

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Twelfth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



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*(Vol. XXXIII contains Nos. 21 to 30)*

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Friday, April 25, 2003/ Vaisakha 05, 1925 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you the Notice of the Adjournment Motion. Efforts are being made by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to get me murdered. One of the Minister of Uttar Pradesh involved in crimes. ...*(Interruptions)* I have been giving the Notice of Adjournment Motion to you for the last four days. Who will express view in the House once I am killed? Hence, I would like to urge upon you very politely to listen what I want to say. Then whatever decision is taken by you will be acceptable to me but at least I should be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhileshji, the question which you want to raise here is very important. If a Member feels any sort of danger I can bring this to the Notice of the hon. Home Minister and I will ask him to take action and he will certainly pay his attention in this regard.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: The hon. High Court has imposed a penalty of Rs. One lakh on the Minister having criminal background and who has been entrusted with the task of killing me. The court of hon. Markendya Katju has given a decision to remove encroachments on the land by the Minister and handover it to the aggrieved party.

MR. SPEAKER: You are the hon. Member of this House, I will pay heed to it.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: During the regime of Bhartiya Janta Party, hon. Rajnath Singhji had dismissed that Minister from the cabinet in the case of abduction of a child.

MR. SPEAKER: I will permit you to raise this issue on Monday and would ask the Minister to look into this matter.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you because the other day you

allowed us to raise the issue of defence preparedness. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I am thankful to you because the other day you allowed us to intervene in the matter of the report of the Standing Committee on Defence. I am also thankful to the Government because they immediately took cognisance and it was reported in the newspaper that the Deputy-Prime Minister had a meeting yesterday with the Chiefs of all the Services to take stock of the situation. It will be more prudent and appropriate - since the matter was raised in the House in the presence of the Prime Minister - if the Deputy-Prime Minister takes the House into confidence and give us the actual position of the defence preparedness and the outcome of the report, either today or Monday whichever time he feels appropriate. This is what we feel and Sir, you may kindly convey it to the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We can now go to the Question Hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: You know that such issues can not be raised during the Question Hour.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You listen to me for a minute. The Government of India have set up the procurement centres for wheat. The farmers are not getting the minimum support price. Farmers have already suffered extensive damage due to famine and flood and now they are incurring heavy losses as the procurement centres have not been set up so far.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There are a number of notices for Adjournment Motion. I rejected all the notices. The notices for suspension of Question Hour have also been rejected by me. Now I go to the Question Hour.

Question No.502 Dr. M.V.V.S. Murthi -- Not present.

There is a second name. Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandlik.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You direct the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister is sitting here, he will note it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise all these issues at the time of discussion proposed to be held on Finance Bill.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Earlier, sugarcane farmers suffered heavy losses, then the crop of potato farmers was damaged and now it is the turn of the wheat farmers to suffer. You direct the Government to pay attention to it immediately. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kirti Azad ji, you also resume your seat. Your question is also important, hon. Minister will note it.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have not set up wheat procurement center anywhere. I request you to direct the Government. ... (Interruptions) Today the farmer is very much in trouble. ... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: You should raise the issue again during your speech on the Finance Bill. Government have noted it. Government know that this is an important issue. You resume your seat.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The matter of procurement of wheat is very important. You direct the Government to set up wheat procurement centers.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not proper to use time meant for Question Hour for other issues everyday. Kunwar Akhilesh ji raised a very important issue. I have assured that I myself will talk to the hon. Minister in this regard but to say that every issue is important and to disturb Question Hour for it, is very wrong. Do not try to do so. I am not going to permit it from the next week. If you raise such issue through other devices, I will certainly permit you.

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (DARBHANGA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was going to make some revelations. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice is not here, how can you raise the issue.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you direct the Union Government to set up the wheat procurement centers.

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked the Government to take note of it and they will pay attention to it.

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given permission to you.

[English]

Whatever Shri Kirti Azad has said will not go on record.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: I have not taken on record whatever the hon. Member has said.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, please allow me to speak for half-a-minute. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You wanted to speak why do you not speak. Either speak or sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to permit anybody.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you. I have not received any notice from you. You cannot just stand up and speak here. Sorry, I will not be able to permit you to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will permit you in due course, not now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me go to the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Sir, I have given notice. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No question of suspending the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

11.10 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### BIS Norms for Mineral Water

+

\*502. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADoba MANDLIK:

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

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

(a) whether after revelation by the Centre for Science and Environment, an NGO, that the bottled water being sold in Delhi and Mumbai and other cities certified by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) contained very harmful pesticides, the Government had appointed a high level Committee to look into the matter and submit a report in three weeks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has since submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the BIS certification granted to certain bottlers of water has been withdrawn;

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

(g) whether the sale of these brands of bottled water is going on freely without any check; and

(h) if so, the details in regard thereto?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (c) The Government had constituted an Inquiry Committee under the Chairpersonship of Additional Secretary in the Department of Consumer Affairs on 5th February, 2003. The Committee was initially given three weeks time to submit its report to the Government. This was subsequently extended up to 26th March, 2003. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 25th March, 2003.

(d) The Inquiry Committee in its report observed that the standards for Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water were adequate. The major findings and recommendations of the report are at Annexure. The Report is under examination in consultation with concerned Departments. In the meantime, Bureau of Indian Standards has already evolved amendments in the Indian Standards for Packaged Drinking Water and Natural Mineral Water in order to align them with the world's best norms for pesticide residues. They will be implemented as and when they are incorporated in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 which is administered by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(e) and (f) No BIS licence has been cancelled so far due to the presence of pesticide residues in bottled water. Only Stop Marking was imposed on 28 manufacturers of Packaged Drinking Water/Natural Mineral Water after observing deviations from the specifications prescribed in the relevant Indian Standards. Under the stop marking, the manufacturer is not allowed to put the BIS mark on his product till the corrective actions are taken by the manufacturer which are duly verified by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

(g) and (h) No, Sir. BIS, through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and surveillance inspections, ensures that its licensees are manufacturing Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water as per the specifications stipulated in the relevant Indian Standards.

### Annexure

*The major findings and recommendations of the report of the Inquiry Committee*

- BIS has an established system for developing and formulating standards by involving different sectors. Consensus is an essential procedural principle and a necessary condition for the preparation of Standards. Further BIS has adopted the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Guide 7 - 1982 on the requirements suitable for product certification. The views expressed by the scientists, consumer organization and DGHS (PFA) on draft standards are taken into consideration. Overall, the prescribed procedure was followed while formulating these two standards for Packaged Drinking Water. The BIS Secretariat has carried out its assigned function of identifying appropriate Sectional Committees consulting the interested sectors, placement of comments before the Sectional Committee, and recording of the decisions related to each of the quality parameters. The standards have specified all

those characteristics and requirements that are necessary, the required limiting values and also the test methods.

BIS certification for Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water was made mandatory under PFA by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through two Notifications issued on 29th September, 2000. Before these Notifications were issued, the matter was discussed by experts in the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), set up under Rule 3 of PFA Act. This Committee, under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services considered the BIS standards and found them adequate for adoption under PFA. The specifications for pesticides residue under PFA standards as well as BIS standards are "below detectable limit".

- The Committee found that the standards for Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water were adequate and the detection limits of pesticides residue in these two standards compare favourably with pesticide residues in other food items such as milk, fruits, vegetables and food grains, which account for a major portion of daily intake by human beings. For example existing test methods detect DDT in packaged water upto the level of 0.02 ppm, whereas in milk and milk products (on a fat basis), it is permitted upto 1.25 ppm under PFA.
- The two standards on Packaged Drinking Water were formulated by deriving assistance from Codex and WHO guidelines. At that time Codex had not yet agreed upon the relevant test method for detection and determination of pesticide residues. Hence the concerned Technical Committee of BIS decided to adopt the test method standard established by another technical committee of BIS, which were prescribed for pesticides residues in fruits, vegetables and soils. These standard test methods were not specifically meant for drinking water. Since an agreed Codex test method was not available at that time, no individual officer or organization can be held responsible for this weak link in the test method adopted. A pro-active approach towards keeping the standards dynamic and at par with international developments in related fields is necessary. This would ensure that BIS strives for continuous improvement of standards by providing for an in-built alert system, which would flag emerging problems before they assume threatening dimensions.
- BIS should have a Core Group of Scientists from various

fields with the responsibility of keeping track of recent scientific and technical developments in critical areas. These scientists would alert the BIS management on the need to update and revise particular standards even before the review is due.

- Draft standards should be put on the website of BIS in order to obtain comments from all interested individuals and groups. This should be brought to public notice by giving advertisements in the print and electronic media.
- The standard formulation is a voluntary activity and BIS does not pay anything, even in terms of TA/DA, for participation in meetings of the Technical Committees set up for standard formulation. As a result, at times, scientific organizations and consumer organizations are not able to participate in the meetings of Technical Committees. There is an urgent need to take remedial measures to get over this problem.

The steps involved in the certification process as laid down in the BIS Act, Certification Regulations and Manual of Operations etc. have been followed in licensing the manufacturing units. Surveillance inspections and picking up of samples from the factory and the market place for assessing their conformity to the requirements of standard in a recognized laboratory have also been carried out. Instances of action taken, including stoppage of marking when non-compliance was observed, indicate that supervision and monitoring, required under the scheme were carried out. However, some shortfall was observed in the targets set for frequency of surveillance inspections and testing of samples. It has also been observed that in addition to the existing demands for certification, about 750 licences for Packaged Drinking Water were added for which additional resources like manpower were not provided. Constraints of manpower available for the over all certification and enforcement activities of BIS might, therefore, have contributed to the shortfall noticed in the surveillance inspection. No single individual can be held responsible for this.

When BIS certification for an item of mass consumption like packaged water is made mandatory, it increases the responsibility and answerability of BIS towards the consumers. BIS should have a complete in-house review of its resources before accepting this responsibility. Inadequacies of manpower and other resources should be identified and ways to fill up those gaps be explored before the challenge is accepted. But once BIS has accepted this responsibility, it must discharge it faithfully

and not cite lack of manpower or resources as justification for non-adherence to the norms.

BIS prepares one Scheme of Testing and Inspection (STI) for each product, after due consideration of the specifications in the relevant standard but this STI, once prepared becomes applicable to all licensees of that product. In the European directives, it is found that the frequency of sampling and analysis for water put into bottles or containers for sale varies according to the capacity of production. It is suggested that BIS may consider the desirability of linking the frequency of testing with the production. In other words instead of a single STI for all licensees, BIS may take into account the quality of raw water, the technology used for purifying and quantity of water produced in a day and develop a STI for that individual manufacturing unit.

- BIS may consider setting up product specific committees, as prevailing in AFNOR (French Standard body), having provision for outside expert participation at least for certification of mandatory items. This will enable BIS to involve the mandating body, say PFA of DGHS or its nominee to advise on the STI, choice of testing laboratories and overall implementation effectiveness of the scheme.
- In addition to BIS's Central Laboratory, Sahibabad, services of 13 other laboratories were made use of by BIS for testing of the samples drawn. It was necessary for evaluation of applications for grant of licence and for supervision. The recognition of the laboratories has been based on international standards regarding the competence of the testing laboratories. The laboratories have followed the testing methods specified in the standard and have submitted reports in time in properly designed format indicating the specified value and the values obtained for the samples submitted.

The Bureau of Indian Standards, the National Standards Body of India, became functional as a statutory body under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 with effect from 1 April, 1987 taking over the staff, assets and liabilities of Indian Standards Institution established in 1947. For over 50 years this institution has been successfully promoting and nurturing the standardization movement in the country. It has provided for the harmonious development of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods. However, there is now a need for BIS to revitalize its core competencies. The existing procedures of BIS formulated several years ago are somewhat shrouded in secrecy and

confidentiality. Government is, however, committed to greater transparency. There is also a greater participation of people in decision making. The increased use of computers, the internet and websites has made it possible to reach out to people in a cost effective way. BIS should overhaul its procedures in the light of these developments and increase transparency in its operations. List of members of Technical Committees, draft standards, list of licensees and their present status may be put on its website and updated at monthly intervals. The possibility of placing test reports of samples drawn from factory or market on the web may also be considered.

- In the developed countries, there is only one standard for drinking water and countries are expected to ensure that all drinking water for human consumption, whether it is made available through the distribution network or in containers, conforms to those standards. It is time that the Government/Municipal machinery gears itself up to provide safe drinking water through its distribution network.
- There is also need to review the permissible limits of contaminants in other food products under PFA. This may also lead to a wider discussion regarding permissible levels of use of pesticides and fertilizers for agriculture and horticulture purposes. As long as pesticides and fertilizers are used for agriculture, they would have an adverse effect on food and water. A water re-charging system should be made mandatory for this industry. Some guidelines regarding selection of sites for installation of packaged drinking water industry are also required to ensure their location in pollution free areas.

When BIS establishes a standard, it must specify the corresponding test methods. In the amended standards (Amendment No.4 of February 2003) it has been stated that "the analysis shall be conducted by using internationally established test methods meeting the residue limits specified". This is vague and has left the choice of method to laboratories, which will lead to confusion, as it will not permit comparison between the results of different laboratories. BIS should constitute a Committee of Experts from the leading research institutions like Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Central Food Technology Research Institute (CFTRI), Central Food Laboratories, Indian Toxicological Research Centre (ITRC), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) etc. engaged in evaluation of water quality for a review of the standards specified in IS: 13492 and IS: 14543 in order to specify the test methods to be followed by the testing laboratories.

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the international standards India has the most contaminated drinking water in the world which is certainly a matter of shame for the Government and the country. The center for Environment and Science, a NGO has drawn the attention of the Government towards the problem of contaminated drinking water after conducting test. The Government have decided to take stringent action against the manufacturers found guilty of producing contaminated water and have also provided detailed information about BIS. I would like to raise two questions in this regard. Through you, I would like to know the names of those 28 companies found guilty of selling packaged drinking water containing harmful pesticides and against whom action has been taken by the Government. As per the Government stockmarketing action has been taken against these 28 companies. I would like to know as to how many of these 28 companies have again marketed their product after taking remedial measures to improve the product in compliance with the standards fixed by BIS. Whether the investigation regarding those corrective measures has been completed? How many companies have been found guilty of violating the standards and what action has been taken against them? If the companies have failed to take corrective action then why the licences of erring companies have not been cancelled till now and why have not they been sealed.

MR. SPEAKER: Mandlikji, how many questions do you want to ask?

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: I have only one question.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, reply only one question of hon. Member.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has asked a very lengthy question but you have directed me to reply in brief. If I read the names of the companies it will make it a very detailed affair.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you please send the names of the companies to the hon. Members.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I will send. There are 28 such plants. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Please read their names if you have so. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

It is drinking water; it is not a simple thing. Why do not

you take the opportunity to deliver the names of all these 18 or 21 companies? At least, people will understand who are these people who are supplying this kind of water. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can place the list on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Please read the names of such companies if you have.

MR. SPEAKER: You can read the names if hon'ble Shri Sharad Pawar wants to know.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I want to tell him. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

The names of the firms are: Sri Agencies, Secunderabad; Avon Food & Beverages, Hyderabad; Tora Purified Water, Tiruvallur (TN); Rainbow Mineral Water, Sattur (TN); Annam Associates, Eluru (AP); Sri Springs, Eluru (AP); Bisleri International, Noida; Varun Aqua Industries, Delhi; Ganga Mineral Water, Poonamallee (TN); Pallavi Industries, Visakhapatnam; Sri Vinayak Foods and Beverages, Hyderabad; Krish Bottlers, Jaipur; Shreenath Beverages, Jodhpur; Associated Minerals, Allahabad; Sampann Overseas, Kanpur; Itrik Industries, Guwahati; B.N. Industries, Guwahati; VKP Mineral Water, Srikakulam M/s Mounica Beverages, West Godavari (AP). ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: The fact is even I did not know whether the factory is situated in my constituency. That is why it is better to brief to everybody as to what action you have initiated, since they are cheating the public.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Since you have asked, I am reading those names. I am also ready to explain all the circumstances after reading the names. Please do not interrupt me otherwise I will not be able to complete my point. Had you not asked me to read the names, I would have explained the situation in detail. I am aware that not only his constituency but other constituencies are also related to the issue. There are some reasons behind it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Sharad Pawar has desired the names of these companies, through you. Therefore, I am reading those names. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

M/s. Kothari Beverages, Shahpur, Distt. Thane; M/s. Vaibhav Aqua Ghatkopar, Mumbai; M/s. Ion Exchange, Navi Mumbai.

Surabhi Milk Food, Kalol; Pepsico India Holding, Bharuch, Maharashtra Manufacturers Corporation District, Thane; Surat Beverages, Dadra; Sardul Mineral Water and Soda Private Limited, Jamshedpur; and Kothari Beverages, Nadiad, District Kheda.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that a non Governmental Organisation "Centre for Research and Environment has stated that the level of pesticide residues has been found higher in their products". This organisation has submitted its report in two parts. The first part states that in our country BIS fixed some standards/norms under PFA Act. Thus, we had brought those standards/norms under WHO and CODEX. Today, the world is changing very fast. Several experiments are being conducted, various inventions are being undertaken and several researches are being carried out regarding purification of water. Through you, I would like to share the report of this organisation with the House. As per this report pesticide residue is hazardous for health. This report was submitted on 5th February. Thereafter, we called the scientists of our country and from other countries also. It has still not been invented anywhere in the world that how long bottled water affects the health of people. It is still an ongoing subject but the people have unanimity on one point. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: BIS should be made accountable in this regard.

[English]

Please permit me to ask a question.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please complete your reply.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is confusion in the country on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am about to ask a question. ...*(Interruptions)* But when I raise the question the Minister would be exposed.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I will definitely reply to your question. But why are you so impatient. Let me complete my reply, then you may ask your question.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has two parts. The water plants about which Shri Sharad Pawar was mentioning are the plants which have been closed down because of violating the existing standards/norms fixed by BIS under PFA Act. Investigations were conducted against various water plants including Bisleri; Kinlay and Aqua. We issue ISI mark plant-wise. We have withdrawn the ISI mark from those plants which have been found violating the existing BIS standards. Water is being packaged in rest of the plants.

The report was submitted on 5th. On the same day I constituted an inquiry Committee in this regard. On 7th-8th, BIS informed us about the standards. Scientists and BIS officers gathered know-how from all over the world and then decided the norms to be fixed in this regard. On 10th our experts forwarded the entire information to the Ministry of Health. Health Ministry issued a public notice on 18th that PFA should be changed. They issued the notification as to what standards/norms should be formulated in this regard.

Law Ministry stated that the time of 15 days provided for this purpose is insufficient. Therefore, more time should be given. A large number of representations have been received in this matter. Health Ministry informed me. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, we are satisfied now.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Sharadji is now satisfied.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: It has two parts. First we have to prescribe new standards. We have taken action on the basis of the existing standards and have closed down the faulty plants. When the new standards will be formulated, the water which is value added water. ...*(Interruptions)* No companies can be made with public health. We will formulate the standards for bottled water on the basis of the standards prevailing all over the world. However, it cannot be done till changes are carried out in PFA. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Crores of people of the country are being looted in the name of purified water. ...*(Interruptions)* This should be stopped.

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwarji, please take your seat. Mandalikji, you please ask your supplementary question.

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Inquiry Committee set up by the Government to conduct investigations regarding potable water has also

mentioned about efficiency and limitations of BIS. It is now clear that BIS has failed to put effective control on the increasing production of bottled water in proportion to the growing population.

Through you, I would like to know whether the Government does not feel the need to restructure the BIS as the problem of contaminated potable water has become so grave since its inception in 1986. Whether or not the Government have any programme to restructure BIS?

MR. SPEAKER: Since you have asked a lengthy question, hon'ble Minister will reply accordingly.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You mean that I should give a short reply. It is not the responsibility of BIS to check the water of all over the country. The responsibility of the BIS is just to check the quality of the packaged mineral water and observance of norms fixed in this regard.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Hon'ble Minister has given such a lengthy reply but I would like to know from him that from where those people got the license to set up the industry. Is it State Government or the Central Government who have issued license to them? Will the hon'ble Minister take action against the persons found guilty in this regard and will those plants be closed down? What action proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons who have issued licenses to them? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, definitely, the BIS issues license in this regard. This responsibility has been assigned to us since 1998. Before that the licenses used to be issued by some other authority. But now we are looking after the standards of packaged water. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: State Government or the Central Government have issued licenses to them?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: State Governments have issued licenses to them.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: It should be clarified.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I will give you that. But we have got this charge in 1998. We set standard norms in regard to water in 1998 and since then, we are looking after the water issue. We will change the norms that are to be changed on April 28. The hon'ble Members who are asking as to whether guilty would be punished. In this regard, we have got right to withdraw ISI marks and when it is withdrawn, then water can not be sold without ISI mark. Then that plant is closed and that water is not sold in market. But the same company has

many plants, as Bisleri having plant in Noida and Ghaziabad also. These companies are having plants at many places in the entire country. Due to this issue people are assuming that BIS can close the whole company, but it is not so. Actually, the plant having defect, it may be due to biological defect or it may have hazardous situation, or it may not be following standard norms, then only they are closed. The Plants are not allowed to reopen upto when these defects are not rectified. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: It is a heinous crime to sell adulterated water. The hon'ble Minister has not given satisfactory reply in this regard. The discussion in this regard should be held in the House. This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Every matter is serious, but you always disturb the House. You do not have any right to disturb.

*[English]*

Let others also ask the questions.

*[Translation]*

This is not appropriate.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I want a very clear and precise reply from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, my question has not been replied.

