciplined Member. Certain times, Sir, you must assert yourself. Let the reply come afterwards.

MR. SPEAKER: The reply will be as short as possible. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling. I do not understand why it is done like this. Mr. Minister, I want you to speak now.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the House should be in order. Then only, I can speak. How can I speak if the House is not in order.

MR. SPEAKER: If you start speaking, the House will be calm and quiet.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, please keep the House in order. Without that, I cannot speak.

MR. SPEAKER: If you start speaking, the House will be calm.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I do admit it.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, it is a punishment for cooperating with the Chair, for being a disciplined Member.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a question of poor people. Its reply must come. Why are you deferring it? The reply must be given now.

SHRI SALKHAN MURMU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one crore Adivasis are going to be displaced from the forest. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you an opportunity to speak at the time of discussion on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SALKHAN MURMU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one crore Adivasis are going to be displaced from forests in the wake of enforcement of this law. Hon. Minister should give an assurance in this regard in this reply-so that those adivasis are not displaced from those forests. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not appropriate to skip the Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)* It is something very serious. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that now hon. Minister would be giving a reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will have to be unnecessarily strict on the issue. I will not allow any other Member to speak now, excepting the Minister. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow anybody else now. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what Shri Bangarappa is doing is not proper. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is a very important matter. Let the Minister reply now. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were so generous in admitting the Calling Attention in spite of my elaborate reply to your goodself. At the same time, you have allowed hon. Members, especially Shri Bangarappa, my old friend, who was a very good administrator and was the Chief Minister of the State of Karnataka, to bring up this Calling Attention. Now, I would try to reply to the points raised by them to the best of my ability.

First of all, the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 was enacted by this august House when the Congress Party was in office. But the guidelines for this 1980 Act were issued only on 18.9.90, after 10 years of the enactment of the law. What do the guidelines say about the Adivasis, the poorest of the poor who were neglected? It says that as far as the settlement of the tribals' claims in tribal areas is concerned, wherever there is a *prima facie* evidence

when the process of forest settlement has been vitiated by incomplete or incorrect records, maps or lack of information to the affected persons as prescribed by the law, provided that such forest settlement pertains to a period prior to 1947, then they can make a claim. But the claimants should be in possession of the particular disputed land and it should be prior to 1947.

The guidelines further say that after identifying the above three categories of the claimants, the State Government or the Union Territory Administration should get this enquired through a Committee which should consist of at least the concerned DFO, Sub-Divisional Officer and a representative from the Tribal Welfare Department. The Committee should determine the genuineness of the claims after examining all available evidence to establish that.

The guidelines go on to say that once the *bona fide* of the claims is established through a proper enquiry, the State or the Union Territory Government may consider the restoration of titles to claimants. These were the guidelines issued in 1990 by their Government. Now, Shri Bangarappa has claimed that inspite of these things, this Government is not coming forward to help the Adivasis. That was the point made by him. But I would like to inform my friend, through you, that if there is any dispute which is not settled and if the concerned people have got any *bona fide* records in their hands, let the State Government of Karnataka or any other State Government send it to me.

13.00 hrs.

I am here to look into the issue. I will try to settle the issue. There is no second opinion on this matter. Neither the court nor the Government is against it.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (KANAKPURA): Will the hon. Minister yield for a minute? ...*(Interruptions)* During 1996, the very same Government had released 15,000 hectares of forest land in favour of the cultivators, who are Scheduled Caste people, landless people and agricultural labourers. ...*(Interruptions)* You go through the orders. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has yielded. What can I do?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not asked him to yield.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, they are standing up. So, I have to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Please ask your officers.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I am not finding fault with anybody. At the same time, I should say what I have to say. ...*(Interruptions)*

From 1980 to 1998, for the past 18 years, how many forest cases have been settled? These are 4,549. The average is 252 only. ...*(Interruptions)* At the time of the NDA Government, that is, when I took charge of this portfolio, the average was 866 per year. It is four or five times over and above what happened during the past 18 years, that is, from 1980 to 1998.

We are here to settle the issues, whether these relate to the tribals or the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes or whatever it may be. At the same time, nobody has got the guts to go against the Forest Conservation Act passed in 1980. Nobody could compromise on that.

Here two hon. Members from the BJP wanted to know about drinking water facilities, lighting facilities, roads or some such things. Whatever it may be, my dear friends, first of all, if want to have facilities in the forestland, that particular land will have to be converted into a revenue land.

If your State Government is ready to convert it into a revenue land, there is no problem. You please send the proposal. We are here to consider it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, I am not permitting you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: You are telling only about the tribal people. What about the other people across the country?

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you go ahead with your reply. Do not look towards the hon. Members who interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can go ahead with your reply.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: First of all, I am very sorry. ...*(Interruptions)* I will obey your orders. ...*(Interruptions)*

Shri Bangarappa is not an ordinary Member. He was a Chief Minister. He is my old friend. A former Prime Minister is also there. When they are standing up, I have to answer them. ...*(Interruptions)*

Neither the court nor the Government is standing in the way. The welfare measures have to be taken up for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. You mentioned about the past 40 years. These 40 years mean, prior to 1980. Nobody can stop the people who are having valid documents regarding possession of a particular forestland for 40 years. Nobody on the earth can stop their entitlement. You please send the facts and figures to me. Even this evening, will see that the matter is settled. You should not just pass on the vague information. There should be specific information. If the hon. Members bring forward any specific cases of this nature, neither the court nor the Government will stand in the way.

MR. SPEAKER: If you are his friend, do that. Please send it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: I am asking the hon. Minister to say something about the other people. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you completed, Mr. Minister?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: No. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down. Let him complete.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: First of all, stop the eviction for some more time so that we can pass on the information. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is coming to that.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, you have to protect me. I will take one or two minutes only to clarify what is my position and what is the Court's direction. The House should know about it.

Sir, on 14.2.2000, the Supreme Court has pronounced banning removal of dead, deceased, dying or wind-fallen trees, driftwood and grasses, etc. from any National Park

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

and sanctuary. You can understand what it means. On 23.11.2001, the notice was issued to all the States and the Union to prevent encroachment in forests and it restrained the Ministry from regularising the encroachment.

The Supreme Court has restrained me to regularise the encroachment. But at the same time, in spite of these orders, only last month or two months ago, I have made good the request of the State. I was totally satisfied and I made an affidavit before the Supreme Court. Sir, neither the Supreme Court nor the Government is against the welfare measures for any poorest of the poor or SC or ST. This much, I could say. If you want, I can take more time and I can even clarify for another one hour.