MR. SPEAKER: If it has not been replied then opportunity to ask the question has to be given to other hon'ble Members.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister in brief that as to whether BIS inspects every plant. Whether licence and ISI mark are given after inspection, and even after that plants have been closed. What responsibility has been assigned to BIS? When BIS had conducted the inspection

*[English]*

then you give them the ISI mark. After the BIS inspection, you have issued ISI mark. So, what was your inspection? Based on what, did you in the first place give licence to these companies? After that, you have stopped. Now, BIS is not remaining accountable. I want to ask that after BIS has taken the responsibility, what service has the BIS given for



maintaining these plants? You are supposed to have a periodical inspection and you are supposed to come back. What is the authenticity of your BIS plants?

[Translation]

You have given more rights to BIS officers than needed and now you are unable to reply in regard to CSE report.

[English]

You have to place the CSE Report on the Table of this House. It is a Government agency. You have established these norms. You have followed the WHO norms up to date.

Today, you are changing the norms and you are talking of Euro standards. I have written a letter to Shri Sharad Yadav. I want to know if Euro standards will be applicable to food also. Are you not aware that there is a conspiracy that is going on in this country that.

[Translation]

Before summer, the Government were saying that pesticides are found in one company's water. You are saying this on the basis of report of one company, what happened to the report of other companies?

[English]

You have not established standards of your own. You have not been able to reply to the CSE Reports? So, I want you to give us a detailed reply. What is the CSE Report? What is the accountability of BIS? How does BIS inspect and give the ISI mark to the companies? How much money is collected by the Government for licencing?

[Translation]

How much money is collected and I would like to tell about the arbitrary behaviour of BIS inspectors. First of all, the Minister should reply to my question.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have received letter from Renukaji.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: But it has not been replied.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Its reply is being sent to the hon'ble Member. I am replying in brief to what she has said. She has asked about the number of inspections conducted by the BIS, I would like to tell her that 3887 samples were taken, and out of them action has been taken on 663 samples.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I

have not made a mention about samples. I have asked that as to whether ISI marks have been issued only after the inspection.

[English]

After inspection, ISI mark have been issued. How can they deny their own Inspection Report?

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, inspection is an ongoing process, it runs continuously.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: This is not an ongoing process.

[English]

How did they give licences and which Report are they based on?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Renuka ji, this is not the process. You should first let the hon'ble Minister complete his reply.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: But he must reply to the point.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know Renukaji for a long time. She gets angry in this way and asks questions in attacking mood. And after that. ... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: After that what happens with Renukaji, please tell?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am replying, please listen to me. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: Renukaji, who can protect you? It is very difficult.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, she asked about the action taken on CSE report - it is not so. Earlier also, two cases regarding pesticide issue came to light in the year 2000. Therefore, this is not the only reason. Inquiry and inspections are held on regular basis. Action is taken only after that. Since, media publicised the news in regard to this report in the whole country. Therefore, I am speaking on this. Many small people are engaged on a very large scale in it. Therefore, caution is needed in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we will go to next question.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise this issue through some other way. I will allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this matter. If anyone of you gives notice, I will allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am about to allow discussion on this issue. Pandeyji you ask question.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Question No. 503.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given half-an-hour time for this question and I cannot give more time than this. Therefore, all the hon. Members may please sit down.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I want half-an-hour discussion on this. This has to be discussed. Please hold half-an-hour discussion on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I will get half-an-hour discussion on this. You give me a notice for it. Please give notice for half-an-hour discussion and I will accept it.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: He has not replied to my question. You protect him. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, she is levelling allegations against me that you are protecting me. ... (Interruptions) She is levelling allegations against me unnecessarily.

MR. SPEAKER: If there is any allegation it would be expunged from the record.

#### Storage of Foodgrains

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\*503. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

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

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice and sugar at present in the covered and uncovered godowns of FCI and CWC in each State/Union Territory and quantity declared surplus;

(b) the measures taken to utilise the surplus stock of the above items;

(c) whether certain quantity of foodgrains have become unfit for human consumption;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to distribute the surplus foodgrains through Public Distribution System to reduce the wastage;

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

(g) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the food subsidy bill in view of excess storage of foodgrain in godowns?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (g) The total stocks of wheat and rice in the Central Pool, as on 1.3.2003, are reported to be 361.93 lakh tonnes (176.13 lakh tonnes of rice and 185.80 lakh tonnes of wheat). Of this, the quantity of wheat and rice, as on 1.3.2003, with the FCI (including in CWC godowns) in various States/UTs was 46.72 lakh tonnes and 152.61 lakh tonnes respectively. The details of foodgrains (wheat and rice), as on 1.3.2003, with the FCI (including in CWC godowns) in each State/UT are given in the enclosed Annexure-I. The quantity of sugar stored in various States/UTs, as on 1.3.2003, was 0.41 lakh tonnes, as per details in Annexure-II. Sugar is stored only in covered godowns.

The surplus stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool, as on 1.1.2003, was 314 lakh tonnes, as against the buffer stocking norms of the corresponding period. The steps taken to utilize the surplus stock of foodgrains are mentioned at Annexure-III. The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool was 482.05 lakh tonnes, as on 1.1.2003, as compared to 581.12 lakh tonnes as on 1.1.2002.

As on 1st March, 2003, there was an estimated stock of 1.42 lakh tonnes of damaged foodgrains (not fit for human consumption) with the FCI. The scale of allocation under the Targeted Public Distribution System has been increased from 25 Kg. per family per month to 35 kg. per family per month (with effect from 1.4.2002) so as to augment utilization of the surplus stocks.

## Annexure-I

The Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired/Covered and Cap), Stocks held and its %age utilisation available with the Food Corporation of India as on 28.02.2003

(Fig. in '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Covered										Total (Hired) (4 to 7)	Total (Covered) (3+8)	Cap. (Open)		Grand Total (9+12)
		FCI Owned		State Govt.	C.W.C.	S.W.C	Private	Owned	Hired	Total						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1	East Zone															
1.	Bihar	Capacity	365.74	8.43	48.00	28.86	60.09	145.38	511.12	28.09	-	28.09	539.21			
	Stocks		161.30	2.63	35.58	16.83	20.74	75.78	237.08			-	237.08			
	Utilization		44%	31%	74%	58%	35%	52%	46%		-	-	44%			
2.	Jharkhand	Capacity	67.56		10.50	2.00	24.02	36.52	104.08				104.08			
	Stocks		23.76		1.71	0.48	6.00	8.19	31.95			-	31.95			
	Utilization		35%	-	11%	24%	25%	22%	31%		-	-	31%			
3.	Orissa	Capacity	278.22		24.80	123.95	15.00	163.75	441.97			-	441.97			
	Stocks		127.10		15.0	75.05	10.90	100.95	228.05			-	228.05			
	Utilization		46%	-	60%	61%	73%	62%	52%		-	-	52%			
4.	West Bengal	Capacity	864.02	47.22	16.61	0.56	108.24	172.63	1036.65			-	1036.65			
	Stocks		214.81	12.50	4.53	0.53	36.75	54.34	269.15			-	259.15			
	Utilization		25%	26%	27%	100%	34%	31%	26%		-	-	26%			
5.	Sikkim	Capacity	9.68	0.95	-	-	-	0.95	10.63			-	10.63			
	Stocks		4.30	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	4.37			-	4.37			
	Utilization		44%	07%	-	-	-	07%	41%		-	-	41%			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Total of East Zone	1585.22	56.60	99.91	155.37	207.35	519.23	2104.45	28.09	-	28.09	2132.54
	Capacity											
	Stocks	531.27	15.20	56.82	92.92	74.39	239.33	770.60	-	-	-	770.60
	Utilization34%	34%	27%	57%	60%	36%	46%	37%	-	-	-	36%
II.	N.E. Zone											
	Assam Region											
6.	Assam	199.30	3.75	-	11.65	63.48	78.88	278.18	-	-	-	278.18
	Capacity											
	Stocks	40.52	0.98	-	5.13	18.33	24.44	64.96	-	-	-	64.96
	Utilization	20%	26%		44%	29%	31%	23%	-	-	-	23%
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.50	-	-	-	-	-	17.50	-	-	-	17.50
	Capacity											
	Stocks	4.55			-		-	4.55	-	-	-	4.55
	Utilization	26%	-	-			-	26%	-	-	-	26%
	Total of Assam Region	216.80	3.75		11.65	63.48	78.88	295.68	-	-	-	295.68
	Capacity											
	Stocks	45.07	0.98		5.13	18.33	24.44	69.51	-	-	-	69.51
	Utilization	21%	26%		44%	29%	31%	23%	-	-	-	23%
	N.E. Region (Shillong)											
8.	Meghalaya	13.75		-	5.20	-	5.20	18.95	-	-	-	18.95
	Capacity											
	Stocks	5.69	-		3.72		3.72	8.81	-	-	-	8.81
	Utilization	41%	-		60%		50%	46%	-	-	-	46%
9.	Manipur	17.75	1.00	-	-	-	1.00	18.75	-	-	-	18.75
	Capacity											
	Stocks	11.55	0.08	-	-	-	0.08	11.63	-	-	-	11.63
	Utilization	65%	08%	-			08%	62%	-	-	-	62%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10.	Mizoram	Capacity	17.59	1.00			1.00	18.59				18.59
		Stocks	11.47	0.19			0.19	11.66				11.66
		Utilization	65%	19%	-		19%	63%			-	63%
11.	Nagaland	Capacity	17.22	10.13			10.13	27.35	-	-		27.35
		Stocks	4.00	2.25			2.25	6.25			-	6.25
		Utilization	28%	22%			22%	23%			-	23%
12.	Tripura	Capacity	19.18	4.80	10.92	1.67	17.39	36.57				36.57
		Stocks	9.27	3.77	10.76	1.20	15.73	25.00			-	25.00
		Utilization	48%	79%	99%	72%	90%	68%				68%
Total of N.E. Region		Capacity	85.49	6.80	21.05	5.20	34.72	120.21			-	120.21
		Stocks	41.98	4.04	13.01	3.72	21.97	63.95			-	63.95
		Utilization	49%	59%	62%	60%	63%	53%			-	53%
III. North Zone												
13.	Delhi	Capacity	336.07	-	5.00		5.00	341.07	33.65		33.65	374.72
		Stocks	201.28		1.66		1.66	202.94	8.50		8.50	211.44
		Utilization	60%		33%		33%	60%	25%		25%	56%
14.	Haryana	Capacity	763.66	494.29	202.58	411.48	257.50	1365.85	2129.51	359.36	89.91	449.27 2578.78
		Stocks	325.88	421.79	191.83	348.84	109.07	1071.53	1397.41	183.26	44.07	227.33 1624.74
		Utilization	43%	85%	95%	85%	42%	78%	66%	51%	49%	50% 63%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15.	Himachal Pradesh	Capacity	12.51	8.93	3.33	-	-	12.26	24.77	-	-	24.77
		Stocks	9.17	8.13	3.33	-	-	11.46	20.63	-	-	20.63
		Utilization	73%	91%	100%	-	-	93%	83%	-	-	83%
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	Capacity	83.34	18.30	-	-	19.20	37.50	120.84	-	-	120.84
		Stocks	68.96	13.77	-	-	10.38	24.15	93.11	-	-	93.31
		Utilization	83%	75%	-	-	54%	64%	77%	-	-	77%
Punjab Region												
17.	Punjab	Capacity	2156.96	539.57	412.16	4336.55	1905.57	7193.85	9350.81	620.39	2452.39	3073.01 12423.82
		Stocks	1849.82	470.77	409.86	3788.98	1735.61	6405.22	8255.04	107.88	902.12	1010.00 9265.04
		Utilization	86%	87%	99%	87%	91%	89%	88%	17%	37%	33% 75%
18.	Chandigarh	Capacity	39.94	5.00	48.75	28.90	-	82.65	122.59	8.40	30.20	38.60 61.19
		Stocks	45.60	4.36	50.95	19.07	-	74.38	119.98	1.66	6.98	8.64 128.62
		Utilization	114%	87%	104%	66%	-	90%	98%	20%	23%	22% 80%
Total of Punjab Region												
		Capacity	2196.90	544.57	460.91	4365.45	1905.57	7276.50	9473.40	629.02	2482.59	3111.61 12585.01
		Stocks	1895.42	475.13	460.81	3808.05	1735.61	6479.60	8375.02	109.54	909.10	1018.64 9393.66
		Utilization	86%	87%	100%	87%	91%	89%	88%	17%	37%	33% 75%
III. North Zone												
19.	Rajasthan	Capacity	707.03	-	11.00	28.40	121.35	160.75	867.78	163.68	109.38	273.06 1140.84
		Stocks	266.60	-	11.00	28.40	65.47	104.87	371.47	18.20	50.92	69.12 440.59
		Utilization	38%	-	100%	100%	54%	65%	43%	11%	47%	25% 39%
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Capacity	1464.71	-	357.85	861.77	72.11	1291.73	2756.44	436.40	61.13	497.53 3253.97
		Stocks	838.28	-	327.00	804.00	32.95	1163.95	2002.23	18.67	38.55	57.22 2059.45
		Utilization	57%	-	91%	93%	46%	90%	73%	04%	63%	12% 63%

1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
21.	Uttaranchal	Capacity	68.50	15.30	33.30	27.46	7.16	83.22	151.72	8.82	12.43	21.25	172.97	
		Stocks	46.04	12.18	33.30	27.46	3.36	76.30	122.34			0.24	0.24	122.58
		Utilization	67%	80%	100%	100%	47%	92%	81%	-	-	02%	01%	71%
Total of North Zone		Capacity	5632.72	1081.39	1073.97	5694.56	2382.89	10232.81	15865.53	1630.93	2755.44	4386.37	20251.90	
		Stocks	3651.63	931.00	1028.93	5016.75	1956.84	8933.52	12585.15	338.17	1042.88	1381.05	13966.20	
		Utilization	65%	86%	96%	88%	82%	87%	79%	21%	38%	31%	69%	
IV	South Zone													
22.	Andhra Pradesh	Capacity	1248.33		384.20	1192.40	55.00	1631.60	2879.93	197.40	120.10	317.50	3197.43	
		Stocks	799.30		357.80	678.80	48.00	1084.60	1883.90	45.90	13.90	59.80	1943.70	
		Utilization	64%		93%	55%	87%	66%	65%	23%	11%	19%	61%	
23.	Kerala	Capacity	565.44		10.00		6.35	16.35	581.79	20.87	-	20.87	602.66	
		Stocks	327.89		9.17		6.13	15.30	343.19		-	-	343.19	
		Utilization	69%		92%		94%	94%	59%			-	57%	
24.	Karnataka	Capacity	335.68		125.00	80.91		205.91	541.59	162.54	7.74	170.28	711.87	
		Stocks	184.53		83.57	43.83		127.40	311.93	12.88	7.74	20.62	332.55	
		Utilization	55%		67%	54%		62%	58%	08%	100%	12%	47%	
Tamil Nadu Region														
25.	Tamil Nadu	Capacity	589.98		116.50	37.96		154.46	744.44	60.52	35.00	95.52	839.96	
		Stocks	454.49		64.31	26.86		91.17	545.66	2.92	0.14	3.06	548.72	
		Utilization	77%		55%	71%		59%	73%	05%	01%	03%	65%	

1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
26.	Pondicherry	Capacity	41.20						41.20	4.76		4.76	45.96	
		Stocks	19.26						19.26	0.04		0.04	19.30	
		Utilization	47%			-			47%	01%		01%	42%	
Total of Tamil Nadu Region			631.18		116.50	37.96		154.46	785.64	65.28	35.00	100.28	885.92	
		Stocks	473.75		64.31	26.86		91.17	564.92	2.96	0.14	3.10	568.02	
		Utilization	75%		55%	71%		59%	72%	05%	01%	03%	64%	
Total of South Zone			2780.63	-	635.70	1311.27	61.35	2008.32	4788.95	446.09	162.84	608.93	5397.88	
		Stock	1785.47	-	514.85	749.49	54.13	1318.47	3103.94	61.74	21.78	83.52	3187.46	
		Utilization	64%	-	81%	57%	88%	66%	65%	14%	13%	14%	59%	
V.	West Zone													
27.	Gujarat	Capacity	489.79	23.90	103.08	-	234.76	361.74	851.53	51.74	112.03	163.77	1015.30	
		Stocks	242.38	12.56	55.54	-	130.67	198.77	443.15	9.60	66.78	76.38	519.53	
		Utilization	50%	53%	54%	-	56%	55%	52%	19%	60%	47%	51%	
Maharashtra Region														
28.	Maharashtra	Capacity	1177.11	75.29	106.50	142.37	55.00	379.16	1556.27	141.53	105.64	247.17	1803.44	
		Stocks	502.24	25.27	88.46	63.17	13.98	190.88	693.12	1.59	42.36	43.95	737.07	
		Utilization	43%	34%	83%	44%	25%	50%	45%	01%	40%	18%	41%	
29.	Goa	Capacity	15.00					-	15.00	-	-	-	15.00	
		Stocks	6.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.61	-	-	-	6.61
		Utilization	44%		-	-	-		-	44%	-	-	-	44%



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>Total of Maharashtra Region</b>												
	Capacity	1192.11	75.29	106.50	142.37	55.00	379.16	1571.27	141.53	105.64	247.17	1818.44
	Stocks	508.85	25.27	88.46	63.17	13.98	190.88	699.73	1.59	42.36	43.95	743.68
	Utilization	43%	34%	83%	44%	25%	50%	45%	01%	40%	18%	41%
<b>30. Madhya Pradesh</b>												
	Capacity	337.42	53.08	107.17	48.76	92.00	301.01	638.43	38.59	40.00	78.59	717.02
	Stocks	163.96	25.48	74.49	40.43	44.69	185.09	349.05	4.04	10.76	14.80	363.85
	Utilization	49%	48%	69%	83%	48%	61%	55%	10%	27%	19%	51%
<b>31. Chhattisgarh</b>												
	Capacity	498.27	4.02	17.62	61.75	22.50	105.89	604.16	9.25	23.76	33.01	637.17
	Stocks	149.72	3.53	17.62	53.69	11.14	85.98	235.70	5.57	2.97	8.54	244.24
	Utilization	30%	88%	100%	87%	50%	81%	39%	60%	12%	26%	38%
<b>Total of West Zone</b>												
	Capacity	2517.59	156.29	334.37	252.88	404.26	1147.80	3665.39	241.11	281.43	522.54	4187.93
	Stocks	1066.91	66.84	236.11	157.29	200.48	660.72	1727.63	20.80	122.87	143.67	1871.30
	Utilization	42%	43%	71%	62%	50%	58%	47%	09%	44%	27%	45%
<b>Grand Total (All India)</b>												
	Capacity	12818.45	1304.83	2165.00	7430.93	3121.00	14021.76	26840.21	2346.22	3199.71	5545.93	32386.14
	Stocks	7122.33	1018.06	1849.72	6025.30	2305.37	11198.45	18320.78	420.71	1187.53	1608.24	19929.02
	Utilization	56%	78%	85%	81%	74%	80%	68%	18%	37%	29%	62%

Note: Figures of stocks based on Regional Office's data.

**Annexure-II****State-wise Stock Position of Sugar with Food Corporation of India as on 28.02.2003**

(Provisional)

(Figures in Lakh M.T.)

State/UTs	Sugar
West Bengal	0.01
Assam	0.21
Tripura	0.03
Manipur	0.01
Nagaland	0.04
Mizoram	0.02
Meghalaya	0.02
Jammu and Kashmir	0.05
Andhra Pradesh	0.02
Grand Total	0.41

**Annexure-III****Measures taken to increase offtake of foodgrains.**

6.1 In addition to encouraging decentralized procurement and non-revision of Central Issue Prices (CIP) of wheat and rice, various measures have been taken by the Government to increase the offtake of foodgrains from Central Pool with a view to reduce the level surplus stock and carrying cost and avoid damage and deterioration in quality. In specific terms, the following measures have been taken:

- (i) The scale of issue for Above Poverty Line (APL), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Households under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been increased from @ 25 kg per household per month to @ 35 kg per household per month;
- (ii) Additional allocation are made for Welfare Institutions and Hostels at BPL CIPs @ 5% of the BPL allocation with effect from 1.4.2002;
- (iii) Open market sales are allowed without quantitative restrictions at prices to be determined by the

existing High Level Committee of the Food Corporation of India (FCI);

- (iv) Rice, wheat and wheat products are allowed for export without quantitative restrictions, subject to the condition that the stocks in the Central Pool will be lower than the buffer stock of 243 lakh Mts. (100 lakh MTs of rice and 143 lakh MTs of wheat) at any point of time; WTO compatible subsidies to continue based on the recommendations of the High Level Committee of the FCI, as per the existing practice; and
- (v) Entering into counter trade and/or extend commodity assistance in the form of foodgrains to other countries on terms to be decided on a case-to-case basis.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per National Warehousing Policy there is a provision for Build, Own and Operate. I would like to know state-wise details, especially number of blocks and districts in Bihar and Jharkhand where Rural Warehousing Scheme has been implemented. What arrangements have been made for modernisation of Government godowns? I have come to know that as on March, 2003 about 1.42 lakh tonne of damaged foodgrain stock was lying with FCI which was stated to be unfit for human consumption. I would like to ask hon. Minister, what is the estimated value of this damaged foodgrains and what steps the Government have taken to ensure that the foodgrains may not go waste?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though first question of hon. Member does not relate to the main question, yet I would give him the information in this regard as to how long this scheme remained in operation in Bihar and Jharkhand. As regards his question about damaged foodgrains, as on 1.3.2003, the quantity of total damaged foodgrains was 1.42 lakh tonne which is 0.39 percent of our total foodgrains stock. No doubt, we operate at a very large scale. 1.42 lakh tonne stock foodgrains got damaged due to various factors. ...*(Interruptions)* such as weather conditions and several other factors. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The reasons have been mentioned in it.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: I would like to know what arrangements have been made to check it.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: In fact, the entire stock of foodgrain is not damaged as people are saying. Out of the

damaged stock, we have supplied 30,000 tonne foodgrains to Rajasthan for fodder remaining can be given to the industry and else where, whereby we can recover 40 percent of its value. No where in the world, operation and storage of foodgrains is done at such a large scale. Ours is the largest PDS system in the world, covering approximately 4 lakh 74 thousand metric tonne and we are engaged in such a stupendous task.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question number 2366, dated 13 March, 2003 wherein the revised estimates pertaining to storage for the year 2002-2003 have been shown as Rs. 1370 crore and in reply to question number 2263 dated 12 Dec, 2002 of Lok Sabha for upkeeping of foodgrains, the amount had been shown as Rs. 5878 crore. I fail to understand why do the figures differ so much. In Rajya Sabha, it has been stated to be Rs. 1370 crore whereas in Lok Sabha it has been shown Rs. 5878 crore. Is there any bungling involved or there are some other reasons.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: We have to see the Question and the reply given also e.g. if it relates to carrying cost.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the reply come first. Please sit down.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Several factors are included in carrying cost. It includes storage cost, transportation cost and then we have to take it to the market and sell it so it includes many factors. So, there is no mistake in the figures mentioned in the reply. Different amount may have been mentioned in reply to the question relating to carrying cost. If the question is regarding movement then I would surely send the written reply.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: I asked him a straight question as to how so much difference appeared in these two replies? Will he reply to it? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I disallow your question. I am now calling the next Member, Shri Laxman Giluwa.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have read reply of hon. Minister very carefully. He has mentioned regarding Bihar's storage capacity, total stock and total grains utilised there. Through you, I would like to know yearly allocation of foodgrains to Bihar which has not been mentioned by hon. Minister in the reply. Whether any mechanism exists

with the Ministry of Food, on the basis of which foodgrains can be allocated to the states in case of demand of surplus stock. If it exists, then what are its state-wise details? And how much quantity of foodgrains has been allocated to Jharkhand, Bihar and Orissa out of surplus stock?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we allocate foodgrains to the states under various social welfare schemes such as TPDS, Antodya Yojana and Food for work programme. We first identify the total number of people living below poverty line in the country and then supply foodgrains as per their requirement. Now 14 states are facing drought and we have allocated 79.78 lakh metric tonne grains to these states through Task Force. The modus operandi of allocation is that when State Governments sends us report we send representatives of Ministry of Agriculture who conduct survey regarding gravity of drought prevailing over there and they assess how far their demand is justified? We have been adopting this method for the last several years and we allocate foodgrains on the basis of this method. At present, I have no information regarding total allocation of grains to Bihar and Orissa. I would send this information to hon. Member but if he wants to know, I can tell him how much total allocation has been made to all the states? As on March, during current year buffer stock of 361 metric tonne was available in the country against buffer stock of 545 metric tonne in March, 2002. It means large quantity of grains has been lifted this year. It has been lifted under BPL, Mid-day Meal Scheme, SGRY, Antodya Yojna and also because of drought prevailing in 14 states. Secondly, we are making efforts alongwith the state Governments. Consequently, off take of foodgrains has increased by 160-165 lakh metric tonne. Thus, it was indeed a good question. I would like to tell him that one point regarding foodgrain is. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Government reduce the price of damaged grains? As the Government have fixed Rs. 580 for last cluster and economically no State Government or cooperative is ready to purchase it at Rs. 580/-. Is the Government ready to lower the price in this case?

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed him to speak, therefore, your reply is over.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem before the Government is not the scarcity of grains but it is the problem of plenty. Foodgrain is an asset to the nation, like cash and it should be utilised. I would like to ask the Government whether it propose to take certain steps to ensure that hard produced foodgrains are properly utilized? In fact, rural roads, national highways and even irrigation tanks can

be constructed with this foodgrains. Dr. Swaminathan had envisaged creation of foodgrain bank so as to ensure quickest availability of grains in the event of need to each district. It can be used for that purpose also. I want to know whether the Government propose to implement this kind of innovative scheme for proper utilisation of surplus foodgrains. Are the Government taking State Governments in confidence and planning to help them so that national asset can be prevented from getting destroyed.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Shivraj ji has asked a very good question. The Government are not only concerned about it, it is also taking action in this regard. As I have stated, last year i.e. March, 2002 we had a buffer stock of 565 lakh metric tonne which has now come down to 363 lakh metric tonne. He has asked as to how the Government manage this stock? I would give rough idea of it. During 2001-2002 our off-take was 259 lakh metric tonne, whereas this year from April, 2002 to February, 2003 it has increased to 435 lakh metric tonne, i.e. by about 61 percent. Last year, off-take in PDS was 125 lakh metric tonne which has increased to 174 lakh metric tonne this year. It means there has been more off take for BPL during current year. It has increased by almost 40 percent. In case of other welfare schemes, it has increased to 96 lakh metric tonne from last year's 55 lakh metric tonne, i.e. an increment of about 74 per cent. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please reply in brief, there are many more questions.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: This year we exported about 117 lakh tonne foodgrains against last year's 40 lakh tonne. ...*(Interruptions)* Shivraj ji has told quite justified thing. This year we have allocated foodgrains under various schemes and not one, that too, free of cost and through Task Force. This year, the Government have allocated about 79.78 lakh metric tonnes grains to 14 states reeling under drought. It has also been allocated under 'Food for Work' Programme for construction of roads and ponds and other purposes. Now work is under progress in many states including Rajasthan one or the other state is ruled by different parties, in one state we are ruling whereas some other party in other state. Very good work is being done at war footing in Yerrannaidu's state under 'Food for Work' Programme. This year we are worried in this regard but efforts have always been made in this direction. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a demand for wheat from Egypt. When I went abroad, I was told that there has been demand for wheat from Egypt but our Union Ministry of Food declined the offer stating that we do not have surplus wheat. The wheat is getting rotten in

godowns whereas the Government are making this type of statement.

*[English]*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the total stocks of wheat and rice in the Central pool as on 1.3.2003 was 361.93 lakh tonnes. Consumption is increasing day-by-day and production is less. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter to the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs to allocate six lakh metric tonnes of rice at BPL rate and not under the free quota. There is no availability of rice and the price of the common variety of rice is gradually increasing. To control the price rise, we have requested for six lakh metric tonnes of rice from the Government of India at BPL rate. By this way, you may use the stocks also. Sir, the offtake of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is 90 per cent of the allotment. This is the first State to utilise the allotment almost fully.

Under the circumstances, we are requesting the Government of India to release six lakh metric tonnes of rice. I want to know whether the Government is willing to give the quota or not.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what Yerrannaidu ji has said is right. I have received a letter from them. These days, Ministry of Food alone does not allocate foodgrains, a Task Force has been set up for this purpose. I will put up your suggestion to the Task Force. Good arrangements have been made in Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work, SGRY and other schemes. Many other states are also doing very well in this regard and the condition is improving gradually, I will put up your suggestion before the Task Force.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You may say that the matter is under consideration.

#### Value Added Tax

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\*504. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not implemented VAT System from 01.04.2003;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have received several representations from the traders associations against this system of taxation;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government on these representations;
- (e) the details of the States/UTs who have agreed/not agreed to implement this system of taxation;
- (f) the net loss of revenue due to non-implementation of VAT system;
- (g) whether the Union Government propose to compensate the State Governments who are not implementing this system of taxation; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (h) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) As per Entry 54 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, tax on sale or purchase of goods is a State subject. Value Added Tax is to replace the existing sales tax system in the States and Union Territories. Therefore, the question of implementation of Value Added Tax (VAT) System in lieu of Sales Tax by the Union Government does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) On the recommendations of the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 22nd June, 2000, an Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers was constituted to deliberate on matters relating to implementation of VAT by the States/UTs. Any decision regarding representations of trade and industry and procedure to overcome shortcomings of State VAT, if any, or rescheduling of VAT has to be taken by this Empowered Committee which meets from time to time.

(e) While no State has formally stated so far that it will not switch over to a VAT system, only Government of Haryana is reported to have introduced VAT with effect from 01 April, 2003. However, in a meeting of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers held on 8th April, 2003, it has reportedly been decided that 16 States (which include Haryana) will introduce VAT w.e.f. 1st June, 2003.

(f) to (h) The Government of India would compensate the revenue loss of the States, if any, upon introduction of

VAT system to replace the existing sales tax system @ 100% in the first year (2003-04); 75% in the second year (2004-05) and 50% in the third year (2005-06). Therefore, the question of any revenue loss and compensation does not arise in case of non-implementation of VAT.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two more important Questions which require to be taken up. I know that the fourth and fifth Questions are very important Questions. Let me go one after the other.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, VAT is still a very distant dream. It is within the competency of the State Governments. But upto 2nd April, 20 States have not come forward to prepare a Bill and present it for the Presidential nod. Only seven States have prepared the Bill. The original scheduled date for the implementation of the proposed VAT was fixed as 1st April, 2002 and ultimately, the deadline was deferred to 1st April, 2003. That period is already over. The Empowered Committee of the State Governments will meet sometime in May. It will create some anomalies on the proposed VAT. The taxpayers are very much confused. The traders of the business community are very much agitated and have started sitting on dharna, going on strike, etc. Today, it appears from the newspapers that the BJP wants to postpone the proposed VAT.

I want to know from the hon. Minister on two points. Firstly, I want to know whether the Government is considering to advise the State Governments to postpone the proposed VAT and secondly, whether the Government of India has decided to ask the State Governments to fix a deadline for the implementation of the proposed VAT.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I need to clarify a great many aspect about Value Added Tax.

I have one difficulty because, in a couple of hours from now, we are going to have a full-fledged discussion on the Finance Bill and really, all these issues, and specifically policy issues, relate to a fuller discussion on the Finance Bill. I am not fighting shy to answer the specific question as my reply which is tabled already contains information in regard to VAT.

Value Added Tax is a Value Added Tax. It is not a Vexation Addition Tax. It is not meant to add vexation to the citizens or to anybody. But it is essentially a State tax. It is a State tax to replace Sales Tax. It has a number of advantages, which I do not want to go into because these are all contained in the reply that has been given.

As far as the Union Government is concerned, in terms of the factual information, I can share two specific aspects. One is, of the sixteen States that have affirmed their intention

to implement Value Added Tax, only eight have so far given their legislation, because it is the State Legislature that has to legislate for it. That legislation is based on a standard model that we have recommended to the States. It is only thereafter that we can send it for Presidential assent. The second thing that I do wish to mention here is that we have the Empowered Committee of the State Chief Ministers. That Empowered Committee has to take decisions in this regard.

The Central Government, the Union Government, is merely a facilitator. I think this matter must be understood. The Empowered Committee has itself said that there is a certain number of sequence of action that must be taken and that must be fulfilled. For example, passing of VAT legislation, framing of rules and regulations, computerisation of dealers, which again will fall within the ambit of Value Added Tax, training of tax officials, traders and consumer associations, publicity for awareness, implementation of VAT, assigning VAT identification tax numbers, implementing translation of measures for introduction of Value Added Tax from an agreed date—the date is again decided by the Empowered Committee.

What we have done in the Finance Ministry is that, is to prepare a check list of basic parameters of Value Added Tax. The rates are being recommended by the States, the commodity classification and also the definition of commodities and various other things. I must share with the House that all this has to be uniform. Otherwise, a very good taxation system will be defeated by a faulty implementation. The legislation which will replace the existing one, must also have considered the treatment of existing exemptions in the various State Governments.

Now, these are some of the aspects of the check list that the Central Government has to satisfy itself about. Therefore, I would much rather give a fuller reply in this regard on the Finance Bill discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: I think there can be very few questions on this because during the Finance Bill discussion, this can be dealt with.

Shri Ajoy Chakraborty, you can very briefly ask the question.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Seventy per cent of our population is dependent upon, agriculture. Agriculture sector has contributed a lion's share to the national economy. The plight of the farmers is so bad that some of them even commit suicide.

Seed is a vital input to agriculture. A variety of agriculture products depend upon good quality of seeds. Considering

the plight of the farmers, I would like to know whether the Government of India would consider exempting seeds from the proposed VAT. I would also like to know whether the Government of India would advise the State Government to exempt seed from the proposed VAT.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Here, if I can understand the emphasis of the hon. Member's question, it is required whether the exemptions available for the agricultural commodities is uniform across the various States that have already agreed upon implementing Value Added Tax. This is, in fact, a function which the Empowered Committee must perform. I have a check list.

The Central Government has a check list. We will shortly be sending the check list to all the State Governments requesting the State Governments that unless the check list is fully satisfactorily addressed, we will have difficulty and, in that, the part of these exemptions will also include. ...*(Interruptions)* I have mentioned that already.

The only additional thing that I can tell is this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Sumari, do not cross the floor like this.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: My friend the distinguished Finance Minister of West Bengal, Shri Ashim Dasgupta is, in fact, the Chairman of this Empowered Committee. No doubt, you can interact with him and find a satisfactory solution to all these queries.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJO SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the reply of the Government and reply of hon. Finance Minister to the supplementary Question, I would like to tell the Government quite clearly that there are two main problems in implementation of Value Added Tax. These are - first, the States will have to amend their Sales Tax laws and secondly, a well-developed computer system will have to be arranged. In most of the states computer infrastructure is quite poor. I want to know from hon. Minister whether he himself and the states are in a position to implement it properly? If not, then why it is possible to do so? Secondly what impact its implementation is likely to have on prices of life saving drugs, oil, gas?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has sought many classifications in a single question.

SHRI RAJO SINGH: I have asked computer system is not well developed and sales tax laws will have to be amended.

MR. SPEAKER: You consider them as one question and reply.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am trying to do the same. I have already replied to this question. Implementation of this tax system is under the jurisdiction of State Governments. States will have their new tax system replacing sales tax and all other taxes. It is a State subject. Secondly, I agree with hon. Member's statement that until and unless we have full knowledge of this system, we cannot implement it properly. That is why right now I have mentioned about check list. In association with State Government, the Union Government are preparing a check list to find out whether or not the state Governments have taken all necessary steps in this regard? It will have to be done by all the States including Gujarat. Bihar too, has agreed to implement VAT. The check-list will be sent to all the States including Gujarat and Bihar. Thirdly, he has asked as to will it affect the prices of petro-products and gas? My experience is that, we conducted surveys in 63 countries where VAT is in force, and we observed that in fact the prices have not increased except one country, where prices have increased marginally. India has its own specific tax system wherein all these aspects have been taken care of?

[English]

### Conviction Rate

\*505. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conviction rate in India is 6 per cent of the cases that are taken up for trial which is 16 per cent of the total number of cases registered;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether gathering of evidence is still a difficult task in our country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) No, Sir. The conviction rate in cognizable IPC crime cases in relation to total number of cases in which trial has been completed was 40.9% in 2001.

(b) The conviction rate is affected by a variety of factors like delays and deficiencies in investigation, witness protection measures, delays in judicial proceedings and inadequate judicial infrastructure.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Central Government had constituted the Malimath Committee to go into the question of reforms needed for streamlining the criminal justice system. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 21.4 2003.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, an observation has been made by the Attorney-General of the United Kingdom, Lord Goldsmith, saying that in, the case of rate of conviction in all the Commonwealth countries, India stands the lowest.

I would like to know whether, in addition to the reasons that are given by the Government in part (b) of the reply, the political victimisations, which are done by filing FIRs and charge-sheets, are hasty, as it is being done in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are also reasons for this kind of low rate of conviction.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, out of the total number of FIRs registered in the country, the ones which may relate to cases against politicians or political victimisations are the most minimal. So, in effecting the overall conviction rate in the country, those cases really may not have much of a role. There are other factors which are attributable to it. One factor could be that in a number of cases, the FIR may be incorrect. But in our investigative procedures itself, the need for modernisation in the investigative procedures, the need for modernisation where criminals in their own methodology are ahead of investigators are among some of the factors responsible for this.

Along with it, when the cases go to court, various procedures which we have traditionally followed and which are time-tested provisions have now proved to be somewhat difficult as far as investigative agencies are concerned resulting in eventual convictions; and, therefore, the Government is considering what reforms can be brought as far as this area is concerned.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Excise Duty on Readymade Garments

\*506. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacturers of ready-made garments are agitated over the withdrawal of excise duty concessions hitherto allowed;

(b) if so, the extent of impact of withdrawal of concessions on the export of readymade garments during 2003-04;

(c) whether the Government are taking any special steps to encourage manufacturers of readymade garments and to boost export thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The readymade garment manufacturers have expressed reservations over withdrawal of excise concessions.

(b) Changes have been announced in the budget proposals 2003-04 viz. to have a moderate rate of duty structure, to complete the CENVAT chain to promote compliance; to encourage modernisation; and to eliminate evasion. The Budget Proposals are expected to encourage investment flow, expansion of capacity, enhance competitiveness of the textile industry including readymade garments.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken various steps from time to time to encourage manufacturers of textiles including readymade garments and to boost exports thereof. This includes:

- (i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 5 crores.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (iii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures. This will further encourage modernisation.
- (iv) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms and specified textile machinery items has been brought down to 5%.
- (v) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT) in its six branches and Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) in its Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/

programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(vi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of the importing countries.

(vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

(viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) has been launched.

### **New Exim Policy**

\*507. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether in view of the economic impact of the ongoing war in Iraq, the Government has revised the EXIM Policy;

(b) if so, the main focus areas in the new Policy;

(c) the specific changes made in the existing policy especially in regard to Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme and Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme;

(d) the extent to which these changes would be benefited to exporters/importers;

(e) the details of other new schemes incorporated in the policy for 2003-04;

(f) the overall export target fixed for 2003-04; and

(g) the items on whose export-import restrictions have been removed in the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (g) There was no revision in the Exim Policy on account of the ongoing war in Iraq. However annual review of the 5



year Exim Policy is a regular exercise. As a part of yearly review of the Exim Policy 2002-07, the government has notified Export Import Policy 2002-07 (as amended upto 31.03.2003) on 31.03.2003. The Exim Policy has identified engines of growth such as services, Special Economic Zones, agri export zones, export clusters and status holders for giving focused attention so as to achieve the goal of 1 % share of world trade by 2007. The Policy also aims to reduce transaction cost of the Indian exporters through implementation of the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Programme.

The rates under the Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) Scheme have been aligned with the changes in the customs duties in the Budget 2003-04 and a new scheme for provisional rates for products for which DEPB rates have not been fixed has been announced. Under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme: the export obligation has been linked with the duty saved. The export obligation period for the sick units will be as per the recommendations of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction/State Government under their rehabilitation packages. The scheme has been broadbanded to cover the capital goods required for pre and post production. Flexibility has also been granted for export of other products and services of the company and the import of second hand capital goods upto 10 years old has been permitted under this Scheme.

A new Scheme to allow duty free import entitlement to status holders having incremental growth of more than 25% in free foreign exchange subject to a minimum export turnover of Rs. 25 crores has been announced in the new Policy. Similarly to promote service exports, service providers have been allowed duty free import facility for import of spares, office equipments and furniture, professional equipment and consumables (other than agriculture and dairy products). This will cover only those service providers who have an average foreign exchange earning of over Rs. 10 lakhs in the preceding three licencing years.

Exim Policy 2002-07 aims to achieve a share of atleast 1% of the global merchandise trade by the year 2007. This would require a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 12%.

There are 69 items on which import restrictions have been removed which includes animal products, spices, antibiotics and films. Similarly export restrictions have been removed on 5 items which includes paddy except basmati, cotton linters, rare earth, silk cocoons, family planning devices except condoms.

### **Black Marketing of Foodgrains**

\*508. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study of the quantity of foodgrains and other items finding their way to black market from the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by the Government to plug such losses; and

(d) the details of achievement after action taken to plug such losses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) A survey conducted by M/s Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) in 1997 had estimated the extent of diversions at the national level in respect, inter-alia, of wheat, rice and sugar (with State-wise variations). Relevant extracts of the TECS report were forwarded to the respective States and Union Territories for remedial action.

The Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Central Government is responsible for the procurement, storage and transportation of the PDS commodities up to the Central Godowns and to make the same available to the States. The responsibility for distribution to consumers through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) and administration of the PDS rests with the State Governments.

The steps taken by various State Governments/UTs to check diversion include maintenance of supervision on the FPS dealers, informing consumers about their entitlements and the availability and rates of PDS commodities through, inter-alia the Notice Boards of Fair Price Shops, regular inspection of the Shops, constitution of Vigilance Committees, involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the functioning of the PDS, strengthening of enforcement activity and weeding out of bogus ration cards/units. Detailed Guidelines have also been issued by the Government of India to States/UTs towards greater participation of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the rural areas and of Local Bodies in urban areas to bring about more effective functioning of the PDS.

In order to further streamline the PDS and to make the same more accountable and efficient, the Government of India issued the Public Distribution System Control (Order), 2001 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Order contains provisions empowering the State Governments/UT Administrations to curb diversion, eliminate bogus ration cards and to initiate legal action in respect of erring FPS owners. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of the Order invokes criminal liability under Section 7 of the Act.

### **Women Courts**

\*509. **SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have advised the State Governments to set up Women Courts to try cases pertaining exclusively to women; and

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (**SHRI ARUN JAITLEY**): (a) and (b) The Union Government have not advised the State Governments to set up Women Courts to try cases pertaining exclusively to women. However, some of the States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Delhi have set up Women Courts at their own initiative.

### **Abolition of State Share under CSP**

\*510. **SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG:** Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering reduction in abolition of the State share under the Centrally Sponsored projects for Tribal and scheduled areas of the county; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (**SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE**): (a) No, Sir. The funding pattern of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes as approved in the Ninth Plan is not proposed to be changed.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Inflation Rate**

511. **DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:**

**SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflation rate has increased to 5.56 per cent in the week ending on 15th March, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof in this regard during the last three months, week-wise;

(c) the major reasons for increase in the rate of inflation;

(d) the details of the whole sale price index and consumer price index of essential commodities during the last one year; month-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the price rise and to contain the inflation rate?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (**SHRI JASWANT SINGH**): (a) Yes Sir. The annual point to point inflation rate based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the week ended March 13, 2003 was 5.56%.