—————  
[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a number of notices for 'Zero Hour', I will call the names one by one. Please cooperate. On the Adjournment Motion, which was given by Shri Banatwalla, I had told him that he would be allowed to speak in 'Zero Hour'. So, he will speak first and only to the point.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Sir, this is an important matter. Everybody would like to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: His Adjournment Motion was converted into 'Zero Hour' Notice. Therefore he has been allowed to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE): Sir, we have a right to know what is the subject matter of the Adjournment Motion. ...(Interruptions) How can he be permitted to make a speech on that? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If the House wants to know, I have no objection in reading the notice that Shri Banatwalla has given. It is regarding 'Situation arising out of unabated communal tension in the country since the Babri Masjid demolition.'

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): 11 years have gone since this incident. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, I have permitted you to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, years have gone since Babri Masjid was demolished but this Government is not doing anything. ...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, Parliament was attacked, that act was terrorism. Similarly, the attack on the Babri Masjid is also an act of terrorism. No compromise can be made with this terrorism. ...(Interruptions) So much so that appropriate action is not being taken against the culprits. The people who are involved in this. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have also given a notice. Please give us a chance to speak as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice is there.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Three Central Ministers are involved in this.

MR. SPEAKER: Banatwallaji, please resume your seat. You have made your point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have spoken on this subject. You cannot make more submissions during Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Sir, I have also given a notice on this subject. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is why you were allowed to speak at that very moment.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Sir, I have also given a notice. At that time you said that I would be given a chance during the Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I did not allow you, I have permitted only Banatwalla. You may resume your seat.



...(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, even I have given a notice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I did not allow you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, the incident of 6th December should be condemned and the House should pass a resolution condemning the same. ...(Interruptions) I am not criticising. I do not wish to do so. But in the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir, today for the consecutive fifth day it has come out in the Indian Express that big companies have not returned the loans drawn from the banks to the tune of crores of rupees. These companies are going to usurp the banks' money. These companies have not repaid the loans drawn from the banks. Through you, I would urge upon the Government that action should be taken against the companies which have usurped the money. There is a company named Fateja in my electoral constituency. This company has rendered its workers jobless and has also locked out its sister concern. When bank officers go there, they do not find there anyone. I am surprised how the banks gave loans to these companies? I demand an inquiry against the company's C.M.D. and E.D. and seizure of their properties.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Shri Shivraj V. Patil will speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, whatever happened in Ayodhya. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not on this subject, on another.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shivraj V. Patil, his notice is on a different issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There seems to be some misunderstanding. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has given a notice on another issue. Shri Shivraj V. Patil, if you want to speak on that, you can speak.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, do you want to speak?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, whether one motion from the Chair cannot be passed that there would be peace in the country. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There shall be peace. You do not worry.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

13.15 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch  
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at eight  
minutes past fourteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI P.H. PANDIAN in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I gave my notice this morning. The Government is protecting the persons who are involved in the demolition of Babri Masjid. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: 'Zero Hour' is over. Now, the House will take up Legislative Business.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, there is no 'Zero Hour'. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please take your seats. I

will call one by one. I will give one minute each to all of you. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is no 'Zero Hour'. I have given a chance to Shri Ram Vilas Paswan because he is a senior Member and he wants to raise a very important matter. Now I am allowing him. All of you please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, tomorrow i.e. 6th December is the 'Pari Nirvan Diwas' of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Some people demolished the Babri Masjid on this day and gave a bad name to the day. We want an atmosphere of peace and harmony in the whole country tomorrow i.e. 6 December. Not a single untoward incident of any kind should take place in any part of the country. So there is a need for this House to pass a resolution with the consent of all the factions in order that peace and harmony remains intact in this country. News of various kinds are pouring in from several parts of the country.

So we should take a pledge for secularism. Besides, we should also condemn the demolition of the Babri Masjid on 6 December. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the notification issued in October 1993 had certain technical flaws. Shrimati Uma Bharati, Shri L.K. Advani and Shri Murli Manohar Joshi were involved in the demolition of the Babri Masjid but the BSP & BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh is collectively trying to save them, thereby disturbing the atmosphere of peace and harmony throughout the country. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, 'Zero Hour' is over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You all associate with Shri Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the Members may associate with Shri Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are all associated with Shri Paswan. That is what I can do.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, this is time to take up legislative business.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I have allowed you to speak. Now, let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, 6th December is the Pari Nirvan Diwas of reverend Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar ji. Everybody is aware of this day which has an importance of its own. Paswanji has been very eloquent about Baba Saheb Ambedkar. I would like to tell him that I have immense respect for Dr. Ambedkar. Reverend Late Shri Prabodhankar Thakre partnered Baba Saheb Ambedkar in a number of movements. The other thing Ram Vilas ji has said is about Babri Masjid and I would like to say in this regard that Ayodhya is the birth place of Shri Ram, so a temple should be constructed there. Paswanji is saying that Babri Masjid was demolished there but I say that what was demolished there had been a disputed structure. ...(Interruptions) We have been raising this matter repeatedly for ten years. All the Shiv Sena workers regard 6th December as Hindu Gaurav Diwas. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not 'Zero Hour' now, I allowed you to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You bring that issue in some other form, under the rules.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You take your seat. I allowed Shri Paswan as he is a senior Member. I allowed Shri Ramji Lal Suman also. You are all associated with Shri Paswan and Shri Suman

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not 'Zero Hour'. All the special mentions are over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up legislative business.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the legislative business, item No. 12.

14.15 hrs.

# PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION (EXTENSION TO KOHIMA AND MOKOKUCHUNG DISTRICTS) REPEAL BILL, 2002

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, this is a simple Bill. This is regarding the repeal of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts) Act, 1972 (24 of 1972).

The provision of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 have already been extended to the whole of India. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are obstructing the proceedings. Let us transact the legislative business.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chakraborty, please resume your seat. Nothing will go on record, except the Minister's speech.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI A. RAJA: The provision of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 have already been extended to the whole of India, hence the separate Act extending it

to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts of Nagaland has become redundant. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas, is it the way to respect Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I allowed you to speak; I allowed Shri Paswan to speak and I allowed all other Members to associate themselves with what Shri Paswan has said.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever Shri Ramdas is saying will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI A. RAJA: The Commission on Review of Administrative Laws under the Chairmanship of Shri P. C. Jain has inter alia recommended the repeal of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts) Act, 1972 (24 of 1972). ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts) Repeal Bill, 2002, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas, what is this? This is Parliament, this is House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever Shri Ramdas is saying will not go on record. What is this? You please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to repeal the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts) Act, 1972, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (NAGALAND): Respected

[Shri K.A. Sangtam]

Chairman, I would like to rise here in support of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokokchung Districts) Repeal Bill, 2002. This Act was enacted for the whole country, but for these two districts, Kohima and Mokokchung in Nagaland, the Act was enacted in the year 1972, in order to check and prevent food adulteration and various other malpractices carried on by traders and food adulterators in these two districts. However, in due course of time, some other devices were found out and the charge for prevention of food adulteration was more or less handed over to the State of Nagaland and therefore, this process has been given to the State of Nagaland to look after it.