(b) The annual point to point inflation rate based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the last three months is given in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Annual Point to point Inflation Rate based on WPI (%)**

Week ending	Inflation rate (%)
1	2
Dec 6, 2002	3.27
Dec 13, 2002	3.21
Dec 20, 2002	3.34
Dec 27, 2002	3.47
Jan 3, 2003	3.78
Jan 10, 2003	3.84
Jan 17, 2003	4.42
Jan 24, 2003	4.79
Jan 31, 2003	5.29
Feb 7, 2003	5.35
Feb 14, 2003	4.91

1	2
Feb 21, 2003	4.91
Feb 28, 2003	4.69
Mar 6, 2003	5.13
Mar 13, 2003	5.56
Mar 20, 2003	5.99
Mar 27, 2003	6.24
Apr 5, 2003	6.17

(c) The annual point to point inflation rate based

on the WPI remained moderate during much of the last financial year. However, uncertainty associated with war in the Gulf, the possibility of disrupted supplies of crude oil in the event of war, alongwith strike in Venezuela (a major producer of crude oil) pushed up crude oil prices after December 2002. A major factor for the rise in inflation rate since January 2003, is this increase in domestic prices of petroleum products consequent upon a hardening of international prices of crude oil. This pressure on inflation rate was also contributed to by a rise in prices of edible oils, arising from a drought related shortfall plus hardening of prices in the international markets.

(d) Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) of essential commodities and inflation rates based on these indices are given in Table-2 below:

**Table 2: Wholesale & Consumer Price Index of Essential Commodities & Inflation in Essential Commodities**

	WPI All comm	Inflation (%)	WPI essential comm.	Inflation (ess.comm.) (%)	CPI General	Inflation (%)	CPI essential comm.	Information (ess.comm.)
<b>2002</b>								
Jan.	161.0	1.5	164.0	1.6	467	4.94	438	3.8
Feb.	160.8	1.4	165.4	3.0	466	5.19	436	4.4
Mar.	161.9	1.8	168.4	4.3	468	5.17	438	4.5
Apr.	162.4	1.5	168.7	3.1	469	4.69	439	4.3
May.	162.8	1.6	169.1	2.8	472	4.66	441	3.9
Jun.	164.7	2.4	169.7	3.0	476	4.16	444	3.4
Jul.	165.7	2.8	170.7	3.6	481	3.89	452	4.2
Aug.	167.1	3.3	171.7	3.4	484	3.86	457	3.6
Sep.	167.4	3.5	172.3	4.0	485	4.30	457	4.0
Oct.	167.5	3.1	172.1	2.9	487	4.06	459	3.9
Nov.	167.8	3.4	172.0	3.1	489	3.60	461	3.5
Dec.	167.2	3.3	169.0	1.7	484	3.20	454	2.7
<b>2003</b>								
Jan.	167.6	4.2	168.0	2.4	483	3.43	453	3.3
Feb.	168.7	4.9	168.6	1.9	484	3.86	453	3.9

(e) Government's anti inflationary policies in recent years include a monetary and fiscal discipline; effective management of supply and demand for essential commodities and raw materials through liberal imports, and further strengthening of the public distribution system.

Large volumes of public stock of foodgrains have ensured comfortable supply situation and helped stabilise their prices despite the severity of drought. Government's liberal release of surplus foodgrain stocks under various welfare schemes have helped greatly in providing increased support to the vulnerable sections of our society.

#### Outstanding Dues of Sugarcane Growers

\*512. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) the State-wise outstanding dues owed to the sugarcane growers upto 31st January, 2003 and the payments made to them against total outstanding during the year 2003, till date;

(b) the action taken by the Government to ensure early payment of the entire dues to the farmers; and

(c) the burden the Government will have to bear every year on account of reimbursement of internal transportation charges to the sugar mills and reimbursement on account of offset of ocean freight charges on sugar export shipments?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c)

A statement indicating the position, State-wise, of cane price payable, cane price paid and the balance outstanding for the 2002-03 sugar season upto 31st January, 2003 is enclosed.

The following steps have been taken to facilitate speedy clearance of the cane price dues of sugarcane growers:

- (i) A Buffer Stock of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar was created in December, 2002 for a period of one year involving an outgo of Rs. 412 crores from the Sugar Development Fund; Rs. 374 crores would be released by Banks on account of the Buffer Stock. Thus, an amount of Rs.786 crores would become available for the payment of cane price dues.
- (ii) The levy obligation of sugar factories has been reduced to 10% w.e.f. 1st March, 2002 to enable the factories to sell more sugar under levy-free quota in the open market.
- (iii) The sugar factories have been extended temporary relief by way of permission to sell equivalent quantity of unlifted levy sugar stocks, as levy-free sugar, in the open market.
- (iv) To liquidate surplus stocks of sugar, it has been decided to promote exports of sugar and measures initiated in this regard which, inter alia, include reimbursement of internal transport charges with effect from 21st June, 2002, as also reimbursement of ocean freight disadvantage at the rate of Rs.350 per tonne with effect from 14th February, 2003.

The burden on the Sugar Development Fund for reimbursement of internal transport charges and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage would depend upon the actual quantum of sugar exports.

#### Statement

(Fig. in crores)

State Zone	Total price payable for cane purchased during 2002-03 upto 31.01.03	Cane price paid upto 31.1.2003	Balance cane price payable as on 31.1.2003
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	501.72	315.73	186.99
Assam	0	0	0
Bihar	102.65	55.14	47.51

1	2	3	4
Goa	4.83	3.95	0.88
Gujarat	378.39	328.6	49.79
Haryana	109.48	28.40	81.08
Karnataka	587.89	285.4	302.49
Kerala	1.77	0	1.77
Madhya Pradesh	30.18	24.64	5.54
Maharashtra	1158.65	982.44	176.21
Nagaland	0	0	0
Orissa	16.35	9.32	7.03
Pondicherry	5.97	0.22	5.75
Punjab	311.01	150.49	160.52
Rajasthan	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	337.42	158.41	179.01
Uttar Pradesh	1543.71	687.88	855.83
Uttaranchal	3.56	0	3.56
West Bengal	2.49	0	2.49
All India Total	5096.07	3030.62	2065.45

[English]

**Separate Commission for Primitive Tribal Groups**

\*513. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Commission for upliftment of most backward communities amongst the tribals i.e. Primitive Tribal Groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the various welfare measures taken by the Government for the upliftment of these tribal groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under article 338 of the Constitution, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been set up to safeguard, inter-alia, the rights and interests of Scheduled Tribes including the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs). Further the Govt. has also set up The Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission under article 339(1) to examine/review the policy and programmes and other matters connected with the administration of the Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes including PTGs in the States and UTs.

(d) Under the Tribal Sub-Plan various sectoral programmes are implemented by the State Govts. for the development of Scheduled Tribes including Primitive Tribal

Groups (PTGs). In addition, a dedicated Central Sector Scheme for the Development of PTGs has been launched from 1998-99.

[Translation]

#### **Internal Borrowings**

\*514. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether internal borrowings have constantly increased during 1998-99 and towards the end of the financial year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the amount of loans accrued at the end of 1998-99 and the share of the loan amount taken from the Reserve Bank of India;

(c) the estimated figures of loan amount likely to be accrued by the end of 2003-2004; and

(d) the interest amount paid against these loans taken during each of the financial years 1998-99 up to 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The internal debt of the Central Government has increased from Rs. 4,59,696 crore in 1998-99 to Rs. 10,37,163 crore in 2002-2003 (RE). The share of Reserve Bank of India in market loans declined from Rs. 38,205 crore to Rs. 36,175 crore during the same period.

(c) The amount of internal debt at the end of 2003-04 is estimated at Rs. 11,58,639 crore.

(d) The interest paid on internal debt during 1998-99 to 2002-03 was as under:

(Rs crore)	
Year	Amount
1998-1999	39,832
1999-2000	69,545
2000-2001	79,082
2001-2002	88,506
2002-2003 (RE)	97,251

[English]

#### **Paucity of Lawyers in Patent Laws**

\*515. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Indian companies go to the US or Western Europe to get their innovations protected due to lack of trained patent lawyers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) According to the Bar Council of India, they do not have any information regarding paucity of lawyers in Patent Laws. It is not correct to say that due to lack of trained patent lawyers companies go to the US or Western Europe to get their innovations protected. In fact, the Patent rights are territorial in nature, that is, they are effective only in the country of grant. Applications for patents are made and pursued by inventors in different countries depending upon the commercial interest of applicants.

(b) The Patents Act, 1970, as amended by the Patents (Amendment) Act, 2002 also contains provisions for registration of persons qualified to function as patent agents. These are contained in Section 126 of the said Act, which is as follows:

"(1) A person shall be qualified to have his name entered in the register of patent agents if he fulfils the following conditions, namely:

a. he is a citizen of India;

b. he has completed the age of 21 years;

c. he has obtained a degree in science, engineering or technology from any University established under law for the time being in force from any University in the territory of India or possesses such other equivalent qualifications as the Central Government may specify in this behalf, and, in addition,-

(i) Is an advocate within the meaning of the Advocates Act, 1961; or

(ii) has passed the qualifying examination prescribed for the purpose; or

(iii) has, for a total period of not less than ten years,

functioned either as an examiner or discharged the functions of the Controller under section 73 or both, but ceased to hold any such capacity at the time of making the application for registration;

d. he has paid such fee as may be prescribed.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), a person who has been practicing as a patent agent before the commencement of the Patents (Amendment) Act, 2002 shall be entitled to continue to be, or when required to be re-registered, as patent agent, on payment of the fees as may be prescribed".

That apart the intellectual Property Training Institute (IPTI) at Nagpur also provides training to patent agents.

[Translation]

### Special Home Loan Scheme

\*516. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has formulated any special scheme for disbursement of home loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the SBI has decided to set up any special branches for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the number of special branches being opened by the SBI, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Banks have been permitted by Reserve Bank of India to designate one of their specific branches in each district for the purpose of housing finance. The housing finance branch so designated could also undertake other normal banking functions. At present 2 special housing finance branches of SBI are already in existence at Hyderabad and Chennai. It is proposed to open more specialized housing finance branches in the current year.

### Statement

*The details of criteria under SBI home loan scheme*

(direct finance to individuals)

(i) Eligibility: Any individual(s) over 21 years of age with a

steady source of income including persons engaged in agriculture and allied activities.

(ii) Purpose: To purchase or construct a new house/flat, purchase in existing (old) house/flat or extend an existing house, to repair or renovate an existing house/flat, to purchase a plot of land for purpose of construction of a dwelling unit & for furnishing/consumer durables as a part of the project cost.

(iii) Loan Amount: The loan amount is to be determined on the basis of repayment capacity taking into account income, age, assets and liabilities. The maximum loan amount is subject to the following:

The age of the borrowers over 21 years to 45 years of age with an independent assured income. 48 times the net monthly income of the applicant in case of salaried persons. For Agriculturist, the annual net income should be arrived at by branches based on the nature of their activity (i.e. farming, dairy, poultry, orchards) land holding, cropping pattern, yield etc. and average level of income derived therefrom in the area.

Age over 45 year: For borrower over 45 years of age (where all borrowers with an independent assured income are over 45 year of age) the loan amount is to be restricted to 36 times the net monthly income or 3 times the net annual income.

Income of Spouse: Income of the spouse can be considered where the property jointly held with the spouse and the spouse is a co-borrower, or the property is held in single name and the spouse stands as a guarantor.

Other Income: Regular income from all sources can be considered to arrive at total eligible loan amount provided the sanctioning authority is satisfied about the proof of the income.

Expected Rental: The expected rental less taxes, cess etc. in the case of house/flat being purchase, which is proposed to be rented out may be added for computation of the eligibility ceiling.

Loans for plot alone/for repairs: Where land is being purchased or where the loan is for repair or renovation the maximum loan amount should be normally limited to Rs. 10 lakhs. Loans exceeding this amount require prior administrative clearance.

For furnishing & consumer durables: Where a check off facility or additional security or third party guarantee

good for the amount is available, cost of furnishings and consumer durables may be included in the project cost up to a maximum extent of 10% of the project cost or a maximum of Rs. 3 lakhs whichever is low. No administrative clearance is required for loan up to Rs. 1 crore for purchase of a house/flat (new or old) or construction of a house/flat.

Houses/flats over 15 years old: loan proposals for purchase of house/flats which are more than 15 years old require administrative clearance.

Loans Over Rs. 1 crore: For loans above Rs. 1 crore, prior administrative clearance is required to be obtained from NBG Head Quarters. Loans above Rs. 1 crore cannot be offered at a fixed rate of interest but can be made available only on a floating rate of interest linked to SBMTLR.

- (iv) **Margin Money:** 30% in case of purchase of land, 15% of the cost for purchase of new house/flat and 20% of the cost for purchase of old house/flat and in case of repair/renovation.
- (v) **Type of loan:** Term loan.
- (vi) **Security requirement:** Mortgage of property. Other tangible security when mortgage is not possible (e.g. during the construction period).
- (vii) **Repayment Period:** Maximum 20 year for applicant up to 45 year of age.

Maximum of 15 years for applicant over 45 year of age.

- (viii) **Moratorium Period:** Earnest monthly income will commence from the month following the month when full disbursement has been made. Where loan sought for construction of a new dwelling unit or where a flat/house is purchased in instalments from a Government/ Public Agency/reputed builders/society, a moratorium period or repayment holiday, at the request of the borrower, may be permitted till 2 months after completion of construction or 18 months from of first instalment of the loan, whichever may be earlier. The moratorium period is to be included in the maximum repayment period of 15 years or 20 years as admissible.
- (ix) **Rate of Interest:** As prescribed from time to time. Both fixed rate loans and floating rate loans may be offered. Whenever the borrower opts for a floating rate loan & the rate of interest is revised, this should be advised to the borrower(s). Individual loans for over Rs. 1 crore, however, may be offered only as floating rate loans.

(x) **Processing Charge:** Up to Rs. 25,000/- Nil. Above Rs. 25,000/- 0.5% of loan amount.

(xi) **Insurance Cover:** The dwelling unit purchase/ constructed should be insured against the risk of fire/ riots/earthquake/lightening, floods etc. in the joint names of the borrower and the bank for the full market value of property or outstanding loan amount whichever is higher.

### Export Target of Textiles

\*517. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have not been able to achieve the target of export of textiles during the last financial year 2002-2003;

(b) the details in this regard along with the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to make any efforts to achieve this target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) As per the available DGCIS (export data, the textile exports during the period April-December 2002 have amounted to US\$ 8849.4 million which when compared with the exports of US\$ 7814.6 million during the corresponding period of 2001 show a growth of 13.2%. This means that 59% of the export target of US\$ 15,005 million fixed for the year 2002-03 has been achieved during the period. April-December, 2002. It may be added that the textile exports declined by 1.9% in 1st quarter (April-June 2002). However, textile exports have increased by 18.6% in 2nd quarter (July-September, 2002) and 24.8% in 3rd quarter (October-December, 2002). This indicates the downtrend in textile exports has been reversed and they are back on path of export growth. However, the exports during the year have been affected by the general slowdown in the economies of some of our major trading partners like the US; Iraq war condition; increased competition from countries like China, Bangladesh; and high production cost; low productivity due to lack of modernisation of textile industry.

(c) and (d) Government have been taking a number of measures to strengthen the domestic textile industry for meeting the growing global competition and for achieving export targets. Some of the important initiatives are:-



- (i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (iii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.
- (iv) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms and other important textile machinery items has been brought down to 5%.
- (v) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design merchandising and marketing.
- (vi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.
- (vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.
- (viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) has been launched.

[English]

#### **Procurement of Wheat**

\*518. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

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

(a) whether a large quantity of wheat procured by the State Governments in the year 2002 could not be stored in the covered godowns as they were already full with the

stocks procured in 2000 and 2001 in various parts of the country;

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

(c) whether a large quantity of wheat packed in gunny bags and lying in the open, has been damaged because of unseasonal rains this year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount of loss suffered as a result of this damage to wheat stock; and

(f) the remedial measures taken by the Government to save such loss in future?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Out of a total 190.25 lakh tonnes of wheat procured during the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2002-03, the following quantities were reported to have been stored in the open i.e. cover and plinth (CAP) storage in the following States:

Quantitative stored in CAP

	(in lakh MT)
Haryana	42.46
Uttaranchal	0.91
Uttar Pradesh	4.94
Punjab	88.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>137.30</b>

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) Requisite precautions like the provision of proper dunnage, covering of stocks stored in the open, in CAP store, with water proof polythene sheets and lashing of the stocks with ropes etc. are being taken to protect the stocks from damage. The stocks stored in the open are also regularly inspected and prophylactic and curative treatment undertaken to prevent damage.

#### **Impact of VAT on Essential Commodities**

\*519. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have done any study about the impact of the Value Added Tax (VAT) on the prices of essential commodities on the implementation of the scheme w.e.f 1.4.2003;

(b) if so, the prices of the commodities which are likely to be affected as a result of the implementation of VAT scheme; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take in consultation with the State Governments to ensure that the prices of essential commodities are not increased?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) As implementation of a VAT system, in lieu of existing Sales Tax system, is a State subject vide Entry 54 of List II (State List) in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, such a study has not been undertaken. The prices of the commodities in a post VAT era would depend on the rate of tax. On the recommendations of the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 22nd June, 2000, an Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers was constituted to deliberate on matters relating to implementation of VAT by the States/UTs. Any decision regarding classification of commodities and rate of tax applicable has to be taken by this Committee.

#### **Verification of Bank Notes**

\*520. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the *Rashtriya Sahara* dated March 27, 2003 regarding supply of fake currency notes through banks;

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

(c) whether counterfeit currency has reached RBI and the said currency has been sent back to the sender banks/institute by the RBI;

(d) if so, the details about the amount of counterfeit currency and its denominations that were sent to RBI and the names of the institutions which has sent it;

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the further steps taken by the Government to make arrangements for verifying the genuineness of currency notes in all banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. During the examination of soiled notes received by the Kanpur office of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from currency chest managed by State Bank of India (SBI), Raj Nagar, Gaziabad, 158 pieces of forged notes of value Rs.69,000/- (25 pieces of Rs.100/- notes and 133 pieces of Rs.500/- notes) were detected. RBI has debited the said amount to the account of the SBI. The forged notes in question have been impounded by RBI, Kanpur and forwarded to police authorities for investigation.

(f) Following steps have been taken by RBI to help the banks to verify the genuineness of currency notes;

(i) the Security features of note have been circulated by RBI among the banks;

(ii) RBI has instructed all the banks in India to provide UV Lamps in their branches for detection of forged notes by the cashiers/officers of banks;

(iii) RBI has advised its offices to impart training to the cashiers/officers of the banks and other institutions regarding the security features of bank notes to enable them to detect forged notes;

(iv) the banks have been advised by the RBI to set up Forged Note Vigilance Cell at their Head Offices for monitoring the implementation of RBI's instructions etc. on forged notes.

#### **Rejection of US Food Consignment**

\*521. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether the Government have recently rejected US food consignment of soya corn blend;

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

(c) whether the consignment has been referred to the Genetic Engineering Committee;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee;

(e) the details of Government's policy to ensure such imports to make food for poor school children fulfils all health checks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), established under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, at its meetings on November 7, 2002 and March 6, 2003 considered the proposal of M/s CARE and M/s CRS to supply Corn-Soya Blend (CSB) as part of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The GEAC decided not to permit this supply since there was no certification from US regulatory agencies that the consignment does not contain banned or obsolete varieties of transgenic corn.

(e) All food items imported into the country, including those meant for distribution to poor school children, are subject to domestic Laws, Rules, Orders, Regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods. The GEAC evaluates the food and health safety aspects of food with GM content prior to import.

#### Trade with France

\*522. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established bilateral trade with France;

(b) if so, the areas in which Indo-French bilateral trade has been established; and

(c) the steps taken to improve and expand bilateral trade relation between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Our major exports to France are cotton and man made textiles, machinery and instruments, handicrafts, carpets, organic/inorganic/agro chemicals, transport equipments, gems and jewellery, drugs and pharmaceuticals, leather footwear/goods/garments, finished leather, petroleum products, manufacture of metals, castor oil, plastic and linoleum products, electronic goods, marine products, cashew, spices, etc.

Our major imports from France are machinery, electronic goods, transport equipments, organic chemicals, pulses, iron and steel, project goods, professional instruments, chemical material and products, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, artificial resins, plastic materials, manufactures of metals, synthetic rubber, newsprint, nonferrous metals, gold etc.

(c) The steps taken to improve and expand bilateral trade relations between the two countries include regular interaction at Government level through the medium of the Indo-French Joint Committee and Joint Working Groups, encouraging and facilitating direct business level contacts, participation in trade promotional activities, etc.

#### FDI in Insurance Sector

5013. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and IRDA had committed that there will not be any direct/ indirect participation of foreigners beyond 26 per cent in any insurance company;

(b) if so, the guidelines and system established to check the same;

(c) whether various foreign companies have violated the same by investing through Indian personnel by making available finance of India;

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

(e) whether IRDA has checked the equity participation of promoters in all the Insurance companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) and (b) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has intimated that at the time of registration, the Authority ensures adherence of foreign equity limits of 26% in the Indian insurance companies. As per the IRDA Regulations, the insurers are also required to inform the Authority of any change in the shareholding pattern of the insurance company.