I would like to make some suggestions, while considering this Act for repeal. There are many trade centres in the North-East, particularly in Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, North Bengal, Sikkim and Nagaland. Through these trade centres, many foodstuffs such as canned fruit juice, cheese, butter, and margarine are coming and finding their way to different parts of the country.

The canned and the packaged foodstuff, those coming from across the border of neighbouring countries like Thailand, Myanmar, Singapore etc., are not properly labelled and the expiry dates also are not mentioned on them. The contents of these packaged and canned foodstuffs are also not stated. As these products are so beautifully canned and packaged, the people get carried away by it and those could ultimately be hazardous for the health of the people. Such things have found their way into the markets of Delhi. It is important to have a mechanism in place to check the contents of these packaged and canned foodstuffs that are coming from across our neighbouring countries. We should check the contents of the packaged and canned foodstuffs marketed by those countries and verify if they are suitable for distribution in India. Therefore, while repealing the provisions of this Bill in these two districts, I would like to make this suggestion to the hon. Minister.

Sir, another point I would like to make in this regard is about the quality of packets and cans in which these foodstuffs, be it fruit juice or meat or whatever, are packaged and canned. We should see of what material the inside of the can and packet, with which the foodstuff directly comes in contact, is made of. We have to see if they are hygienic and properly galvanised or not and they should not be hazardous to our health.

Sir, these are the few things that I wanted to bring to the notice of the Government before repealing this Bill.

These things should be carefully checked and it should also be seen if these foodstuffs are the cause of diseases like Cancer and Diabetes. Food adulteration is to be checked as they could be dangerous to human health.

Sir, with these few words, I support this repeal Bill.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, in order to check food adulteration in Mokokchung and Kohima districts of Nagaland, a law was enacted in 1972. Food adulteration is taking place in each and every part of the country which is having an adverse impact on public health. In a report submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Parliament it has been stated that adequate monitoring mechanism is not there in place at the centre and the state level to monitor implementation of the said law. Monitoring of implementation of the Union Government and the state Governments is inadequate.

In the report submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor general to the Parliament, it has been stated that in some states no mechanism has been evolved to monitor the implementation of the said law. In some of the states, consultative committees are not there in place. Besides, it has been stated in the report that even after forty six years of enforcement of the said law, any information management mechanism has not been evolved for monitoring the implementation of the said law. The Comptroller and Auditor General has further stated in its report though conducting investigations against the traders selling adulterated foodstuff helps in checking adulteration, investigation has not been started in one third cases. The cases which have been got investigated fifty percent culprits have been exonerated of the charges of adulteration. This is the fate of the prevention of Food Adulteration Act which was enacted particularly for Nagaland. In this connection, it has been stated in the written answer to the Unstarred Question No. 3647 dated 31 March 2001 in the Lok Sabha that—

[English]

A statement showing number of samples of packed juices lifted found adulterated and prosecutions launched by various States and Union Territories.

[Translation]

In Nagaland total 17 samples have been found Adulterated but no action has been taken thereon.

The hon. Minister has said that the Government have

decided to repeal the law enacted in 1972 on the basis of report of P.C. Jain committee set up in 1998. But no mention has been made as to why the law was enacted and why it is being repealed now. Today food adulteration has become a big problem in the country. Ghee, Juice and Milk and all other foodstuffs are being adulterated. It is the duty of the Department of Health to check adulteration and what action the Government would take on the report submitted by the comptroller and Auditor general? There is an specific mention of Nagaland and other North-Eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura, Assam Sikkim, besides Lakshdweep, Daman, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh Administration, Pondicherry and Haryana. ...*(Interruptions)* The States and Union Territories where N.D.A. is in power, adulteration is taking place at large scale which is affecting public health adversely. Therefore, there is a need to make the prevention of Food Adulteration Act more stringent and effective and take stern action in this regard on the basis of the report submitted by the comptroller and Auditor General to the Parliament. Food adulteration leads to numerous diseases. Once animal fat was mixed in Dalda and the people who did it are in power and are supporting the Government. The people associates to B.J.P and R.S.S did it. It was done on behest of these people and today they are interrupting me like this. It was a big scandal.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go beyond the purview of the Bill. Confine yourself to the Bill.

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The people sitting on other side are interrupting me and I have to give them a reply.

Those people are expert in manipulation and adulteration and are in power because of their support.

The hon'ble minister should reply as to what action the Government have taken on the report submitted by the CAG. Whether the Government have any monitoring mechanism or not. There is laxity implementation of the said law to check food adulteration and what action the Government have taken on the recommendations made and suggestions given by the comptroller and Auditor General in its report? It has been said that Jain Committee pointed out that there are 2500 central legislations and a suggestion has been given to repeal 1324 legislations out of those 2500 legislations. This is being done in piecemeal. Sometimes it is Mokokchung and sometime it is Mysore.

Who don't you go through the recommendations made by the P.C. Jain committee which was set up in 1998? How many legislations out of those 1326 legislations you brought for repeal and how many are remaining for repealing and by what time these legislations will be brought for repealing. The Minister should make a statement in this regard. Only then I will assume that the Minister is giving a correct reply.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, as the hon. Member Shri Sangtam put it, this is a repeal Bill. At the time of enactment of this legislation in 1954, these two Districts were enjoying special powers under article 224 of the Constitution of India. Following the enactment of the Act of 1962 by the Parliament later, there is no need of a special legislation now for this purpose. Therefore, we are repealing this Act. Apart from that, the hon. Members have expressed some apprehensions that in and around Nagaland and other States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Article 224 of the Constitution deals with appointment of additional and acting Judges. It must be article 324.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): The Minister is quoting the wrong Article.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Article 371A is the Article of the Constitution which deals with Nagaland.

SHRI A. RAJA: So, there is no problem in repealing the Bill.

But some apprehensions have been expressed by the hon. Members that in Nagaland some food adulteration is being done. Since 1972, this Act is application to the whole of India including Jammu and Kashmir and this is a stringent law entrusted with the State Government. The enforcement authority is the State Government. If at all some reports have been received by the Central Government, we can call for comments of the Chief Minister and the Food Minister of the concerned State. Even now, we are ready to have a transparent discussion with the hon. Members belonging to the State. If necessary, we can call the Chief Minister and sort out the things.

Sir, our Government is very firm that this Act should be implemented in letter and spirit in all sense.

With these words I solicit your cooperation to pass this Bill unanimously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Even article 324 is not applicable here. Article 324 relates to elections.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Sir, it is there in article 371 A.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, it is article 244.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Extension to Kohima and Mokakchung Districts) Act, 1972, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI A. RAJA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

14.32 hrs.

## COUNTRESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND (REPEAL) BILL, 2002

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up Item No. 13 - Countess of Dufferin's Fund (Repeal) Bill, 2002.