(c) and (d) IRDA has intimated that they have no information about violation of the foreign equity limits by any of the Indian insurance companies. However, in one case where a foreign investor wanted to use revised guidelines of the Government on FDI in the Banking Sector, the Authority in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India had the holdings of the Indian promoter brought down.

(e) and (f) The IRDA has intimated that insurers are required to file a statement on quarterly basis which indicates changes exceeding 1% of the issued capital in the insurance companies. IRDA has not noticed any inconsistency in the capital structure of the insurance companies.

### **Storage of Paddy**

5014. SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the actual quantity of paddy stored in the Food Corporation of India godowns as on date in each State;

(b) the actual quantity of paddy declared unfit for human consumption because of passage of time, effects of weather and destruction by rodents; and

(c) the steps taken for creation of more storage for paddy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) As on 31st March, 2003, there was a stock of 0.72 lakh MT (approximately) of paddy stored in the godowns of the FCI in the States as indicated below:

(in lakh MT)	
State	Stock of paddy
Bihar	0.08
Madhya Pradesh	0.01
Punjab	0.51
Rajasthan	0.12
Total	0.72

(b) There was a total stock of 2004 MT of paddy declared unfit for human consumption with FCI as on 31st March, 2003.

(c) The present storage capacity with FCI for foodgrains including paddy, is considered adequate. Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage is created if additional storage is required for paddy.

### **Proxy Vote for Defence Personnel**

5015. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to permit personnel of defence forces to use proxy vote;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003 provides an additional option to the members of the Armed Forces of the Union and of forces to which the provisions of Army Act, 1950 have been made applicable, whether with or without modifications, to vote through the system of proxy at elections. The draft scheme in pursuance of the said Act is being finalized in consultation with the Election Commission of India and may be notified shortly.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Distribution of Rice to Tea Garden Workers**

5016. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has demanded that the rice being distributed to below poverty line people, be extended to tea garden workers as well;

(b) if so, the Union Government's response thereto; and

(c) the number of persons and families sought to be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

### **World Bank Aid for Narmada Project**

5017. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank is providing aid in favour of Narmada Project;

(b) if so, the amount provided so far alongwith the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether the instalments of World Bank loan has been repaid by the State Government; and

(d) if so, since when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### **Procurement of Foodgrains**

5018. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have recently refused to take the responsibility of procurement of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

### **Depository Services under NSDL**

5019. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being charged by various Depository Services (DPs) under the National Securities Depositories Limited (NSDL) from investors for holding their portfolios in Demat Form (DF);

(b) the number of times the charges have been increased by DPs during the last three years with the details of increased charges and reasons for increase;

(c) whether small investors and Government

bodies like SEBI and RBI were consulted for increasing the charges by DPs;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to probe the matter and ask the DPs to maintain status-quo; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) follows a two-tier fee structure i.e. NSDL levies fees on its Depository Participants (DPs); while DPs charge their clients. NSDL's charges are uniform across all DPs. The DPs are free to levy their own tariff structure based on the services provided by them. The major fee that is charged by DPs from their investors is in the form of Annual Account Maintenance Charges, which ranges anywhere from Rs.200/- to Rs.600/- per annum.

(b) The tariff changes by the depositories is a commercial issue. The DPs are free to levy their own tariff structure or effect changes in the tariff structure with a 30 days notice period to their clients. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the NSDL do not keep the data of tariff charged by the DPs as they are not required to report to them.

(c) to (e) The fee structure of DPs is a commercial issue between them and their clients. However, as per the agreement signed with their clients, a minimum of 30 days' notice is required to be given by the DPs to their clients whenever the fee structure is revised. At any point of time, an investor can shift from one DP to another, in case the investor so desires.

### **Instructions Issued by SEBI for Mutual Funds Business**

5020. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SEBI vide its circular dated 28.11.2002 issued instructions to curtail rebating in mutual fund business;

(b) if so, whether SEBI also recommended stringent action against defaulters; and

(c) if so, the impact and the instructions on institutionals and investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The code of conduct issued vide SEBI circular dated 26th June, 2002 prohibits sharing of commissions by the intermediaries of Mutual Funds with their investors and attracting clients through temptation of gifts etc. Further, the SEBI circular dated 28th November, 2002 inter-alia advises all Mutual Funds and intermediaries to follow it strictly and not indulge in any practice contravening it directly or indirectly.

(b) SEBI circular dated 26th June, 2002 prescribes that no Mutual Funds shall deal with those intermediaries who do not follow code of conduct. This would act as a deterrent factor for the defaulters.

Further, SEBI circular dated 28th November, 2002 requires the Mutual Funds to report on the compliance of the code of conduct in the periodical meetings of the boards of Asset Management Companies and the trustees and they shall also report on the compliance in their quarterly and half-yearly reports submitted to SEBI.

(c) The above guidelines have been issued by SEBI with a view that the Mutual Funds should mobilize funds from the investors on the strength of professional fund management, lower expenses and good management practices and not on the basis of unhealthy inducements to intermediaries and investors.

#### **Appointment on False SC Certificates**

5021. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New India Assurance Company Ltd. or National Commission for SC/ST have received caste verification report on fake and fabricated SC/ST certificates from the District Collector, Hathras (U.P) and any other District Collectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Company and the National Commission for SC/ST have received fresh complaints against the tardy enquiry proceedings against the employees accused of having got employment in the company on the basis of fake and fabricated SC/ST certificates.

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon for speedy actions;

(e) the number of cases in which Company could issue final orders of penalty after conclusion of departmental proceedings so far; and

(f) the number of cases in which departmental proceedings are pending in each Regional Office of the Company as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Interest on HBA**

5022. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a disparity on rebate being allowed or interest accruing on House Building Advance to the Central Government employees who have taken HBA;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government employees who have taken HBA before 1999 are paying more than 11 per cent interest;

(c) if so, the limit of rebate on interest in their case for the purpose of calculating income tax has been fixed at: Rs. 30,000/- whereas in the case of the Central Government employees who took HBA after 1999 has been fixed at Rs. 1.50 lakhs; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No rebate is allowable on interest accruing on HBA to the Central Government employees or any other similarly placed individuals. However, a deduction on account of interest accrued on HBA is allowable subject to the limits prescribed u/s 24(b) of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

(b) Central Government employees who have availed HBA in the slab of Rs. 5 - 7.5 lakhs before 1999 are liable to pay more than 11% interest, as per OM dated 16.12.1997, issued by Ministry of Urban Development.

(c) The deduction on account of interest payable on HBA and other housing loans, as per the IT Act is limited to Rs. 30,000/- for the loans taken before 1.4.99 and Rs. 1.50 lakhs, for the loans taken thereafter in respect of self occupied property.

(d) The monetary limit of interest allowance in respect of self occupied house property reflects the policy decisions of the Government approved by the Parliament vide Finance Acts. Monetary limits for various incentives/deductions under the Income-tax Act are modified taking into account the relevant economic circumstances prevailing at a particular time. No changes/modifications are contemplated at the moment.

#### **Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project**

5023. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present status of the modified Identification Report in respect of the Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project Stage-II forward to the World Bank on April 2, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): The Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project Stage-II is not in the priority pipeline of proposals for World Bank lending to India.

#### **BPL Families in Drought Hit States**

5024. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ascertained from the drought hit States, the number of families living below poverty line;

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

(c) the quantity of foodgrains given to these States during the last year for these families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) The estimates of number of families living Below the Poverty Line in all States including the drought affected are available with the Government based on Poverty Estimates of the Planning Commission (1993-94) as per the Expert Group methodology up-dated on the population base of Registrar General as on 01.03.2000. The number of Below Poverty Line families and quantity of foodgrains allocated to them, State-wise, during the last year is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement		
State/UT	Estimated No. of BPL families (Figures in lakhs) *	Allocation of foodgrains during 2002-2003. ** (Figures in '000 tonnes)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	40.63	1706.38
Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	41.50
Assam	18.36	800.52
Bihar	65.23	2664.18
Chhattisgarh	18.75	700.38
Delhi	4.09	171.78
Goa	0.48	15.96
Gujarat	21.20	899.21
Haryana	7.89	307.86
Himachal Pradesh	5.14	203.93
Jammu & Kashmir	7.36	275.50
Jharkhand	23.94	968.63
Karnataka	31.29	1314.28
Kerala	15.54	652.61
Madhya Pradesh	41.25	1539.90
Maharashtra	65.34	2744.30
Manipur	1.66	54.60
Meghalaya	1.83	76.86
Mizoram	0.68	28.68
Nagaland	1.24	52.08
Orissa	32.98	1696.69
Punjab	4.68	196.54
Rajasthan	24.31	960.54

1	2	3
Sikkim	0.43	18.24
Tamil Nadu	48.63	2042.38
Tripura	2.95	123.90
Uttar Pradesh	106.79	4373.90
Uttaranchal	4.98	193.87
West Bengal	51.79	2010.54
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.28	9.24
Chandigarh	0.23	9.64
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.18	6.72
Daman & Diu	0.04	1.68
Lakshadweep	0.03	0.54
Pondicherry	0.84	35.11
Total	652.04	26898.65

\* includes the Antyodaya families

\*\* includes allocation for Antyodaya families

#### Share of Handloom/Powerloom in Textile Industry

5025. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of powerlooms and handloom sectors separately in the textile industry;

(b) whether the traditional handloom industry suffers competitive edge against the modern powerloom sector; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect and make the handloom sector self-sustainable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Based on the joint census of handloom and powerlooms conducted in 1995-96 73.72% looms are in the handloom sector and 26.28% are powerlooms, excluding looms in the organized mills sector.

(b) The handloom industry suffers cost disadvantage due to the higher level of manual activity in handloom weaving compared to the powerloom sector.

(c) Government of India is implementing the following schemes for the overall development of the handloom sector and for the welfare of handloom weavers throughout the country:

- (1) Design Development & Training Programme
- (2) Marketing Promotion Programme
- (3) Mill Gate Price Scheme
- (4) Deen Dayal Hathkarga Prothsaahan Yojana
- (5) Work-shed-cum- Housing Scheme
- (6) Weavers Welfare Scheme
- (7) Handloom Export Scheme
- (8) Implementation of Hand looms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985.
- (9) Scheme for Reimbursement of CENVAT on Hank Yarn.

#### Subsidy on Food

5026. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy on food has ballooned during the last three years mainly due to higher administrative and operating cost of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce food subsidy-operating administrative cost of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) The operating cost (distribution cost) of the FCI inclusive of administrative cost has declined during the last three years as indicated below:

Year	Rate Rs./qtl.	
	Admn. cost	Distribution cost inclusive of admn. cost
2000-01	16.65	180.15
2001-02	14.32	142.32
2002-03	13.80	139.10



However, there has been an increase in the food subsidy bill on account of various policy induced factors, such as increase in the Minimum Support Prices and expansion of welfare schemes.

(c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce the operating administrative cost by the FCI are as under:

- (i) Achieving average capacity utilization of 75% to reduce storage cost.
- (ii) Efforts to reduce losses in the shortages in handling, storage and movement of foodgrains.
- (iii) Making efforts to reduce the incurrence of Railway demurrage charges.
- (iv) Controlling the administrative cost by minimum recruitment of resultant entry level posts.
- (v) Issue of old and disposal of C&D category stocks.
- (vi) Machine stitching of gunnies and handling of foodgrains in 50 kg. bags to reduce storage and transit loss.
- (vii) Ensuring strict quality control measures.
- (viii) Efforts to reduce damage to foodgrains.

#### **FI's Investment in the Projects of Backward Areas**

5027. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial institutions hesitate to lend enough money at concessional rates for setting up of projects in backward areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Access to low cost funds from RBI and Government of India enabled Financial Institutions to extend loans at concessional rates of interest. With the introduction of financial sector reforms, access to long term, concessional funds has stopped and Financial Institutions have to raise funds from the market on commercial terms. Hence, they extend financial assistance at market related rates (based on credit worthiness) to all eligible and viable projects of industrial concerns including projects located in backward areas.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **FCI Godowns**

5028. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of godowns of Food Corporation of India at present and the quantity of foodgrains stored therein separately, location-wise in Maharashtra;

(b) the reasons for taking much time in loading and unloading of foodgrains at these godowns;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains gone waste in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Maharashtra during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the godowns of FCI are in dilapidated condition in Maharashtra;

(e) if so, the facts thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of these godowns and construct more godowns in the State to accommodate more foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The location-wise storage capacity available with the Food Corporation of India in the State of Maharashtra State and quantity of foodgrains stored therein as on 16.4.2003 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) In normal condition, there is no delay in loading and unloading of foodgrains. However, sometimes due to operational constraints unavoidable delay occurs. Efforts are made to reduce the impact of such delay.

(c) The quantity of foodgrains that became unfit for human consumption during the last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity (in MTs)
2000-01	3467
2001-02	3387
2002-03	1813

(d) to (f) Godowns owned by FCI have been constructed and maintained to ensure scientific storage of foodgrains. Hired godowns within the port area in Mumbai which were not scientifically constructed are being dehiared.

To accommodate more foodgrains in Maharashtra, it is proposed to augment the storage capacity by 18,600 MTs at Manmad.

**Statement***Details of Godowns of Food Corporation of India with storage capacity and stocks held, location-wise*

Name of the Revenue District	Name of the Depot	Storage Capacity (in MTs)	Stock Held (in MTs)	
			Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4	5
<i>FCI Owned</i>				
Mumbai	Borivali	104000 (SILO)	62207	-
		162567 (GDN)	4831	6690
Thane	Bhiwandi	10000	137	200
Raigad	Panvel	91700	16139	17820
Pune	Pune	29100	4140	6885
Solapur	Solapur	32000	84	4047
Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri	10000	2171	596
A' Nagar	A' Nagar	5000	1082	1776
Manmad Nasik	Manmad	84000 (SILO)	81361	-
		292625 (GDN)	48898	54306
Nagpur	Nagpur	74978	3839	7431
Gondia	Gondia	30000	-	15000
Wardha	Wardha	105000	8683	3710
Goa	Goa	15000	1720	2060
Mumbai	Sewree	16055	117	16131
	Wadala	38590	176	10083
	G.M.	16369	2857	15345
<i>Hired from Private Parties/Other Agencies</i>				
Mumbai	Sewree	5000	-	229
G.M.	G.M.	70289	1000	12100
A' Nagar	Shrirampur	15000	14	6594

1	2	3	4	5
Jalgaon	Jalgaon	15000	2336	4467
Akola	Akola	2500	591	-
Amravati	Amravati	7500	817	894
A' Nagar	A' Nagar	15000	1191	1505
<i>Hired from CWC &amp; MSWC</i>				
Nasik	Nasik Road	6000	1492	2198
Akola	Akola	5000	2823	5599
Amravati	Amravati	7000	1549	5324
Gondia	Gondia	10000 (OPEN)	13853	-
Nagpur	Nagpur	5000	63	592
Kolhapur	Kolhapur	8000	3792	2487
Bangli	Miraj	61299	8811	49838
Jalna	Jalna	6000	963	1795
Aurangabad	Aurangabad	6000	1691	5339
Parbhani	Parbhani	6000	798	3901
Nanded	Nanded	3000	2397	51
Jalgaon	Jalgaon	8000	5635	3709
Buldhana	Khamgaon	8500	3203	4315
	Dhamangaon	649	53	649
Chandrapur	Chandrapur	8500	665	4813
Beed	Parli	9000	318	4270
Satara	Satara	11000	1064	3185
	Lonand	4915	62	4080
Pune	Bhosari	1867	-	892
Satara	Karad	37	-	37
Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri	6500	1740	-
Solapur	Chincholi	5200	129	2757

### Debt Relief to States

5029. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of debt relief availed by each of the State during each of the last three years owing to the Eleventh Finance Commission performance related debt relief award;

(b) the amount of normal debt relief awarded by Eleventh Finance Commission, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the debt relief awarded by the Union Government through debt swap mechanism or otherwise, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have measured the debt burden of each of the State in terms of debt clearance as ratio of State's own revenue, State's total revenue and State's net Domestic Products, State-wise during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps being taken to mitigate the chronic and unmanageable debt problems of certain States like UP, Bihar and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The amount of general debt relief given to the States on the basis of recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, so far, is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)			
States		2001-02	2002-03
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	77.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.72	
3.	Manipur	2.47	-

As the scheme operates with a time lag, the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, in respect of general debt relief, commence from the year 2001-02 only.

(b) The Eleventh Finance Commission has not recommended/awarded year-wise debt relief to States during its award period.

(c) The debt swap scheme is an attempt to capitalise on the current low interest regime, enabling States to pre-pay expensive loans contracted from Govt. of India in

the past, with current low coupon bearing small savings and open market loans. During the year 2002-03, 20% of net small savings loans payable to States from September, 2002, was used to pre-pay the past debt. This has been supplemented by Rs.10,000 crore of Open Market Borrowings for the same purpose. In the current year, 30% of net small savings, complemented by additional market borrowings will be used for the swap. In the year 2004-05 the swap will be effected through 40% of net small savings and additional open market borrowings. A statement containing State-wise sums adjusted under debt swap scheme during 2002-03 including SLR market borrowings, is enclosed.

(d) and (e) As incentives towards fiscal consolidation by States, including those like U.P., Bihar and Orissa, Govt. of India has created a "States' Fiscal Reforms Facility 2000-01 to 2004-05". This is in accordance with the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. States are enjoined to draw up their Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programme (MTFRP), aiming at reducing their revenue deficit and gross fiscal deficit over the reform period. The MTFRP of the States also aim at bringing down the stock of debt and guarantees to sustainable levels by 2004-05. Towards this objective the borrowing limit of the State as percentage of total revenue receipts has been projected in the MTFRP.

### Statement

*State-wise sums adjusted under Debt Swap Scheme during the year 2002-03, including SLR Market Borrowings*

(Rupees in crore)

States	Adjustment out of States' Share of Net Small Savings Collection	Additional SLR Market Borrowings allowed
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	333.87	827.00
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1.71	18.00
3. Assam	62.16	231.00
4. Bihar	191.21	597.00
5. Chhattisgarh	61.44	149.00
6. Goa	21.02	45.00
7. Gujarat	598.11	1147.00
8. Haryana	151.03	379.00

1	2	3
9. Himachal Pradesh	46.38	244.00
10. Jammu & Kashmir	47.04	177.00
11. Jharkhand	115.73	205.00
12. Karnataka	222.02	609.00
13. Kerala	118.47	344.00
14. Madhya Pradesh	176.55	411.00
15. Maharashtra	0	0
16. Manipur	2.25	18.00
17. Meghalaya	3.02	17.00
18. Mizoram	1.73	13.00
19. Nagaland	1.71	14.00
20. Orissa	87.56	387.00
21. Punjab	274.77	717.00
22. Rajasthan	340.54	693.00
23. Sikkim	0.74	0
24. Tamil Nadu	253.00	689.00
25. Tripura	16.03	37.00
26. Uttaranchal	64.83	584.00
27. Uttar Pradesh	572.66	1448.00
28. West Bengal	0	0

#### **Resignation of UTI Managers**

5030. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of conditional resignation of Managers has been accepted by the Unit Trust of India during the last one year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) As per the information

provided by the Administrator of the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India, from April 1, 2002 to April 22, 2003, 52 employees in the officer cadre have resigned from the services of the Unit Trust of India/UTI AMC (P) Ltd. of whom 40 were Managers.

#### **World Economic Situation and Prospects**

5031. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to "World Economic Situation and Prospects 2003" published by United Nations, there is no hope of recovery from economic recession in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in USA the rate of domestic production now stands at 2.4% which is gradually on declining trend;

(d) if so, whether in this perspective the developing countries are not receiving foreign direct investment like earlier year;

(e) if so, whether the capital flow from the developing countries are faster than incoming of FDI for the last six years;

(f) if so, whether the Union Government consider for more investment to create demands for industrial products particularly in the perspective of recession in USA and European countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The "World Economic Situation and Prospects, 2003" published by the United Nations, projects the world economy to grow by 2.75 percent in 2003, compared with 1.7 percent in 2002. However, the report mentions that world economic recovery is facing several risks and policymakers have limited room for maneuver.

(c) The report projects 3 percent growth for the US economy in 2003, which would be higher than 2.4 percent in 2002.

(d) and (e) According to the report, foreign direct investment flows to developing countries declined by slightly more than a quarter in 2002. Low investor confidence reduced private capital inflows making 2002 the sixth consecutive year in which developing countries made a net outward transfer of financial resources.

(f) and (g) External scenarios and developments are always taken into consideration while framing domestic policies. In India, industry and services sectors are currently performing much better than the previous year. Exports are also exhibiting buoyant trends. The latest Union Budget (2003-04) has announced initiatives for stimulating infrastructure development, agriculture, manufacturing sector efficiency and exports, which are expected to sustain and accelerate the growth momentum in the domestic economy.

#### **Price Movement of Shares by Lupin Laboratories**

5032. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4195 dated December, 14, 2001 regarding SEBI investigation against pharma companies and state:

(a) whether the SEBI's investigation into price movement of shares by Lupin Laboratories Limited has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Lupin Laboratories found guilty in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken or likely to be taken against the Lupin Laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that the investigations into price movement of shares of Lupin Laboratories Ltd. have not been completed.

#### **Cotton Procurement**

5033. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of cotton procured by Cotton Corporation of India and State agencies from various cotton producing States during the last financial year, State-wise;

(b) whether the cotton grower has been paid for their produce;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which payment will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL): (a) (i) Cotton procured by Cotton Corporation of India, State-wise, during the last financial year 2002-03 is as under:

(In bales of 170 kg. each)

State	Quantity
Punjab	9,097
Haryana	3,023
Rajasthan	26,226
Gujarat	1,56,220
Madhya Pradesh	38,825
Maharashtra	1,95,123
Andhra Pradesh	1,30,229
Karnataka	67,862
Tamil Nadu	50
Others	7,093

(ii) The Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation Ltd. have purchased 23.57 lakh quintal of kapas (seed cotton) during 2002-03 cotton season (Oct.-Sept.).