The time allotted for this Bill is half an hour.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, in 1885, more than 100 years ago, the then National

Association for Supplying Medical Aid to Women, raised a Fund known as Countess of Dufferin's Fund through public subscription. The objective of the Fund was to train women as doctor, nurses and midwives; establish hospitals for women and children and open female wards under female superintendents in existing hospitals and dispensaries.

After Independence, the corpus of this fund was taken over by the Central Government by enacting the Countess of Dufferin's Fund Act, 1957. The National Association for Supplying Medical Aid to Women was dissolved with the enactment of this Act. Under the Fund, a number of scholarships and medals were awarded to women, medical and nursing students belonging to economically weaker sections. In 1988, the corpus of the Fund amounting to Rs. 16.60 lakhs was deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India. The nomenclature of the scholarships was also changed to the Government of India scholarships for women medical and nursing students and 63 such scholarships were being given. The expenditure on the award of the scholarships was being met by the Budget of the Government of India.

Since the Fund had been taken over by the Government of India, the Countess of Dufferin Act, 1957 has become obsolete in the present context. The Jain Commission on Review of Administrative Laws, set up by the Government has, therefore, recommended repeal of the Act. In this context, the proposal is mooted to repeal the Countess of Dufferin Act, 1957.

Therefore, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to repeal the Countess of Dufferin's Fund Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to repeal the Countess of Dufferin's Fund Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are in agreement to support this Bill as it is a Repeal Bill. But when we go through the Objects and Reasons of the Bill, as has been stated by the hon. Minister, there is an area where the Health Ministry, which is accountable to the Lok Sabha, has to explain a few things.

The very date and the year of the foundation of this Fund relates to the foundation of our own party - Indian National Congress, i.e., 1885.

In those days such a vision was to be treated as Nightingale Vision. There is a hospital in my State in Kolkata called Dufferin's Hospital. They were training or motivating women, providing health services, educating women, midwives and nurses in medical education, etc. Of course, free India provided enough opportunities to people of India as well as men and women in the medical stream.

I rise to speak on behalf of my Party about accountability. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the hon. Minister has just now stated that since the Fund is now diverted to the Consolidated Fund of India, the entire scholarship arrangements are being looked after by the Health Ministry, and therefore obviously, the continuance of this Bill does not arise. So, they are repealing it and we all share it.

Now, in India, there is this question of children. There are hundreds of Government hospitals where there are no incubators. Just last month, the entire nation witnessed what happened in the City of Kolkata. Within a fortnight, in several hospitals in Kolkata, dozens of children died. It was later on observed that not only in West Bengal, but also in many parts of India, child care gets the least priority in any health administration. I do not like to score any political point here.

I do ask the hon. Health Minister what special emphasis that the Government is going to give in the Tenth Plan from the Health Ministry, taking the State Governments into consideration for treatment of children.

Take the case of Delhi, which is the capital of India. Excepting the AIIMS and the Safdarjung Hospitals, in other hospitals, the paediatrics units are very small and ill-equipped that children cannot expect even a normal treatment that their parents desire. How many children die because of this? Did the hon. Minister prepare a note quoting figures as to how many hospitals in India – the district hospitals and State hospitals – are not having incubators? If such a figure is given to the House, the House will be shocked. We are living in modern India, in the age of IT revolution; yet we cannot arrange incubators in the paediatric units in the State hospitals.

I now come to scholarship plan. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the basic criteria to give scholarships to the economically weaker sections. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, he said that the Fund was changed to the Government of India Scholarship for women, medical and nursing students belonging to economically weaker sections.

Is he ready to give us the break-up – I think, he is not ready with it – showing that in the Ninth Plan Period what is the total number of scholarships that they have given to the economically weaker sections, for medical education and nurses training? If it is not available for the entire Ninth Plan, at least let him give the figure for the last year of the Ninth Plan. Can he give us the break-up? The House wants to know that. If he is ready with the figure, he could give it now or he could lay it on the Table of the House later. We would like to know that.

Now, let me come to nurses' training. Indian nurses have earned reputation not only to look after our patients in India, but also to look after patients in the entire Middle East or in the entire Gulf countries. If there is any demand by their Health Administration, it is only for the Indian trained nurses. Mostly the qualified nurses from the South are catering to more than 60 per cent of the requirement of the Nursing Administration in the entire Gulf countries. In this regard, if the economically weaker sections are protected by the Government by increasing the scholarship, it will be a great help to the nation.

My last question to the hon. Minister is this. May I know whether in the Tenth Plan document, he is giving any special priority or emphasis to provide more amount to women's medical education scheme and nurses' training scheme, which will be confined to the economically weaker sections of India?

If that is so, kindly say it. The House would like to know. If you think that since this is only a Repeal Bill and the Opposition will just sit and give consent to it, you are wrong. You are accountable to the House and you have got to comply with the accountability by providing us with an answer in this House.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): There is no other member to represent the views of your party, you seem to be all in all.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking on behalf of four-five parties. I am even speaking on behalf of those members who are absent who belong to four-five parties. I also represent the sentiments of your Party.

[English]

The National Association for Supplying Medical Aid by Women to Women of India.

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

[Translation]

This institution was set up in 1985. The aim of this institution was to impart education and training concerning Medical Studies, Nursing, Midwifery to women. It is still only midwives who take care of pregnant women in villages because the pregnant women of the villages are the ones who are not able to reach hospital. This institution was set up to impart training in the above fields. The funds were mobilised for this purpose. In 1957, the countess of Dufferin's Fund Act was enacted through which the earlier institution was wound up by giving money to the new Fund.

[English]

The National Association for Supplying Medical Aid by Women to Women of India,

[Translation]

was dissolved and Rs. 16.60 lakh which was collected by them that was deposited in the consolidated Fund of India in 1988. The above fund has been renamed as 'Government of India scholarship for women medical and nursing students' belonging to economically weaker sections. This is a good approach. But other things like medical facility for children, opening of medical ward under a lady superintendent in existing hospitals and dispensaries. This was also one of the objectives. Dasmunsiji raised a question. Recently more than 100 small children died of a mysterious disease in Uttar Pradesh which created a havoc. The disease which is spreading in villages has yet not been detected. Medical facility for children had to be provided, wards had to be opened for women under lady medical superintendents.

The Government should clarify the actions taken by it in this regard. Old laws are being repealed on the basis of commission's report but the government must explain as to what has been done in regard to the scholarship for women and other things which were in practice under the previous system. The Government must explain the measures taken by it in regard to providing medical facility to children and women and in regard to creating a separate lady ward.

The old law must go, but the Government must also explain as to what is being done to fulfil the objective that was set forth in the old law.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole House will welcome the Countess of Dufferin's Repeal Bill.

The earlier Bill has got two definitions. One of the definition is that of Association, which means, the National Association for Supplying Medical Aid by Women to Women of India by societies registered under the Societies Registration Act. The principal Act has got a very limited purpose. This fund has been created to motivate and encourage women to look after the women and children in our country.

This Bill was enacted in the year 1885. At that time, in our society the women were not coming forward for this kind of service. They were very reluctant. This Fund was created to encourage and motivate them. The scholarships were given to the women associations for taking part in this kind of activity.

As has rightly been pointed out by our Chief Whip, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, service is the motto of all the people who are involved in the nursing profession. They are following the path of Florence Nightingale. Definitely, this is a service-oriented job. They are rendering service to the deserving and needy people of our country. We are proud that the largest number of nurses belonging to Kerala are working inside as well as outside the country. Out of the total number of nurses working in the Gulf countries and the European countries, the maximum number of nurses are from Kerala. We have enough institutions. We are training women. Actually speaking, there is a rush for the B.Sc. Nursing and General Nursing courses in our State. The students are going outside the State to places like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh to get an opportunity for study.

My request to the hon. Minister is that enough institutions should be opened. The Nursing Council is coming in the way of opening new schools and educational institutions for General Nursing and B.Sc. Nursing. Moreover, giving recognition to such institutions is also a big issue. Shri Suresh is here. He is a member of the Nursing Council from Parliament. It hardly meets. The Nursing Council is not putting serious efforts for giving proper recognition to the schools and the institutions which are established in our country.

The State Government of Kerala has brought to the notice of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare a very important issue. It is regarding an examination centre in Colombo. Those persons, who want to work in USA, they have to undergo a test and examination in Colombo. But because of the law and order problem in Colombo, it is



very difficult for Indian students to appear in this examination. So, a centre should be opened in India so that Indian students can appear in this test here itself and get an opportunity to go abroad for employment.

I do not want to go into much of details, because it is a very limited Bill. More efforts are required on the part of the Department of Family Welfare for taking care of children and women. In the remotest parts of our country, the paediatric wards are not available. No medical facilities are given to the children by the State Governments and other institutions. So, I think, concerted efforts should be there in this regard.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to place my views on record.

First and foremost, I would like to say that the Countess of Dufferin's Fund was raised in 1885 with a very good objective of providing medical tuition including teaching and training of women as doctors, nurses and mid-wives; providing medical relief by establishing hospitals for treatment of women by the women; and for opening of female wards under female superintendents in existing hospitals and dispensaries. My apprehension is that in many areas, especially in the rural areas, the expected obstetric care is not there. That has been proved beyond doubt by the increase in the infant mortality and morbidity rate as also the maternal mortality and morbidity rate.

Before 1975, when the multipurpose training was in vogue, the female birth attendants were given training and through them we were able to give at least some sort of obstetric service to the needy people in the rural area. By repealing this Bill how is the Minister going to bring back that sort of service to the rural women?

Secondly, is there any possibility or any proposal to bring back that service to equate the quality of service which was available? There are many Members of Parliament who have the apprehension that there are not many women doctors in particular in the rural area even to conduct a normal delivery. I would like to have a concrete reply from the Minister as to how he is going to ensure that at least the amount of Rs.16.60 lakh is ploughed back for the same purpose. My suggestion is that he can have the same kind of female birth attendants, who were having training in the rural areas, employed even now. That kind of human resource is still available with us. But they are not given an opportunity to execute that job. Will the hon. Minister consider that this Fund is utilised for giving training for fifteen days to one month in the nearest hospitals to these people who are already available?

Thirdly, till date, how many beneficiaries has the Government of India got on record? What is their quality? What is the criterion by which they are selected to give scholarships?

Finally, is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that after qualifying as diploma holders, these nurses are just maintaining records within the wards? They are expected to give bedside delivery tender care. That is the definition of the nursing service. Nowadays this is lacking because their time and energy is diverted in writing the record and in maintaining the pharmacy indent and other things. Will the Minister come forward to provide the social workers or diploma holders in D-Pharma to maintain the records and also the pharmacy indent so that the services of the staff nurses and the diploma holders are utilised properly for the welfare of the patients?

SHRI A. RAJA: At the outset, I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Members who have spoken on this Bill.

I fully share the expressions of anguish by hon. Member Shri Dasmunsi regarding an instance happened in Uttar Pradesh. But my problem is, it is needless to submit again before the House, that the health is a State subject except in cases where the Central Government owns some hospitals like AIIMS and RML in Delhi, JIPMER in Pondicherry and PGI in Chandigarh, which are funded through the budgetary support from the Health Ministry. In addition, whenever we receive complaints from State Governments about outbreak of some serious disease and such other things, immediately our Central team goes there to monitor the situation. Whatever be the assistance that is asked by the State Government, we are always ready to provide it.

Insofar as the Fund is concerned, hon. Members expressed their apprehension that since the erstwhile Fund has been deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India, whether the amounts being spent by State Governments and other hospitals belong to the same Fund or they come under some other head.

Since the amount was deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, we are having many schemes.

Shri Dasmunsi was very particular about the Tenth Plan. With proud, I can say that the outlay of Tenth Plan is almost double as compared with the allocation in the Ninth Plan, whether it is the health sector or family welfare sector or the sector of Indian system of medicines.

[Shri A. Raja]

Apart from that, I can say that since it is a State subject, so far as nursing education is concerned, an amount of Rs. 47 crore was earmarked and spent in the Ninth Plan. In the Tenth Plan, subject to the approval of the NDC, Rs. 100 crore have been earmarked for nursing education which deals with scholarships also. As I have already put it, the Nursing Council of India is having its own guidelines. We will see as to how many institutions can be recognised on the guidelines stipulated by the Government of India through legislation so that we can give scholarships and other things. If it is possible and necessary, we would collect the details from the institutions and funds are being floated by the Government of India.

Apart from this, I have submitted one point many times before this House and the other House. There is no doubt that we are spending a very low margin of GDP towards the health sector when compared to the developed countries. We are spending only 5.2 per cent both in the private sector and the public sector whereas developed countries are spending 13-14 per cent. The Government of India is spending only one per cent of the GDP towards the health sector.

15.57 hrs.

(Dr. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

Out of this one per cent, we have to manage the entire account of the programmes in the health sector, the family welfare programmes and other things relating to the State Governments.

It is a matter of fact that India is a very big country having high infrastructure for health and family welfare. We are having 1.37 lakh sub-centres, more than 25,000 Primary Health Centres and 3000 CHCs. They are called District Level Hospitals. We are insisting the State Governments that at least the District Level Hospitals should have incubators and other things. We are having an exclusive programme and giving funds whenever they need, on the recommendations of the State Governments. On the other hand, we are having RCH Programme under the family welfare programme in all the PHCs and CHCs. We are giving delivery kits and other things for obstetrics care.

A question that has been raised by the hon. Member, Dr. Saroja, is whether the PHCs and other institutions are having female doctors or not. Here again, we are facing a problem. Even when we call the Health Ministers of all the States, we have been told that female or male doctors are not at all joining duty in the rural areas since no facilities are there.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: You may make it compulsory that they should have three or four years of service in the rural areas.