(iii) The Punjab State Co-operative Supply & Marketing Federation Ltd. have purchased lint cotton of 58768.42 quintal (36096 bales) in Punjab and 11565.81 quintal (7022 bales) in Rajasthan.

(iv) The Andhra Pradesh State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. have purchased 5086 quintal of cotton during 2002-03.

(v) The Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. have not purchased cotton from the farmers during 2002-03. However, the Federation had purchased 5,353 ready cotton bales from the market for Khadi and Village Industries Commission/Board.

(vi) State Co-operative Federations of Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh have not purchased kapas (seed cotton) from cotton growers during the last financial year 2002-03.

(b) The cotton growers have been paid for their produce by the respective procurement agencies.

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

### Wage Negotiation for Bank Employees

5034. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether wage negotiations for Public Sector bank employees has started;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same is likely to be finalised; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Bipartite negotiations on wage revision and related matters have got underway between Indian Banks' Association (representing the banks' managements) and industry level officers' associations and workmen unions. Indian Banks' Association have reported that the negotiations have commenced from October 2002 and it is not possible to indicate at this juncture the time by which the settlement may get finalised.

### Bank Loans to Minorities

5035. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether banks are required to submit annual returns to the Reserve Bank of India indicating loans/credits advance to minorities;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the names of the minorities identified for the purpose;
- (d) the arrangements made for the scrutiny of the returns and follow-up work;
- (e) the annual targets and the amount of loans/ credit advanced to each of the minorities by each of the nationalised banks during each of the past three years; and
- (f) the action taken in case of banks with unsatisfactory channelising of the flow of credit to minorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are required to submit half yearly returns to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on advances to minorities.

- (c) At present, the following five communities have

been notified as Minority Communities by the Government of India i.e. Sikhs, Muslims, Christians, Zorostrians and Buddhist.

- (d) The returns are scrutinized by RBI and any deficiencies are taken up by it with the concerned banks.

- (e) No separate target is allocated to PSBs for advances to minorities. Banks have to ensure that credit is made available to the members of minority communities in an adequate measure not only in the 44 districts identified by the Government as having concentration of minority communities but also in the country as a whole. The details of loan and advances granted to the specified minority communities by the PSBs for the half years ended March 2000, 2001 and 2002 is indicated in the enclosed statement.

- (f) With a view to ensure adequate flow of bank credit to minority communities, instructions have been issued to banks by RBI from time to time.

- (i) 41 districts having concentration of minority population have been identified.
- (ii) The progress is reviewed regularly at the meetings of the District Consultative Committee & the State Level Bankers' Committee.
- (iii) The Lead Bank in each of these 41 districts should have an officer who shall exclusively look after the problems regarding the credit flow to minorities communities, to publicise among the minority communities various programmes of bank credit and also to prepare suitable schemes for benefit of minorities in consultation with Branch Manager.
- (iv) The Lead banks in 41 identified districts have been advised to organize Entrepreneur Development Programmes so that the members of these communities to derive benefit of various programmes being financed by banks.
- (v) With a view to bring about an attitudinal change in the bank's staff towards minority communities and to have proper perspective and appreciation of the 15 point programme particularly the credit facilities to minorities, banks have been advised to include suitable lecture sessions as part of relevant training programmes like instruction course, programmes on rural lending, financing of priority sectors etc. to sensitise the branch manager in this regard.

**Statement**

*Priority Sector Advances to the members of specified Minority Community by Public Sector Bank for the half year ended March & September 2000*

Name of the Bank	No. of Accounts in thousand				Amount Rs. in crores			
	March 2000 in all Districts		March 2000 in 41 identified Districts		September 2000 in all Districts		September 2000 in 41 identified Districts	
	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
State Bank of India	2756	3486	590	781	2980	3753	614	798
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	37	95	1	2	37	98	1	2
State Bank of Hyderabad	155	186	18	41	128	157	11	21
State Bank of Indore	26	36	1	2	24	33	1	2
State Bank of Mysore	47	68	1	1	47	69	1	1
State Bank of Patiala	196	380	3	6	204	410	3	6
State Bank of Saurashtra	11	51	334*	2	12	47	376*	2
State Bank of Travancore	557	719	41	130	584	861	47	203
Allahabad Bank	136	174	45	68	139	200	49	56
Andhra Bank	72	43	11	5	84	49	11	5
Bank of Baroda	187	604	32	94	187	624	31	115
Bank of India	197	703	28	75	193	643	29	76
Bank of Maharashtra	34	93	3	12	33	85	3	9
Canara Bank	353	949	117	224	379	996	131	236
Central Bank of India	300	378	74	54	258	367	71	57
Corporation Bank	30	141	3	14	31	133	4	15
Dena Bank	16	196	3	20	14	169	3	26
Indian Bank	65	147	4	12	62	169	3	18
Indian Overseas	138	397	16	16	187	322	16	16
Oriental Bank of Commerce	71	516	7	28	72	582	11	35
Punjab & Sind Bank	109	784	8	25	110	788	8	19



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab National Bank	370	1298	70	113	363	1330	69	121
Syndicate Bank	160	374	46	70	163	422	47	83
UCO Bank	136	259	29	36	116	284	30	39
Union Bank of India	136	522	20	79	126	556	17	80
United Bank of India	233	178	110	82	233	185	111	85
Vijaya Bank	48	218	11	31	46	226	11	46
Total	6577	12999	1291	2024	6811	13556	1333	2174

*Priority Sector Advances to the members of specified Minority Community  
by Public Sector Banks for the half year ended March & September 2001*

Name of the Bank	No. of Accounts in thousands				Amount Rs. in crores			
	March 2001 in all Districts		March 2001 in 41 identified Districts		September 2001 in all Districts		September 2001 in 41 identified Districts	
	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/cs	Amount O/s
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
State Bank of India	2790	4153	694	877	2817	4117	551	865
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	37	94	1	2	35	101	1	3
State Bank of Hyderabad	75	139	13	33	108	138	10	40
State Bank of Indore	25	34	1	2	22	34	6	14
State Bank of Mysore	47	72	1	1	47	73	1	2
State Bank of Patiala	143	570	2	5	193	658	1	8
State Bank of Saurashtra	11	62	450*	3	12	79	418*	3
State Bank of Travancore	575	777	52	287	586	791	52	290
Allahabad Bank	142	219	60	76	144	232	59	78
Andhra Bank	95	55	11	5	78	46	11	5
Bank of Baroda	196	664	33	137	208	695	33	132
Bank of India	180	684	28	79	214	792	30	86
Bank of Maharashtra	32	86	3	10	31	91	3	11
Canara Bank	389	1053	128	210	386	1104	125	238

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central Bank of India	271	386	73	63	241	395	54	59
Corporation Bank	32	142	2	10	31	185	2	10
Dena Bank	13	142	2	19	15	150	2	20
Indian Bank	54	192	3	11	49	198	3	14
Indian Overseas Bank	157	279	16	16	170	303	16	16
Oriental Bank of Commerce	70	654	12	39	80	646	13	39
Punjab & Sind Bank	109	811	5	16	112	740	4	14
Punjab National Bank	363	1454	68	124	383	1568	79	123
Syndicate Bank	174	478	47	95	196	520	51	106
UCO Bank	104	227	31	38	142	328	75	75
Union Bank of India	137	597	17	82	138	575	18	92
United Bank of India	223	186	111	84	228	190	111	84
Vijaya Bank	49	237	11	52	49	252	10	46
Total	6492	14450	1425	2375	6716	14997	1322	2474

*Priority Sector Advances to the members of specified Minority Community by Public Sector Banks for the Half year ended March 2002*

Name of Bank		No. of A/cs - in Thousands		Amount Rupees in Crores	
		*actual figures			
		March 2002 in all the districts		March 2002 in 41 identified districts	
		No. of A/cs	Amount Outstanding	No. of A/cs	Amount Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	State Bank of India	2995	448653	577	976
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	38	106	1	4
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	107	140	10	72
4.	State Bank of Indore	22	35	6	16
5.	State Bank of Mysore	51	80	2	2
6.	State Bank of Patiala	201	704	1	8
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	25	54	*(445)	5

	1	2	3	4	5
8.	State Bank of Travancore	588	803	54	302
9.	Allahabad Bank	147	231	53	82
10.	Andhra Bank	78	48	11	11
11.	Bank of Baroda	217	796	32	134
12.	Bank of India	230	1007	36	103
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	31	92	3	12
14.	Canara Bank	389	1157	125	249
15.	Central Bank of India	240	417	52	67
16.	Corporation Bank	32	232	2	12
17.	Dena Bank	17	128	2	18
18.	Indian Bank	58	244	3	17
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	170	343	16	17
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	85	757	12	45
21.	Punjab & Sind Bank	112	895	4	15
22.	Punjab National Bank	386	1710	76	169
23.	Syndicate Bank	209	571	52	120
24.	UCO Bank	91	301	27	54
25.	Union Bank of India	152	712	20	122
26.	United Bank of India	215	189	108	88
27.	Vijaya Bank	49	263	10	52
	Total	7163	16501	1297	2771

**Decline in Export of Textiles**

5036. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to imposition of excise duty on hosiery products by the Government, the export in textile industry has come down by 9%;

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

(c) whether the Government have fixed and export target valued at 50 billion dollars for textile industry within 2010 through Apparel Export; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) As per latest available DGCIS data, the textile exports during the period April-December, 2002 amounted to US\$ 8849.4 million as compared to export of US\$ 7814.6 million

during the corresponding period of 2001, recording a growth of 13.2%. The exact impact of imposition of central excise duties on exports of hosiery products is not yet known as the central excise procedure has come into effect for 1-4- 2003, whereas DGCI&S export data is available only upto December, 2002.

(c) and (d) The National Textile Policy, 2000 (NTxP-2000) envisages a target of textile and apparel export of US\$ 50 billion by 2010, of which the share of garment will be US\$ 25 billion.

### **Growth Rate**

5037. SHRI Y. V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets set to achieve 8% growth rate is difficult to achieve;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the targets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The average annual growth target of eight percent for the Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-07) is considered feasible as the scope for realising improvements in efficiency is very large, both in the public and private sectors. The Tenth Five Year Plan has emphasised the need for making larger public investments in infrastructure and social sectors, improving the allocative efficiency of resources, enacting policy reforms, and improving governance and enhancing the efficiency of delivery systems to realise the target of eight percent growth. There is no proposal, under consideration, to revise the growth target.

### **Agreement for a Line of Credit with Philippines**

5038. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed between Export-Import Bank of India and Philippines Trade and Investment Development Corporation for a line of credit upto 2 million dollars;

(b) if so, the main features of this agreement;

(c) whether this agreement would facilitate easier exports to Philippines; and

(d) if so, the areas of export that would derive maximum benefits?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. An Agreement for a Line of Credit of US\$ 2 million from Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) to Trade & Investment Development Corporation of the Philippines (TIDCORP - also called 'PhilExim') was signed between the two institutions, on March 7, 2003.

(b) Under the LoC, importers based in Philippines, will make advance payment of 10% of contract value and credit will be provided by EXIM Bank for 90% of contract value to TIDCORP. EXIM Bank will reimburse Indian exporters on shipment of goods. Credit period will be upto 5 years.

(c) Under the LoC, the Indian exporters do not carry any credit risk either on the overseas importers or on the importers' countries. While the importer pays 10% as advance payment, EXIM Bank pays to the Indian exporter, 90% of the contract upon shipment, without recourse to the exporter. This would, thus, help in facilitating Indian exports to Philippines.

(d) Under the EXIM Bank's LoCs, any product permissible for export under the EXIM policy can be covered for being financed. Based on past trend of India's exports to Philippines, items like machinery & instruments, transport equipment, mineral fuels, chemicals, manufacture of metals, etc. hold good potential for export to Philippines.

### **Import of Tea and Coffee for Re-export**

5039. SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on December 20, 2002 to Unstarred Question No.4928 regarding import of tea and coffee for re-export and state:

(a) whether the required information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the time by which requisite information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The information was collected and the requisite statement fulfilling the assurance given to Unstarred Question No.4928 of December 20, 2002 has been sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The required information is as follows:

According to Export and Import Policy, Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) / Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are entitled to import/procure all types of goods, without payment of duty, required for its activities for exports. While the minimum Net Foreign Exchange earning as Percentage of exports (NFEP) prescribed for EOU/EPZ units on exports of tea and coffee is 10%, SEZ units are required to achieve positive Net Foreign exchange Earning (NFE).

The value of imports of tea by EOU/EPZ/SEZ units and other imports under Duty Free Scheme during the last three years is as under:

Value in Rupees Crores	
Year	Value of imports
1999-2000	60.28
2000-2001	92.63
2001-2002	78.58

The value of imports of coffee by EOUs under the Duty Free scheme during the last three years is as under:

Value in Rupees Crores	
Year	Value of imports
1999-2000	7.27
2000-2001	8.59
2001-2002	13.53

In so far as tea is concerned, the value of re-export of such imports and the additional foreign exchange earned thereon are not available as tea is imported for re-export through different units/schemes. In respect of coffee, the value of imported coffee re-exported by the EOUs after value addition during the last three years is as under:

Value in Rupees Crores	
Year	Re-export Value
1999-2000	11.29
2000-2001	37.05
2001-2002	32.37

However, the actual additional foreign exchange earned by such re-exports of coffee is not available.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Loan from ADB

5040. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government received substantial loan from the Asian Development Bank last year for the rural development sector;

(b) if so, the details of loan component and the States whom the loan has been distributed;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate new rural development schemes with the loan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Aid from Japan Bank for International Cooperation

5041. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japan Bank for International Cooperation has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4450 crore to India;

(b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) the names of the projects for which this loan is to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Japan Bank for International Cooperation has sanctioned loan assistance of approximately Rs. 4417 crores to India.

(b) The rate of interest and the repayment period for the loans for environmental related projects is 0.75% per annum and 40 years respectively. For the loans for other projects, the interest rate and the repayment period are 1.8% per annum and 30 years respectively.

(c) The names of the projects for which loan is to be provided are following:

1. Simhadri Thermal Power Station Project (IV)
2. Bakreswar Thermal Power Station Units Extension Project
3. Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project (IV)
4. Punjab Afforestation Project (II)
5. Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Conservation Project
6. Yamuna Action Plan Project (II)
7. Ajanta-Ellora Conservation & Tourism Development Project (II)

[English]

### **Appointment of Notary Public**

5042. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of advocates from district courts of Haryana who have applied for appointment of Notary Public which are pending disposal for over a year and reason for the delay; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Court for early decision on these pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) 105 applications of advocates from Haryana who have applied for appointment as Notary Public, are pending for over a year. Appointment of a notary is a statutory appointment, which is done under the Notaries Act and the Rules made thereunder, which prescribe detailed procedure to be followed. Process of appointment of a notary involves taking of various steps, including obtaining of the views of the concerned State Bar Council, which takes time.

(b) Courts have no role to play in processing of an application for appointment of Notary Public by the Central Government.

[Translation]

### **Loans through Nationalised Banks**

5043. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the prescribed rules of the scheduled banks for giving loans to the public in States;

(b) the details of loans provided by these banks to the people during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the nationalized banks have disbursed less loan to people in Jharkhand in comparison to other States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The banks have been advised by RBI to prepare well defined Loan Policy. The Loan Policy may lay down exposure limits to individual/group of borrowers, documentation standards, sectoral exposure limits, delegation of powers including for write off and review procedures, maturity and pricing policies. Sanction of loans by functionaries at various levels is governed by clearly laid down delegation of powers, which may not be exceeded under normal circumstances. The management of the Credit Exposures to Individual/Group Borrowers, loan sanctioning in a bank is purely a management function and each bank's Board of Directors is authorised to frame suitable policies in this regard.

(b) The state-wise data on outstanding gross bank credit of all scheduled commercial banks as on last Friday of December 2000, 2001 and 2002 are furnished in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Credit deployment by banks in a particular region depends upon various factors such as development of infrastructure, level of economic activity, entrepreneurship, credit absorption capacity and availability of bankable projects in the area. Credit is only one of the inputs in the development of an area. It will therefore not be appropriate to make a comparison of credit disbursed in Jharkhand with other states.

### **Statement**

*State-wise gross bank credit of all scheduled commercial banks as on the last Friday of December 2000, 2001 and 2002*

(Rs. in crore)

State	2000	2001	2002
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	64	78	99
Andhra Pradesh	33358	37057	42773

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	102	115	133
Assam	2978	3349	3591
Bihar	5370	5814	6748
Chandigarh	3285	9832	10635
Chhattisgarh	2658	3512	3783
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	34	57	88
Daman & Diu	59	49	50
Delhi	79825	92952	83049
Goa	1604	1909	2100
Gujarat	25090	27013	30530
Haryana	7594	8769	10700
Himachal Pradesh	1518	1741	2192
Jammu & Kashmir	3716	4057	4444
Jharkhand	3970	4456	4983
Karnataka	30355	34535	41513
Kerala	18355	20907	24150
Lakshadweep	5	5	5
Madhya Pradesh	13699	14745	16589
Maharashtra	139633	151496	222234
Manipur	175	157	171
Meghalaya	267	351	513
Mizoram	91	117	149
Nagaland	126	127	155
Orissa	5648	6860	8452
Pondicherry	512	570	647
Punjab	16962	19349	21678
Rajasthan	12154	14243	16713
Sikkim	85	117	159

1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu	53362	58675	67682
Tripura	340	390	464
Uttar Pradesh	22402	26225	29402
Uttaranchal	2051	2390	2761
West Bengal	28418	32129	37379
All India	515868	584149	696716

[English]

### Appointment of Executive Director in Banks

5044. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Banking and Insurance Division propose to change the seniority list for promotions to the post of Executive Director in Public sector banks;

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

(c) whether the move taken by the Banking and Insurance Division is in violation of the standing Instructions of the Department of Personnel and Training; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does nor arise.

### Full Convertibility of Rupees

5045. DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the limited convertibility of rupee on capital and current account introduced since 1992 has achieved the desired result;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the government propose to proceed towards full convertibility of rupee in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) India introduced full convertibility of the Rupee in the current account of the balance of payments in August 1994. However, restrictions on transactions in the capital account are being removed selectively. Prudent management of the capital account has led to continuous strengthening of India's balance of payments during recent years.

(c) to (e) Several measures were announced on January 10, 2003 for further liberalising capital controls and introducing greater flexibility in capital account transactions. These include permission to mutual funds to invest abroad in companies listed on overseas stock exchanges, which have at least 10 percent shareholding in a company listed on a recognised stock exchange in India on January 1 of the year of investment. The overall cap for investment by mutual funds has been raised to US \$1 billion. Individuals have also been permitted to invest abroad in companies that are listed on overseas stock exchanges, and which have at least 10 percent shareholding in a company listed on a recognised stock exchange in India on January 1 of the year of investment, with no fixed investment limits. These measures have come into force with effect from January 10, 2003, and will remain in practice, to start with, for a period of six months from their date of announcement. Further, in the latest Union Budget (2003-04), corporates with proven track records have been permitted to invest overseas under the automatic route even in non-core activities. The current ceiling of US \$ 100 million on prepayment of ECBs under the automatic route has been withdrawn.

#### **Registration of Marriage**

5046. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI GUNIPATHI RAMAIAH:

SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government are actively considering to introduce a Central legislation for compulsory registration of marriages in the country and in order to check the growth of foreign nationals in the country; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Marriage falls under item 5 of List III - Concurrent List of Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. There is no general Central law governing all the communities in respect of compulsory registration of marriages. Some of the State Governments have, however, made laws for uniform compulsory registration of marriages. However, the National Population Policy, 2000 has set the target of compulsory registration of marriages by 2010.

#### **Seizure of Brown Sugar**

5047. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have confiscated a large quantity of brown sugar in various parts of the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of confiscated brown sugar during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have destroyed the brown sugar seized from time to time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The drug law enforcement agencies in the country have seized brown sugar/heroin in various parts of the country, including Gujarat.

(b) The details of brown sugar/heroin seized in the country, including Gujarat, during the last three years, as reported by various enforcement agencies, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The details of seized brown sugar/heroin destroyed from time to time during the last three years, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, are as under:



2000 - 1 kg.  
2001 - 2kg.  
2002 - 5kg.

Seized brown sugar/heroin is destroyed on completion of the trial. Pre-trial disposal of seized brown sugar/heroin is also undertaken after obtaining the orders of the Courts concerned.

#### Statement

*Details of brown sugar/heroin seized in the country, including Gujarat, during the last three years as reported by various enforcement agencies*

Year	2000		2001		2002	
	All India Seizures	Seizures in Gujarat	All India Seizures	Seizures in Gujarat	All India Seizures	Seizures in Gujarat
Number of cases	2841	21	3891	18	4328	19
Quantity in kg.	1240	41	889	54	884	13
Number of persons arrested	3218	37	4304	31	4727	27

#### Essential Commodities Act

5048. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural produce like cereals, pulses, oil seeds, cotton, jute, onion, cattle fodder and its processed products etc. are covered under the Essential Commodities Act;

(b) if so, the percentage of total agricultural produce and its processed produce is covered under the Act;

(c) whether coverage of a large number of agricultural produce under the Act is not to deny farmers of benefits of free market and prices being determined on the basis of demand and supply;

(d) whether coverage of these produce under the Act are not against policies of reforms, liberalization, market-led-economy, forward marketing land WTO obligations etc;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to remove some of these items from the preview of the Act; and

(f) if so, the details of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Foodstuffs including edible oilseeds and oils, onion, cattle fodder including oilcakes and other concentrates, cotton

textiles, yarn made wholly from cotton, raw cotton, either ginned or unginned and cotton seed, raw jute and jute textiles are among the 18 classes of commodities declared as 'essential' under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(c) and (d) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides, in the interests of the general public, for the regulation of production, supply and distribution of, and trade and commerce in certain commodities identified as 'essential' under the Act. These commodities were declared as 'essential' keeping in view their shortage in production. However, the list of essential commodities which stood at 70 in the year 1989 has been pruned to 18 at present. In the context of the liberalization of the economy and the changed situation and in order to facilitate free trade and movement of foodgrains and to enable farmers to get best prices for their produce, achieve price stability and ensure availability of foodgrains in deficit areas, the Central Government have issued an order dated 15.2.2002 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 removing licensing requirements, stock limits, and movement restrictions on specified foodstuffs, namely wheat, paddy/rice, coarse grains, sugar, edible oilseeds and edible oils.