SHRI A. RAJA: I am coming to that point. We are having talks with the Medical Council of India which is a statutory and independent body which is registering and recognising doctors. We have to find out some modalities in this regard. Before registering a doctor and after awarding the MBBS degree, it is under consideration as to whether a mandatory provision can be imposed on a doctor that two years of rural service is a must to register him or her as a doctor in MCI. The consent of all the State Governments is required as it is a State subject. We have to pass through some hurdles.

With these words, I solicit your co-operation to pass this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Countess of Dufferin's Fund Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI A. RAJA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.00 hrs.

## MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2002

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, in 1971, the Parliament enacted the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971 to legalise termination of

pregnancy on broad socio-medical grounds in order to eliminate illegal and unsafe abortions by untrained persons and in unhygienic conditions and thereby reduce maternal morbidity and mortality in the country.

The circumstances under which Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) can be performed, the places where it can be conducted; the qualifications, experience and training of personnel who can conduct the MTP, the conditions for approving places, and recording and reporting procedures, etc." are specified under the MTP Act, 1971 and the MTP Rules and Regulations of 1975.

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act accords primacy to the rights of women and has been in existence for thirty years. Some of its provisions need to be reviewed both in the context of significant changes in the socio-economic scenario, and the development of medical technology and services. Therefore, regulation of legal/safe abortions in a more effective manner is the need of the hour.

In June 1997, the Government of India reviewed the MTP Act, 1971 to make it more relevant to the present environment. The National Commission for Women had also suggested certain amendments to the Act. These suggestions and reviews were considered by an expert group constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Family Welfare. On the basis of some of the recommendations of the National Commission for Women and the experience gained in the implementation of the MTP Act, the expert group suggested that certain amendments to the MTP Act, 1971 have become necessary.

15.03 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

The Indian Lunacy Act has been replaced by the Mental Health Act, 1987. Definition of 'lunatic' as provided under the Mental Health Act, 1987, is 'mentally ill person'. The expression 'lunatic' appearing in clause (b) of section 2 of the, 471 MTP Act, 1971, needs, therefore, to be brought in line with the existing law.

The existing provisions of section 4 (a) (b) of the MTP Act provide that no termination of pregnancy shall be made in accordance with this Act at any place other than:

(a) a hospital established or maintained by the Government; or

(b) a place for the time being approved for the purpose of this Act by the Government.

Thus, for the purpose of approving the place where medical terminations of pregnancy can be done, the power lies with the State Governments. Experience has shown that centralising the powers to approve places as MTP centres at the State level has resulted in inordinate delay in dealing with the applications for recognizing MTP centres. This has resulted in discouraging even the well-equipped centres to seek a legal status. With a view to simplifying procedures and liberalising conditions for sanctioning MTP facilities in the States, it is now proposed that powers for granting approval may be delegated to the Government-constituted district level committees headed by Chief Medical Officer/District Health Officer, which will comprise three to five members including the district gynaecologist/surgeon and other members drawn from the medical profession, non-governmental organisations and panchayati raj institutions.

Although abortions were made legal in 1971, actually illegal abortions still outnumber legal abortions by a large margin. It is estimated that 10-15 thousand women die every year due to complications resulting from unsafe abortions conducted at unapproved places by untrained providers. One of the weaknesses of the MTP Act, 1971 is that it does not prescribe specific punishments for abortion conducted illegally by persons who are not registered medical practitioners as defined under the Act and in hospitals and clinics not approved for conducting MTPs. The 1971 MTP Act only reiterates, that all the offences under the Act are punishable under the appropriate provisions of IPC. Though there are relevant sections in the Indian Penal Code which prescribe punishment for various offences connected with performance of abortion, those committing the categories and types of offences as mentioned by me still escape punishment. The penal provisions of IPC are, therefore, not adequate in the present situation.

It has, therefore, been proposed to amend sub-section (2) of Section 5 of the MTP Act, 1971 to prescribe punishment for owners of clinics, which are not authorised to conduct abortions and the persons who are not registered medical practitioners as defined under the Act even if they conduct MTPs at approved places.

It is also proposed to penalise providers who may be registered medical practitioners as defined under the Act — cases where they conduct MTPs at unapproved places. The punishment prescribed for all such cases will be rigorous imprisonment of not less than two years, which may, extend to a maximum of seven years.

For these reasons, it is proposed to amend Sections

[Shri A. Raja]

2. 4 and 5 of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.

Therefore, Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (SIVAGANGA): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. But, at the same time, I have to draw the attention of the Government to certain important areas.

The new definition wants to say that the word "lunatic" is to be replaced by the words "mentally ill person." But, at the same time, in the subsequent explanation, in clause (b) it is stated:

"mentally ill person" means a person who is in need for treatment by reason of any mental disorder other than mental retardation."

This particular subjective thing makes certain people excluded from the benefit of this definition. It means that the mentally retarded persons cannot get the benefit. Many mentally retarded girls are there. When they become pregnant, they cannot get the benefit of it. They have to be supported by the guardian only. They have to get the consent of the guardian. But now that has been excluded. By this, a lot of ladies are going to be put into trouble when they are mentally retarded, when they are admitted into the hospital for the termination of pregnancy. Therefore, it has to be considered and the explanation should be given in a better way. If possible, in the rule-making provision, it should be explained in a better way so that there should not be any trouble for the people who are mentally retarded.

In the same way, I would like to draw the attention of the House to clause 4 where it has been said:

"No termination of pregnancy shall be made in accordance with this Act at any place other than —

- (a) a hospital established or maintained by Government, or

- (b) a place for the time being approved for the purpose of this Act by Government or a District Level Committee constituted by that Government with the Chief Medical Officer or District Health Officer as the Chairperson of the said Committee."

The term "for the time being approved for the purpose of this Act by Government" should also have some leniency to give it to the other people who are having clinics or nursing homes or any health centres at the mofussil or rural areas.

The hon. Minister has admitted that about 15,000 ladies are dying due to the wrong approach of the doctors at the grass-root level. We apprehend that would happen. Normally, girls will not go to the clinic and show themselves off that they have become pregnant illegally and so they want to terminate the pregnancy. They feel shy of it. They seek the help of the people who are not legally qualified for this purpose. Therefore, this shyness in the society, this exclusion from the society should be recognised by the Government. Doctors who are well-qualified at the grass-root level, who are practising in the rural areas should be allowed to do the termination of pregnancy. In day-to-day life, many ladies are becoming pregnant due to various reasons. They are going for scanning. Nowadays, doctors are not telling the actual defect in the initial stage even if scanning is done. The law says that there should be an upper limit of only five months, that is, 20 weeks of the baby. After 20 weeks, if there is any deficiency in the child, any mental retardation in the child, if it is recognised, then the pregnancy cannot be terminated. Therefore, the upper limit should be eliminated. The society may have some reservations. But we have to make a provision where there should not be any illegal trading by this method. Many of the nursing homes want to take advantage of this stringent law.

Now, the punishment has also been increased from two years to seven years. Normally, the traders who indulge in this kind of activity will treat this as one of the ways of making money from ordinary poor people. Therefore, we should be considerate towards the illiterate people and also towards the people who need some guidance.

I would like to make another suggestion here. The 'owner of the place' is defined in the explanation given in the Bill. A house owner may give his building on rent for a nursing home, but he may not be aware as to what is happening inside the building. It may be a recognised nursing home but an unregistered medical officer may be doing the operation there. In that case, the house owner will also be included as a co-accused and he will face the

situation of undergoing seven years imprisonment. This point should be considered again.

Then, another explanation is given in the Bill where it is mentioned that there is no need for a person doing the surgery to have training in gynaecology and obstetrics. This type of exemption will also allow some people to enter into illegal trade.

Finally, I would like to appreciate the Government's intention in bringing forward this Bill, but at the same time, they should help the ordinary people, especially the middle class people, who cannot afford to spend the money to go to good and recognised hospitals or get help from district headquarter hospitals which are devoid of all the facilities, where one has to search for the doctors. When you say that there should be three doctors at the time of the operation and the Chief doctor should also be present, this is not practical in day-to-day life. Therefore, ordinary people should be in a position to go in for termination of unwanted child which is already defined in a proper way under Clause 3 (2) (b) of the Bill.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Minister for bringing this Bill. It is very much necessary and this Bill has been introduced in this House after considering the opinion given by the National Commission for Women.

I agree with the point made by Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan regarding mentally retarded people, because their case is totally different. I feel that it would create a problem to that section of the people. So, I would request the Minister to consider this point and if he cannot amend it here, he can even clarify it in the rules so that in the name of mental retardation, this section of the people are not affected because there is a large section of women in our country who are mentally retarded. This should be taken care of by properly clarifying it in the rules.

Sir, our society is a feudal society and illiteracy is a dominant feature especially in our rural life. In this situation, normally women are always discriminated. Here, in this case also, they are forced to go in for termination of pregnancy by the male members in their family. I would like to draw the attention of this august House that pre-natal test is very popular in our country, especially in North India. In Haryana, if it is found in the pre-natal test that the child in the womb is a girl, then they kill the child. The woman may not agree for that, but due to the feudal nature of the society, they are forced to kill the child in the womb. So, this should also be taken care of.

The desire of women should also be taken care of. Because of social pressure and family pressure, they are forced to go for termination of pregnancy. That is one area of concern.

There is also another matter of concern which I saw in the newspapers. Because of that, in Haryana, the population of women has reduced tremendously. Take the case of women in Haryana in the age group of one to 10 years. For every 1,000 boys, there are 642 girls. About 400 girls are less in that age group. It is creating a big problem. Even social problems have been created. The Government should take care of this aspect. Women should be protected from their family pressure and it should be seen whether they are also involved in actually killing the children during pregnancy. This is a very serious social problem which should be taken care of. With these words, I thank you and support the Bill.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the medical termination of pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2002 that has been introduced by the Hon. Minister intends to implement the recommendations of the committee, set up on suggestion of the National Commission for women. But I am surprised as abortions have already been made legal by this Act. There is also another Act named as Prevention of Pre-natal Diagnostic Test Act, 1996. At the pregnancy stage, sex of the foetus is ascertained in each through the ultrasound test and if it is the girl child, abortion is conducted. Whereas the Supreme Court has issued guidelines in this regard time and again and also pulled up the Government. A hue and cry was raised on this issue all over the country and all the right minded people are asking for bringing a new Bill immediately banning the foeticide, taking stringent action against the clinics giving advertisements for foetus test, sex-determination. Giving orders for banning advertisements relating to abortion, awarding a jail sentence for two to seven years to those guilty of foeticide, conducting raids on doctors involved in conducting sex-determination test are not the effective measures to prevent foeticide as is done in Haryana and other states.

Looking at all these things it is not clear as on the one hand they are getting the medical termination of pregnancy Bill passed and the Supreme Court and the intelligensia of the country are clamouring for imposing a ban on foeticide. On the one hand, they are talking about the termination of pregnancy by the qualified person and at the approved place only so that no complications arise afterwards and on the other hand, they are talking about banning foeticide. Does all these things seem not

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

contradictory? What is Government's stand on both these issues. As per the census of the country, the number of girls is decreasing considerably vis-a-vis boys. Birth of girl child is not considered good in our society since time immemorial and women are subjected to exploitation throughout their life. Its alright that we have banned ultrasound test for sex-determination, we have enacted a law in this regard. Foeticide has also been banned. Does foeticide not amount to murder? And on the other hand, they are saying that abortion should be conducted properly and by the right person. Both these laws are contradictory in themselves. Therefore, I would like the hon. Minister to explain as to whether abortion does not amount to murder. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, the Minister concerned will reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Now, this department has not been allocated to him. Perhaps he may not have been given any opportunity to give a reply, but the Cabinet Minister for Health is from cine world that is why he has got an opportunity to give reply.

Since Rudyji does not get an opportunity to give a reply that is why he sits here to enjoy. Minister of state gives an appropriate reply. But Shatrughan Sinha ji starts delivering dialogues.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have to finish it by 3.30 p.m. Please finish it fast.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my question is that how will they clear away the confusion created by them? Hon. Minister, Sir, hon. Supreme Court is repeatedly recommending to ban Ultrasound, foeticide and you are talking about introducing a Bill in regard to safe abortions and necessary approval. Sir, what is the difference between abortion and foeticide? You are saying that abortions shall be done on the basis of medical termination of pregnancy by a specialist, in a 'clinic' and in hygienic condition. On the other hand, you are putting ban on foeticide. This way both these legislations are contradictory. Hon. Minister should clarify both these points. We are thoroughly confused. All sorts of news are pouring in, in this regard throughout the country, that

Supreme Court has taken a very serious view of determination of sex of the foetus and its advertisement. Now these two legislations brought by hon. Minister are contradictory. Hon. Minister should tender an explanation in this regard. Only then we shall pass it otherwise we will oppose it tooth and nail.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act is aimed at eliminating abortion by untrained person and in unhygienic conditions and thereby reducing maternal morbidity and mortality in the country.

The Bill says that in 1997, an expert group was constituted. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this Committee has been set up in all the districts in all the States. If it has not been constituted so far, will the Government bring an Ordinance so that a law is made and it can be implemented in every part of our country? In those States and districts, where the committees have been constituted, how many cases are brought to book and what action has been taken so far?

Sir, under the leadership of Puratchithalaivi, Dr. Jayalalitha, Tamil Nadu recently constituted a Medical Grievances Cell along with Indian Medical Association, Tamil Nadu Branch, to address the medical negligence and also to render justice to the patients as well as to the doctors. Will the Government of India come forward to constitute such Grievance Cells in all the States so that every case of negligence is medically audited and the culprit is booked under the law?