(e) and (f) The list of essential commodities is reviewed from time to time in light of changes in the economic scenario and particularly with regard to their production and supply. Facilitating further liberalization of the economy, free trade, easier availability and more stable prices, out of 29 items earlier declared as essential under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 which were subjected to various controls, Central Government have, by notifications dated 15.2.2002, removed the following items from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act:

1. Cement
2. Textiles Machinery:
  - (i) Knitting Machine, (ii) Spinning Machine, (iii) Lace Making Machine,
  - (iv) Powerloom and (v) Processing Machinery.
3. Textiles made from silk.
4. Textiles made wholly or in part from man-made cellulosic and non-cellulosic spun fibres.
5. Textiles made wholly or in part from man-made cellulosic and non-cellulosic filament yarn.
6. General Lighting Service Lamps.
7. Household appliances such as electric irons, heaters and the like.
8. Electrical Cables and Wires.
9. Man-made cellulosic and non-cellulosic staple fibres.
10. Yarn made wholly or in part from any of the following materials, namely:
  - (i) wool, (ii) man-made cellulosic spun fibre, (iii) man-made non-cellulosic spun fibres, (iv) silk.
11. (i) Man-made cellulosic and Non-cellulosic filament yarn,
- (ii) Nylon Tyre Yarn/Cord/Fabric.
12. (i) Switches for domestic and similar purposes, (ii) 2-AMP Switches, (iii) 3-Pin Plugs and Sockets outlets.

#### **Trade with Bangladesh**

5049. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export to and import from of goods and services with Bangladesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the illegal migrants from Bangladesh issue has affected the trade relations between India and Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure increased trade between the two countries?

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

(a) Figures of India's exports and imports with Bangladesh for the last three years are given below:

(Rs. Crores)

Year	India's exports to Bangladesh	India's imports from Bangladesh
1999-2000	2756.57	338.66
2000-2001	3988.18	337.49
2001-2002	4494.07	281.94

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Loan/Grants to States**

5050. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by the Union Government to the States as loan and grants during the Ninth Five year Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether the States had urged upon the Union Government to enhance the amounts of grants during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) As a part of the State's suggestion for a revision in the Gadgil Formula and in the subsequent discussions in the 49th meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 1st September, 2001, several non special category States have, inter alia, proposed liberalising the existing loan-grant ratio for Central Plan Assistance.

(d) Existing Loan-Grant Ratio of Plan Assistance

to the States is based on the Gadgil formula as approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in December, 1991. Any change in the Formula requires the approval of the NDC. Moreover, a change in the existing ratio has implications on Centre's revenue and capital receipts and thereby on the Plan Assistance to States. Hence, any decision on this subject would be based on the overall resource position of the Centre and the decision of the NDC in this regard.

#### Statement

*The amount provided by the Ministry of Finance to the States as Loan and Grants during 9th Five Year Plan*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	States	Total	
		Loan	Grant
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	9838.42	4671.18
2	Arunachal Pradesh	293.26	2455.86
3	Assam	773.25	6344.73
4	Bihar	6188.20	2643.62
5	Chhattisgarh	454.67	267.40
6	Goa	363.84	118.59
7	Gujarat	6150.81	2036.56
8	Haryana	1611.94	727.65
9	Himachal Pradesh	453.11	3777.64
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1229.67	8405.76
11	Jharkhand	348.67	1989.12
12	Karnataka	5395.61	2091.87
13	Kerala	2357.41	1060.83
14	Madhya Pradesh	5585.99	2328.73
15	Maharashtra	4871.41	2223.36
16	Manipur	292.44	2069.27
17	Meghalaya	183.73	1610.08

1	2	3	4
18	Mizoram	190.21	1737.39
19	Nagaland	207.58	1804.21
20	Orissa	4430.89	1887.40
21	Punjab	1837.44	739.74
22	Rajasthan	3632.49	1841.74
23	Sikkim	132.82	1196.38
24	Tamil Nadu	4751.17	2291.03
25	Tripura	353.09	2559.09
26	Uttar Pradesh	9888.96	6311.59
27	Uttaranchal	2661.16	1321.47
28	West Bengal	6718.16	3288.95

[English]

#### SIDBI

5051. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of industrial units set up by the small Industries Development Bank of India in Kerala by way of providing loans during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): The number of industrial units assisted by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in Kerala during the last three years are as under:

Year	No. of Units
1999-2000	2798
2000-2001	1161
2001-2002	1009

[Translation]

#### Export of Potato

5052. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any export order this year from any country in respect of potatoes;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where export orders have been received along with the details of the quantity of potatoes likely to be exported to each country annually; and

(c) the names of the States from where potatoes are proposed to be lifted by the Government to meet the aforesaid export orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) State-wise export data is not maintained for any commodity. However, exports of potato are likely to take place from major potato growing States such as Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

[English]

#### **Outstanding Dues to Sugarcane Growers**

5053. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any recent assessment with regard to the estimated outstanding dues to the farmers on account of sugarcane supplied to the sugar mills in the country during 2002 as compared to the outstanding dues at the end of 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for clearing the outstanding dues of the sugarcane growers due to the non-payment by the sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per available information, the estimated outstanding cane price arrears for the seasons 2000-2001 and 2001-02 are about Rs.40.35 crores and Rs.99.80 crores, respectively.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to facilitate speedy clearance of the cane price dues of the sugarcane growers:

(i) A Buffer Stock of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar has been created for a period of one year, as a result

of which the sugar factories would receive a subsidy amount of Rs.412 crores (from the Sugar Development Fund) for the exclusive purpose of payment of cane price dues. In addition, about Rs. 374 crores would become available from the banks on account of additional margin money. Thus, about Rs.786 crores would be available to the sugar factories to clear the payments of cane price dues to the sugarcane growers.

(ii) The levy obligation of the sugar factories has been reduced to 10% w.e.f. 1st March, 2002 to enable the factories to sell more sugar under non-levy quota in the open market.

(iii) The sugar factories have been extended temporary relief by way of permission to sell equivalent quantity of unlifted levy sugar stocks as non-levy sugar in the open market. During the season 2001-2002, a quantity of 2,21,513.7 MTs of untitled levy sugar stocks were allowed to be sold as non-levy sugar.

(iv) Exports of sugar are being allowed without any quantitative restrictions and, to encourage such exports, the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) Act, 1982 and SDF Rules, 1983 have been amended to neutralize the internal transport and ocean freight disadvantage.

#### **Export of Fish Products**

5054. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) the average annual export of fish products from the country;

(b) the total quantity of various fish products exported from India to various countries during the last three years upto March 31, 2003 and the total foreign exchange earnings therefrom, variety-wise and year-wise;

(c) the target fixed for 2003-04;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the export of fish products;

(e) whether the rate of rejection of Indian fish products is higher in the world;

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

(g) the steps being taken in this regard?

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

(a) The average annual export of fish products from the country is around 4.25 lakh tonnes.

(i) Major country-wise exports of marine products

(Quantity in Tonnes, Value in Million US Dollars)

Country	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003 (April '02 - Jan '03)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
USA	41747	255.93	49041	299.05	48236	328.80
Japan	68983	562.75	64905	383.07	43293	273.40
European Union	68827	225.37	82895	241.97	72446	217.35
China & Hong Kong	182771	181.86	134767	125.66	146944	156.73
South East Asia	40748	101.76	52424	113.35	34361	105.89
Middle East	17236	41.39	19159	38.10	14880	31.61
Others	20161	47.26	21279	52.15	15489	87.37
Total	440473	1416.32	424470	1253.35	375649	1201.15

(ii) Major variety-wise exports of marine products

(Quantity in Tonnes; Value in Million US Dollars)

Item	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003 (April '02 - Jan '03)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Frozen Shrimp	111874	985.00	127709	871.03	107032	763.17
Frozen Fish	212903	192.25	174976	150.04	166074	178.93
Frozen Cattle Fish	33677	63.52	30568	58.93	35936	74.24
Frozen Squid	37628	71.31	39790	69.36	25835	53.59
Others	44391	104.14	51427	103.99	40772	131.22
Total	440473	1416.32	424470	1253.35	375649	1201.15

(c) The target for export of marine products for 2003-04 has not yet been fixed.

(d) In order to increase the exports of marine products. Government have been taking several steps, which

include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry; steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality; expansion of aquaculture; imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent

outbreak of diseases; assistance to produce value-added products for export; participation by MPEDA in international fairs, conducting overseas market surveys; etc.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Government have taken a number of steps to eliminate the incidence of rejection of consignments of fish and fishery products on account of microbiological and chemical contamination, which include, laying down the essential requirements for hygienic handling of seafood at all states of production, storage and transport to ensure effective compliance of the quality standards; prescribing the maximum permissible level of chemicals and heavy metals; monitoring by the MPEDA and the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) of the processing units to ensure that required standards are followed; campaign by MPEDA and other Government agencies in all seafood producing areas to bring quality awareness among the exporters, processors, farmers, feed manufacturers, hatchery owners, etc. and to dissuade them not to use the banned chemicals at any stage; setting up/upgradation of laboratories for the purpose of testing of seafood at major production centres and improvement/modernization of fish landing centres and fishing harbours.

#### **Enrollment in Electoral Rolls**

5055. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

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

(a) whether a large number of Chakmas and Hajongs who are citizens by birth have been enrolled in the electoral rolls in pursuant to Delhi High Court judgement of September 28, 2000;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Illegal Cultivation and Smuggling of Opium**

5056. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal cultivation of opium and its smuggling is continuing despite all the efforts made by the Government and India is being used as a transit place for smuggling of opium;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action afresh to stop cultivation of illegal opium and its smuggling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Marginal and minor cases of illegal cultivation of opium poppy have been detected in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal during the year 2001 and 2002. However, no case has been reported where India is being used as a transit country for the smuggling of opium.

(b) Details of illicit cultivation of opium detected and destroyed are as follows:

Year	Area of illicit opium cultivation detected and destroyed (in acres)
2000	379
2001	44
2002	539

These are very small areas compared to the 50,000 acres (approx.) of licensed cultivation in the 3 States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Stringent provisions already exist under Section 8 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 which prohibits illegal cultivation of opium poppy and its trafficking. Section 18 of the said Act provides for stringent punishment to any person who illegally cultivates opium poppy or engages in its trafficking. Prompt action is taken by the drug law enforcement agencies to eradicate any illegal cultivation of opium poppy as and when detected. Directions have been issued to the Drug Law Enforcement Agencies of the Central Government and the State Governments concerned to check illegal cultivation of opium poppy.

[English]

#### **Financial Assistance by Foreign Institutions**

5057. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign institutions other than World Bank have given any financial assistance for development of roads in North-Eastern States and Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the projects undertaken by the said assistance in the above States; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government for the development of the roads infrastructure in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The funds are being provided periodically to North Eastern States under the various schemes such as Prime Minister Gram Sarak Yojana (PMGSY), Central Road Fund, Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources and World Bank Assistance, for the development of the roads infrastructure in these states.

[Translation]

#### **Loan by World Bank**

5058. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide a loan of 62 million dollars (Rs.260 crore) for modernisation and expansion of the capacity of the Department of Telecommunication;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the details of the schemes proposed to be implemented in Madhya Pradesh with this loan from the World Bank; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be commenced on these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir. The World Bank has provided a loan of \$ 62.00 million for Telecom Sector Reform Technical Assistance Project, agreements for which were signed on 11.08.2000.

(b) The project will strengthen the institutional

framework and capacity of the government agencies responsible for telecommunications sector, regulating service providers, and managing the radio spectrum.

(c) Modernisation of radio monitoring facilities at Wireless Monitoring Station, Bhopal is included in this project.

(d) Contracts for procurement of National Radio Spectrum Management and Monitoring System became effective from December 2002. Delivery and installation of equipment in the various sites is scheduled to commence shortly and would be completed within eighteen months.

[English]

#### **Additional Foodgrains to A.P.**

5059. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a fresh request from Andhra Pradesh Government for release of additional foodgrains to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the additional foodgrains has been released to the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) In pursuance of the intimation received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of additional foodgrains, a quantity of 10 lakh tonnes of rice has been allocated to the State Government in April, 2003 under the Special Component of Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana. Release orders have accordingly been issued by the Food Corporation of India.

#### **Amendment in Explosive Rules, 1983**

5060. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether only the Dy. Chief Controller of Explosives (DCCE), Agra, (UP) has been authorised to issue licences for possession and use of any explosive throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware about the problems being experienced by small quarry holders of

various States in getting the licences from DCCE, Agra especially wastage of time, avoidable expenditure and harassment;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to delegate the powers to district Authorities on the similar line as already enjoyed by them under explosive Rules, 1983 to possess explosives not exceeding 100 kg. for small quarry holders; and

(d) if so, the likely time by which such an amendment is likely to be made to the Explosive Rules, 1983?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Under the Explosives Rules, 1983, licence in form 22 is obligatory for possession and use of explosives. Joint Chief Controller of Explosives of the 5 Circle offices of the Department of Explosives located at Mumbai, Kolkata, Agra, Chennai and Faridabad are empowered to issue such licences.

(b) Licences to small quarry holders for possession and use of explosives are granted by the Department of Explosives after following the due procedures like maintenance of safety distances, scrutiny of construction plan of magazine/storage, payment of fees and NOC from the district authorities as the case may be.

(c) and (d) There is a proposal for revision of Explosives Rules, 1983. The delegation of powers to district authorities is integral to this exercise. Given the procedural requirements of consultation, legal vetting, public objection/suggestions and disposal thereof, a specific time frame can not be indicated.

*[Translation]*

### **Voter Identity Cards**

5061. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of voters in Azamgarh and Muzzffar Nagar districts of UP have not been issued Identity Cards;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to inform the voters to collect their Identity Cards in both these districts;

(c) whether any centre has been identified in both these districts for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

### **Handicraft Bhawan**

5062. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established a "Handicraft Bhawan" in Delhi;

(b) if so, the purpose and objectives of this Bhawan alongwith its cost;

(c) whether any financial aid will be provided to handicraftsmen through this institution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) A 'Handicraft Bhawan' at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi is under construction. The main objective of this Bhawan is to provide space to States Handicrafts Corporations including those from newly formed states who do not have any direct sales outlet in New Delhi for marketing of their handicrafts products.

The 'Handicraft Bhawan' once established shall also provide space to craftpersons on rotational basis to sell their product directly to consumers.

The cost of 'Handicraft Bhawan' is estimated at Rs.11.04 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

### **Export Target**

5063. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the target of export fixed for the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the export in terms of rupees actually made during the above Plan period;



(c) whether the Government have set the target to increase the export during Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) The Ninth Plan had envisaged a growth of 11.8% per annum in exports. The year wise export performance in rupee terms in the 9th Five Year Plan period is as under:

Year	Exports (Rs. crore)
1997-98	130101
1998-99	139753
1999-2000	159561
2000-01	203571
2001-02	209018

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. As per the 10th Five Year Plan projections, exports of merchandise goods is likely to grow at 12.4% per annum during the 10th Five Year Plan Period. This is in line with the 12% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) to achieve 1% share in world exports by 2007 as given in the Medium Term Export Strategy.

[English]

#### **Assistance to Handicraft Corporation in Maharashtra**

5064. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Handicrafts Corporation and other organisations in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government also propose to provide special relief to craftsmen in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) The financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (MSSIDC), Mumbai and other organisations in the State of Maharashtra for promotion and development of handicrafts during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Year	Amount Released
1.	2000-2001	37.53
2.	2001-2002	52.30
3.	2002-2003	54.72
Total		144.55

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Concurrent Auditors for Banks**

5065. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any norms for the appointment of concurrent auditors for various nationalized banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of concurrent auditors appointed for various nationalized banks as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued guidelines relating to concurrent audit to all scheduled commercial banks on 14th August, 1996. These guidelines include scope, area, coverage of concurrent audit and guidelines on appointment of concurrent auditors. As per extant guidelines, banks are given freedom to engage services of either their own staff or external auditors for the purpose of concurrent audit. In case the bank has engaged its own staff, they should be experienced, well trained, sufficiently senior and must be independent of the branch where concurrent audit is conducted. Banks may appoint an external audit firm for concurrent audit initially for one year and extended upto three years. Thereafter, an auditor could be shifted to another branch subject to satisfactory performance.

(c) Data reporting system of RBI does not generate information in the manner called for.

#### **Circulation of Bhutanese Currency in West Bengal**

5066. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the shortage of Indian currency in West Bengal, Bhutanese currency is used and accepted by the public and shopkeepers in various districts of the State;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate Indian currency in West Bengal and to check the circulation of Bhutanese currency in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Circulation of Bhutanese currency in bordering areas of West Bengal is not due to shortage of Indian currency.

(c) The currency chest branches in the bordering areas of West Bengal are holding adequate Indian currency to meet the requirement of the area.

#### Supreme Court Branch in Kolkata

5067. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up Circuit Branch of Supreme Court in Kolkata;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) According to article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

Representations/suggestions have, however, been received from time to time from certain State Governments, including the Government of West Bengal, Bar Associations etc. for establishing Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country, including Kolkata.

The recommendation of the Department Parliamentary Standing Committee Contained in its 61st report for setting up of Benches of the Supreme Court in Southern, Western and North-Eastern parts of the country was referred to the Chief Justice of India on 29th June, 2000. The Chief Justice of India vide his letter of May 2, 2001 conveyed that the issue relating to setting up of Benches of the Supreme Court in Southern, Western and North-Eastern parts of the country, as recommended by the Committee was considered in a Full Court on 30th April, 2001 and after thorough reconsideration of the issue, the Full Court has unanimously found no justification in deviating from their earlier Resolution on the subject.

#### Poverty Alleviation in Tribal Districts

5068. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:

COL.(RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal/requests from the State Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal relating tribal people/areas development projects in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details of the schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs being implemented in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal for the development of tribal people/areas, and the funds released to these States scheme-wise, during the year 2002-03, are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

*The Funds released to the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal under the various schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the year 2002-2003*

		(Rs. in Lakhs)		
S.No.	Schemes/Programmes	Gujarat	Rajasthan	West Bengal
1	2	3	4	5
<b>I</b>	<b>Central Sector Schemes</b>			
1	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan	3,930.91	3,649.56	2,202.57
2	Grant Under Article 275(1) on the Constitution	2,250.00	2,224.48	1,543.00

1	2	3	4	5
3	Grant to NGOs for ST including Coaching & Allied Scheme and award for exemplary service			
a	NGOs	54.08	51.53	202.71
b	Coaching	8.64	-	-
c	Award	-	-	-
4	Vocational Training Centre in Tribal Area			
a	State Government	29.79	-	6.13
b	NGOs	4.80	-	-
5	Educational Complex in low literacy pockets	49.30	27.96	42.11
6	Investment/Price Support to TRIFED	-	-	-
7	Grant-in-aid to STDCs for MFPs	-	119.37	53.63
8	Village Grain-Bank	-	-	28.93
9	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups			
a	State Government	20.00	90.23	15.00
b	NGOs	-	24.00	-
	Total of I (CS)	6,347.52	6,187.13	4,094.08
II	<b>Centrally Sponsored Schemes</b>			
10	Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students			
a	PMS	-	131.95	-
b	Book Bank	10.25	5.20	2.85
c	Upgradation	-	4.45	6.30
11	Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys			
a	Girls Hostels	-	-	13.75
b	Boys Hostels	-	-	13.75
12	Ashram Schools in TSP Areas			
13	Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and others			
a	Research	6.00	10.78	40.40
b	Mass Education	-	-	-
c	Tribal Festival	-	-	-
	Total of II (CSS)	16.25	152.38	77.05
	<b>Grand Total (I + II)</b>	<b>6,363.77</b>	<b>6,339.51</b>	<b>4,171.13</b>

[Translation]

**Prices of Wheat and Rice**

5069. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

DR. ASHOK PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to bring down the prices of wheat and rice under Public Distribution System for the people above poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) A decision in this regard is likely to be taken in the next three months.

[English]

#### **Indian's Share in World Textile Market**

5070. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out India's share in the World textile market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to create cluster of ready-made garment/fabric for export purpose only;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the support provided by the Government for such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) As per the WTO data (2000), India's share in the world textile market is 3.4%.

(c) to (e) Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme", with the following objectives:

- (i) To give a focused thrust for setting up of modern apparel manufacturing units of international standards, which will work as one-stop-shop for reputed international buyers.
- (ii) To give fillip to domestic production to meet competition from imports and to promote exports in this sector.

The detailed guidelines of the Scheme are available on Ministry of Textiles' website <http://www.texmin.nic.in>. Under the Scheme, Government of India assistance to the tune of 75% of the infrastructure development cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 crores is given. Besides, central assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 5 crores is available for setting up of an effluent treatment plant, creche(s), any multi purpose centre/hall for marketing/display etc. and assistance to the tune of 50% subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores is available for the cost of any training facility created in the park.