The then former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had promised on the floor of the House that the medical profession would be deleted from the Consumer Protection Act. I am a doctor by profession and I say that the culprit should be brought to book. But at the same time, the doctors should also be given justice. Will the hon. Minister take a note of it?

Sir, if only 100 per cent anti-natal registration is done throughout the country, by this one single system, you will be able to identify the high risk pregnancy. Thereby the aim of maternal morbidity and mortality can be identified and referred to the concerned medical centre for prompt care and at proper time. Thereby you will not only reduce the maternal morbidity and mortality but also infant morbidity and mortality.

Sir, the hon. Minister, in the previous Bill, has stated that there are more than one lakh sub-centres. If more than one lakh sub-centres are going to deliver the quality

of service, then why is there so much of infant morbidity and mortality and maternal morbidity and mortality?

Sir, will the Government of India take up the responsibility of providing a health nurse for every 5,000 people? If one hundred per cent anti-natal registration is done within a period of six months' time, then this one single Act will be able to bring down the morbidity and mortality and also improve the quality of the service, especially female-related problems.

Sir, in this case, it is said that the punishment will be extended up to seven years. Even if a registered medical doctor is found to be guilty because of his medical negligence, his registration should be cancelled. Only then we will be able to improve the quality of service.

Last but not least, what is the definition of 'clinic' where the abortion takes place? It can be done within four walls. There is no definition at all. There is no definition of 'obstetric room'. The labour room with moveable space and trained para-medical staff is not there.

Recently, in the State of Tamil Nadu, when a case of medical negligence was reported, the doctors and paramedical staff, including the fourth class employees who were posted in that ward during the duty time, were immediately booked and action was taken against them. Will the Government initiate such a stringent action against the medical and paramedical people so that quality service will be rendered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, I would like to express again my thanks to all the Members who have spoken on this important subject. By summarising the views expressed by the hon. Members, I can, by way of reply, make a few observations.

So far as the hon. Member, Shri Natchiappan is concerned, he said about mentally ill person and mentally retarded person. The letter and spirit of the law is to bring the changes. In the erstwhile Act, it was stated 'Lunatic'. Since the word, 'Lunatic' itself is changed as 'mentally ill person', a consequential change has been made here. The purpose of the Act is, whether lunatic or mentally ill person, the consent of the guardian must be obtained before the abortion, that is, medical termination of pregnancy. That is important. There is no question of mentally ill person or mentally retarded person.

A confusion arose between the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Act and MTP Act. This Act deals with elimination of illegal

abortions by untrained persons and in unhygienic condition to reduce maternal mortality. This is the purpose of this Act. But the purpose of PNDT Act is to prevent the usage of the techniques available to pre-determine the sex of foetus. This is for the safe delivery, which can cause maternal mortality for mother. But the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Act is to monitor the sex ratio which can prevent the female foeticide.

As far as the concern expressed by Dr. V. Saroja is concerned, she wants to ensure the institutional deliveries. By crude delivery, they cannot reduce IMR and MMR. All the State Governments have been provided with funds and they have been advised to take only institutional deliveries. Otherwise, mothers and others should be brought into hospital and delivery should be done. Such a care has already been taken in the National Health Policy, 2002.

Now, I request the hon. Members to pass this legislation unanimously.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI A. RAJA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up the Private Members' Business.

15.31 hrs.

**MOTION RE: TWENTY-NINTH REPORT OF  
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'  
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR (BURDWAN): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-ninth report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 4th December, 2002."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-ninth report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 4th December, 2002."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.32 hrs.

**TRUST CORPORATIONS BILL\***

[English]

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI (KATWA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the creation of Trust Corporations for further development of enterprises with social obligation and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the creation of Trust Corporations for further development of enterprises with social obligation and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL\***

**(Insertion of new article 371J)**

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): I beg

to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL**

**(Omission of article 44, etc.) - Contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Yogi Adityanath.

The hon. Minister was on his legs. Now, he is to continue.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): Sir, continuing my reply which I left off on 22nd November, I would like to say that I entirely agree with the hon. Deputy Leader of the Congress Party. He stated that there is already a Common Civil Code. I agree with him. He has only reflected the speech made by Dr. Ambedkar in the Constituent Assembly that when there is opposition for the Directive Principle, the Government shall endeavour. With your permission, I would just like to read out one or two sentences of Dr. Ambedkar's speech.

"... we have in this country a uniform code of laws covering almost every aspect of human relationship. We have a uniform and complete Criminal Code operating throughout the country, which is contained in the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. We have the Law of Transfer of Property, which deals with property relations and which is operative throughout the country. Then there are the Negotiable Instruments Act, and I can cite innumerable enactments which would prove that this country has practically a civil code, uniform in its content and applicable to the whole of the country."

Here, I would like to read one more sentence of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, which, if I remember correct, subject to

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correction, the hon. Deputy leader of the Opposition has omitted to mention:

"The only province the Civil Law has not been able to invade so far is Marriage and Succession. It is this little corner which we have not been able to invade so far and it is the intention of those who desire to have article 35 as part of the Constitution to bring about that change."

So, I would like to say that we should not attribute motives to the Mover of the Resolution that he is trying to do something. Even in the Supreme Court, the earlier Government, in 1996, had filed an affidavit that they would endeavour to move towards that direction.

A religious motive also has unfortunately been attributed during the discussion. One or two hon. Members of the Opposition opposed this Bill and spoke as if the Mover wanted a 'Hindu Civil Code' or some such thing. I have been carefully watching the Mover of the Motion speak. There was not a tinge in his speech that there should be a 'Hindu Civil Code' or some such thing. His intention was that a general civil code be accepted by the entire country.

My respectful submission to the House is that we should not attribute motives to the Mover. At the same time, I would like to stress only one more point. Although the Party to which I belong has been asking for a 'Common Civil Code', as a Minister representing this Government, I would like to say that our Government is an NDA Government committed to an agreed agenda. In that agreed agenda of the Government, there is no mention about a Common Civil Code' at all.

With these words, I would request the Mover of the Resolution not to press his amendment but, on the other hand, to withdraw the amendment. If he still presses, we oppose the amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Mover is absent. Now, we have to put the Motion to the vote of the House.

Before I put the Motion for consideration to the vote of the House, this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

Let the lobbies be cleared—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the lobbies have been cleared.

As the lobbies are cleared, I find that there is no quorum in the House. The division on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill by Shri Aditya Nath Yogi is held over and will take place on the next day allotted to Private Members' Bills.

As there is no quorum, the House has to be adjourned for want of quorum. The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 9th December, 2002 at 11 a.m.

15.43 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 9, 2002/ Agrahayana 18, 1924 (Saka).*

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