[Translation]

#### **Problems of Soyabean Industry**

5071. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Soyabean Industry earns about 2200 crore rupees of foreign exchange every year from export;
- (b) whether soyabean industry is presently facing difficulties due to global agreements;
- (c) if so, whether Soyabean Processors Association has submitted a memorandum to the Government in regard to their problems;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with their demands; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The total value of soyabean and its products exported during the last three years is as under:

Year	Value (Rs. in crore)
2000-01	2,113
2001-02	2,098
2002-03	872

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) to (d) The Soyabean Processors Association of India (SOPA) through various representations have represented that soyabean industry is passing through difficulties due to imports of soyabean oil, crude palm oil and RBD Palm Oil, and lower import duty of 45% on Soyabean Oil.

Various suggestions proposed for revitalising the industry include imposition of oilseed Development Cess, not to reduce import duty further, classification of soya industry under special category of 1% sales tax, exemption from Excise duty, withdrawal of minimum alternate tax, provision of duty drawback, availability of credit at lower interest rate, providing of Export Packing Credit facilities, charging of ECGC premium at time of physical export, provision of transport subsidy, motivation of farmers to cultivate oilseeds by shifting from other crops etc.

(e) Review of EXIM Policy and other Government policies is an on-going exercise, keeping in view the overall position.

[English]

### **Delimitation Commission**

5072. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH:

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

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

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Government from different quarters against the functioning of Delimitation Commission;

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

(c) whether the Government have decided to convene a meeting of all parties for this purpose; and

(d) if so, by when this meeting is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Hon'ble Members of Parliament had raised in the House the issue of functioning of the Delimitation Commission pursuant to which an all-party meeting was convened on 13.3.2003 wherein representatives of various political parties conveyed their dissatisfaction with the procedure adopted by the Delimitation Commission for association of the Associate Members. The Government accordingly took up the matter with the Delimitation Commission, which has since changed the procedure to be adopted for consultation with the Associate Members.

(c) and (d) As stated above, the Government has already held the meeting with the political parties and necessary action has been taken in this matter in pursuance thereof.

### **Export of Tea to Iran**

5073. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to export tea to Iran since Iran has lifted its existing ban on tea imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had taken any decision in this regard with Iranian Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Defaulting Companies**

5074. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks are insisting that the brands of defaulting companies should also be acquired along with the secured assets;

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

(c) whether any clarification has been issued by the RBI in this respect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Implementation of Supreme Court Judgement**

5075. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the guidelines prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Vishaka Judgement are not being followed by many Government Departments/Universities/educational institutions in the public and private sectors and professional bodies;

(b) if so, whether the Government have evolved any effective measures to implement and effectuate the guidelines of the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the NHRC and NCW have given any recommendations to the Government or any bodies in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details of the recommendations thereon alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The guidelines prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Vishaka Judgement are generally being followed.

(b) to (e) The Government has taken a number of initiatives to give effect to the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court, which have the force of law under Article 141 of the Constitution of India. These include:

The Government has requested all the Central Ministries/Departments, Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, Universities/Institutions, Central Board of Secondary Education, All India Council of Technical Education to constitute Complaints Committees and to ensure that the guidelines are implemented.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) formulated a Code of Conduct for work place, putting down the Supreme Court's guidelines in a simple manner. This has been circulated to all State Commissions for women, Non-Governmental Organisations, the apex bodies of the Corporate Sector. Media and all Ministries and Departments.

The NCW has instituted a series of interactive meetings with Public Sector Undertakings/Banks/Universities/Educational Institutions/Hotels/Media etc. to assess the extent of implementation of the guidelines.

A Central Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development has been constituted in the Department of Women and Child Development to ensure that the Complaints Committees are constituted in each unit and the guidelines are implemented by all concerned.

Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 have been amended to include sexual harassment as a misconduct. It has also been stipulated that the report of the Complaints Committee should be treated as a preliminary report against the accused Government servant and expeditious follow up action be taken on the report of the Complaints Committee.

### **Reduction of Customs Duty**

5076. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the custom duty on a large number of items has been reduced ahead of the WTO time schedule and to levels much lower than the WTO had stipulated;

(b) if so, whether this has not adversely affected domestic industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Peak rate of customs duty has been reduced to 25% in Budget 2003, except for some sensitive items like agricultural commodities etc. The customs duty rates are fixed taking into account the interests of the domestic producer, user industry and the consumers. The rates in the WTO schedules are only the bound rates i.e. these are the upper limits. As such the actual rates can be lower than the WTO bound rates if the overall economic interests of the country so demand.

(b) The reduction in import duty rates is a part of the broader policy of making the Indian industry globally competitive. Such reduction is being undertaken in a phased manner so that domestic industries are not adversely affected.

(c) In case, there are some anti-competitive practices like dumping or there is a sudden surge in imports of particular items, the mechanisms of Anti-Dumping Duty and Safeguard Duty are available, and are used, to protect the legitimate interests of the domestic industry.

### **Delimitation of Constituencies**

5077. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the delimitation of parliamentary and assembly constituency has been completed;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the State-wise progress made;
- (d) the date by which the delimitation process is expected to be completed; and
- (e) the other steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Food Subsidy

5078. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether quantum of food subsidy being spent on other below poverty line families is far less as compared to the amount spent as buffer subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details of the below poverty line food subsidy and buffer subsidy spent by Government during the last three years;
- (c) the steps being contemplated to minimize the buffer subsidy for maintaining the surplus stock;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to provide maximum food subsidy to the below poverty line families; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The details of BPL food subsidy (including AAY) and buffer subsidy during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BPL subsidy	Buffer subsidy
2000-2001	4446.18	4232.75
2001-2002	6217.07	5881.90
2002-2003	8977.16	5973.10

(c) The following steps have been taken to minimize the buffer subsidy for maintaining the surplus stock:

- (i) Increase in the scale of issue under the PDS to 35 kg. per family per month w.e.f. April, 2002.
- (ii) Freezing of Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains for BPL and APL families.
- (iii) Implementation of the AAY scheme.
- (iv) Launch of the foodgrains based on Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY).
- (v) Allocation of foodgrains under the Food for Work and the Special Component of the SGRY programme.
- (vi) Encouragement to Exports.

(d) and (e) Wheat and rice are being supplied to BPL (including AAY) families at highly subsidized rates at less than 50% of the economic cost in all the States. The rate of issue to AAY families is Rs. 3/- per kg. for rice and Rs. 2/- per kg. for wheat. The level of issue of foodgrains has been increased to 35 kg for BPL and AAY families w.e.f. 01.04.2002.

#### World Bank Aided Projects

5079. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of World Bank assisted schemes which are in operation in the country;
- (b) whether the repayment of World Bank loans by the State which have utilised the loans are regular;
- (c) if not, the details of the World Bank loan defaulting States; and
- (d) the State which has drawn the maximum assistance from the World Bank alongwith the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) At present, 69 World Bank-funded projects are in operation in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The maximum utilization of World Bank assistance is by Andhra Pradesh with total utilization of Rs.1240.918 crores in the year 2002-2003 (upto 28.2.2003).

### **World Bank Assistance for Textile Industry**

5080. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any assistance from World Bank to promote textile industry in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) No Sir. No assistance is being taken by the Government to promote textile industry in the country.

(b) The question does not arise.

### **Functioning of FCI**

5081. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

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

(a) whether the Administrative Staff College of India has been asked to look into the functioning of Food Corporation of India and suggest ways to make the food management system more viable;

(b) whether the ASCI has suggested that FCI should purchase grains directly from the farmers;

(c) if so, the present system of purchase of grains by the FCI;

(d) the estimated amount being spent annually by FCI to the middlemen for its grain procurement operations; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to do away with the middlemen system in the FCI's grain procurement process and also measures taken to curtail administrative cost of running the Food Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Administrative

Staff College of India, Hyderabad have in their Study Report suggested measures to reduce the administrative and operational costs of the FCI.

(b) One of the suggestions made in the Report is that the FCI should take up measures for cost control and examine issues related to the direct purchase of grains from the farmers which will save the payment of commission to Arthiyas.

(c) Wheat and paddy are procured directly from the farmers by the FCI in association with State Governments and their Agencies under the price support scheme through procurement centers set up by the FCI and State Government agencies. However, in the States of Punjab and Haryana, purchases are made through Katcha Arthias (Commission Agent) in regulated markets in accordance with the provisions of the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Acts of the respective State Governments. Under this system, the Katcha Arthias provide all necessary assistance to the farmers to facilitate the sale of the foodgrains. Stocks are sold through auction and Arthias are paid commission.

(d) The estimated amount paid/payable by FCI to Katcha Arthias on the procurement made for the Central Pool during 2001-02 is Rs.453 crore.

(e) The system of procuring foodgrains from Arthias is prevalent only in Punjab and Haryana. In these States, wide publicity is given to all farmers regarding procurement at the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) so that the farmers can get full benefit. In other States, procurement of wheat and paddy is, in large part, done directly from farmers.

### **India's Share in World Export**

5082. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

YOGI ADITYA NATH:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether India's share in the international trade is still below one percent despite WTO agreements;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the developed countries are more benefited than the developing countries following the WTO agreements;



(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial measures being taken/proposed to be taken to enhance India's share in world trade?

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

(a) and (b) In 1992-93, India's share in the world merchandise exports was only 0.41%, as per WTO report. This increased to 0.67% in 2000 and 0.7% in 2001. Thus, India's share in merchandise exports is increasing continuously.

(c) and (d) The WTO provides a multilateral forum for dealing with trade issues. While the benefits due to WTO also depends on the stage of development of an individual member, each member has equal importance in the WTO activities. By signing the WTO Agreement, all members have inherited certain rights and obligations. The WTO Dispute Settlement System, the corner stone of the multilateral trading system provides the members with equal opportunity to defend their rights and fulfil their obligations.

(e) A Medium Term Export Strategy (MTES) to be co-terminus with the 10th plan period (2002-2007) was announced in January, 2002 with the objective of achieving 1% of world exports by 2007. A number of programmes/schemes have been launched which include schemes like Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure (ASIDE), establishing Agri Export Zones, Market Access Initiative, strengthening "Focus LAC" programme, introducing "Focus Africa" programme, etc. In the Exim Policy 2003-04, besides, the focus on Service exports, policies have been devised to strengthen Special Economic Zones (SEZs), 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU's), etc. A new programme called "Focus CIS" has been introduced. Thus measures are being taken from time to time to increase India's share in world exports.

#### **Working Group for Examining Search and Seizure Cases**

5083. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether working group headed by Mr. S.S. Kohli has also examined the findings of search and seizure results of companies raided during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and recommendations made by the group;

(c) whether in Mumbai alone more than 1000 crore

income tax appeals of the companies under search and seizure are pending for settlement;

(d) if so, the names of the companies and amount involved therein; and

(e) the action proposed by the Government for early recovery of Income Tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Buffer Stock of Sugar**

5084. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to create buffer stock of sugar of 20 lakh tonnes during the ensuing two years due to sharp rise in the stock of sugar and the continuous reduction in its prices;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to fix responsibility of maintaining the stock and to pay in full the other expenditures incurred on this stock;

(c) whether the Government have taken the advice of sugar industry in this matter;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of steps taken to dispose of the surplus stock at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Mills (NFCSF), the Apex Organizations of Sugar Industry had represented to the Government for creation of buffer stock.

A buffer stock of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar has been created for a period of one year with effect from 18.12.2002 involving an outgo of Rs. 412 crores from the Sugar Development Fund.

As per the SDF Rules, 1983, the buffer stock of sugar is to be stored in separate and distinctly identifiable stocks and

lots and in separate godowns within the premises of sugar undertaking and the claim for buffer subsidy is to be preferred by the sugar undertaking on quarterly basis.

(e) For liquidating surplus stock of sugar, the Government have been promoting export of sugar and have taken the following measures in this regard:

- (i) The quantitative restrictions on export of sugar have been lifted.
- (ii) The requirement of registration of quantity to be exported with the Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Agency (APEDA) has been dispensed with.
- (iii) Sugar factories exporting sugar have been allowed exemption from levy on the quantity of sugar exported.
- (iv) The adjustment in free sale stocks of sugar factories exporting sugar is being made at the end of 18 months from the date of export.
- (v) Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) benefit @ 4% on the f.o.b. value of exports has been allowed on export of sugar.
- (vi) With effect from 21st June, 2002, the sugar factories have been allowed to claim reimbursement of the expenditure incurred on internal transport on export shipments of sugar.
- (vii) The Government have decided to neutralize the ocean freight disadvantage on export shipments of sugar and reimburse the same to sugar factories @ Rs.350 per tonne with effect from 14th February, 2003.

[Translation]

#### **TDS Not Deposited by Companies**

5085. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of non-remittance of the income tax deducted from the salaries of employees by the companies/employers concerned to the Department of Income Tax have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of such companies; and

(c) the action taken/being contemplated to be taken by the Government against such companies/employers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir. In some cases failure to deposit the amount of tax deducted at source has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Since the default in respect of non-deposit of tax deducted at source is dealt with at the Field Unit level, such details are not centrally maintained.

(c) The action being taken against such companies/employers includes recovery of the amount of tax not deposited, levy of interest and penalty and institution of prosecution proceedings.

#### **Income Tax Rebate**

5086. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question No. 624 dated February 21, 2003 and state:

(a) whether investigation work with regard to eligibility for relief in the matter of persons having opted the Voluntary Retirement Scheme under Section 89(1) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 but receiving compensation more than the fixed limit under Section 10(10C) of the Act, has been completed after consultation with the Ministry of Law;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the time by which investigation work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Ministry of Law has advised to contest the Chennai High Court judgement, allowing relief u/s 89(1) of the Income-tax Act, 1961, on the amount received at the time of Voluntary Retirement in excess of the limit prescribed u/s 10(10C) of the Act. The matter is being processed in the light of the advice of the Ministry of Law.

#### **Sugar Reserves in the Country**

5087. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the actual sugar reserve in the country as on date;

(b) whether the supply of sugar during 2002-03 fall short of its demand;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target fixed for releasing sugar for the open market, for the next three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The stocks of sugar in the country as on 15.03.2003 was 164.31 Lakh Tonnes (provisional).

(b) With the estimated production of 183.00 Lakh M.Ts of sugar during the current season, 2002-2003 (October to September) and the carry over stocks from the previous season of 100 Lakh M.Ts, the total availability of sugar during the season is estimated to be 283.00 Lakh M.Ts. Against this, total requirement of sugar for internal consumption including likely exports would come to a level of 205.00 Lakh M.Ts. As such there shall be no short fall of sugar during the season 2002-2003.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The Non-Levy Sugar quota announced for the Quarter April, 2003 to June, 2003 is as under:

Month	Non Levy Sugar Quota (Lakh M.Ts)
April, 2003	8.00
May, 2003	8.50
June, 2003	9.50
Total	26.00

[English]

#### Financial Assistance to States

5088. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sought financial assistance from the Centre to bear the cost of the patrolling of Highways passing through their States;

(b) if so, the State-wise assistance extended by the Centre for the purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested his Ministry to enhance the grant for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Non Plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces being implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs, financial assistance is extended to the States, inter-alia for patrolling of Highways passing through the States. As per information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the details of such financial assistance extended during 2001-02 and 2002-03 to the States are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No such request has been received in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	2001-02	2002-03
Andhra Pradesh	600.00	
Uttar Pradesh	121.80	
Karnataka	90.00	100.00
Punjab	-	82.35
Tripura	-	52.20
Madhya Pradesh	60.00	-

[Translation]

#### Promotion of Indian Techniques

5089. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes for promoting the Indian technique and industries abroad during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on these schemes during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Tax Paid by Millionaires**

5090. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a list of leading millionaires of the country has been published in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated March 27, 2003;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed their assets and ascertained that they have paid their full income tax till date;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to recover the outstanding taxes from them?

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

(b) The information is being collected from the Field Units spread all over the country.

(c) and (d) The information shall be placed before the House on compilation.

[English]

#### **Distribution of Foodgrains**

5091. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to determine the norms of BPL families, especially concerning distribution of foodgrains;

(b) whether the Kerala being a consumer State depending on public distribution for food grains, kerosene, sugar and wheat from other States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the strict distribution of foodgrains to BPL families has caused serious loss of foodgrains and several essential commodities, which were distributed for Kerala; and

(e) the action proposed to help the State to get essential commodities by public distribution in an equitable manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Setting up of Special Courts for Dowry Death Cases**

5092. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up special courts in the country to ensure speedy trial of dowry death cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Fast Track Courts have been set up to ensure speedy trial of long pending cases, including dowry death cases. So far 1334 such courts have been notified as against a total of 1734 such courts proposed to be set up.

#### **Consumer Courts in Delhi**

5093. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases heard/disposed of by the Consumer Redressal Forum II, Udyog Sadan, New Delhi;

(b) whether the Hon'ble Judge is facing great difficulty in delivering Judgement as there are no staff working under him to take dictation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) As per the information made available by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, 35,794 cases have been disposed of since inception by the District Forum II till March, 2003.

(b) No, Sir. The Govt. of NCT of Delhi has informed that the sanctioned post of stenographer in this Forum is one which is also filled.

(c) and (d) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

#### Closure of Chit Fund and Private Banks

5094. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of chit fund companies and private banks in the country have been closed down and investors money siphoned off;

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

(c) whether the RBI have not any control on the functioning of such chit fund companies and private banks;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the further steps taken by the Government to have control on the functioning of these companies and private banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the chit fund companies are registered and regulated through the offices of the Registrar of Chits of the respective State Governments. The chit business is regulated by the rules made by the State Governments under the Chit Funds Act, 1982. Accordingly, action against delinquent chit fund companies falls under the regulatory jurisdiction of the respective State Governments. RBI does not regulate their chit fund business but only regulates certain aspects relating to deposit acceptance of chit fund companies through the provisions of Miscellaneous Non-Banking Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 1977.

As regards private banks, RBI have reported that the

Banking Regulation Act, 1949 prescribes a number of regulatory requirements on the various aspects of management and methods of operations of the bank to ensure that depositor's interests are protected and the operations of the banks are not conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the depositors. RBI has wide powers to seek liquidation of banks through application to Court or consider voluntary/compulsory merger of banks to protect the interests of the depositors. While no private sector banks has been closed down in the recent past, 2 banks were amalgamated under Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; namely:

Name of the Bank	Year of merger	Merged with
Benares State Bank Ltd.	2002	Bank of Baroda
Nedungadi Bank Ltd.	2002	Punjab National Bank

#### Media Cell in Ministry of Finance

5095. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance have decided to set up a media Cell of its own;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith likely expenditure on the Cell and staff strength;

(c) whether the Indian Information Services is unable to do the job; and

(d) if not, the fresh steps taken by Government to minimise the expenditure in view of its own direction of 10% reduction in expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No such proposal is at present under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Information Service officers posted in the Press Information Bureau are fully capable and qualified to do the job.

(d) Containing non-plan and non-developmental expenditure has been the constant endeavour of the Government and with this end in view, a number of measures have been taken relating, inter-alia, to restriction on creation

of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restriction on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restriction on purchase of vehicles, restriction on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, restriction on STD/ISD facility, restriction on number of free calls on official residential telephones, etc.

### **Sugar Production**

5096. SHRI K. YERANNAIDU:

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:

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

(a) whether the sugar production in the country from October to December 2002 has declined as compared to production of corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase production of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The sugar production during the period October-December, 2002 was 50.44 lakh tonnes (provisional) as compared to 50.72 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of the previous season. Thus, the production of sugar during the current season in the aforesaid period was more or less same as in the last season.

(c) Question does not arise.

### **National Securities Depositories Limited**

5097. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being charged by various Depository Services (DPs) under the National Securities Depositories (NSDL) from investors for holding their portfolios in Demat Form (DF);

(b) the number of times during the last three years, the charges by Depository Services have been increased with the details of increased charges and reasons for increase;

(c) whether small investors and Government bodies like SEBI and RBI were consulted for increasing the charges DPs;

(d) if not, whether the Government would probe the matter and ask the DPs to maintain status-quo; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) follows a two-tier fee structure i.e. NSDL levies fees on its Depository Participants (DPs), while DPs charge their clients. NSDL's charges are uniform across all DPs. The DPs are free to levy their own tariff structure based on the services provided by them. The major fee that is charged by DPs from their investors is in the form of Annual Account Maintenance Charges, which ranges anywhere from Rs.200/- to Rs.600/- per annum.

(b) The tariff changes by the depositories is a commercial issue. The DPs are free to levy their own tariff structure or effect changes in the tariff structure with a 30 days notice period to their clients. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the NSDL do not keep the data of tariff charged by the DPs as they are not required to report to them.

(c) to (e) The fee structure of DPs is a commercial issue between them and their clients. However, as per the agreement signed with their clients, a minimum of 30 days' notice is required to be given by the DPs to their clients whenever the fee structure is revised. At any point of time, an investor can shift from one DP to another, in case the investor so desires.

### **High Cost Debt Bonds**

5098. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to buy back various high cost debt bonds issued by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government proposes to offer a buyback of high coupon relatively illiquid Government securities on voluntary basis. The participating banks will be allowed additional deduction for income tax purposes on premium received to the extent that such premium is used for provisioning for their non-performing assets. The scheme will enable the Central Government to reduce interest burden on

the outstanding market loans and banks to make additional provision for non-performing assets, thereby improving their balance sheets.

[Translation]

#### **Diversion of Funds**

5099. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govt. of Maharashtra has diverted the funds released to the State on the basis of the recommendations of the 11th Finance Commission with regard to providing assistance to the Zila Parishads by utilizing the same under the Yashwant Gram Samridhhi Yojana, a State run scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. According to Govt. of Maharashtra, amounts recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) for Local Bodies Grants have been dovetailed with the State run scheme of Yashwant Gram Samridhhi Yojana. Funds recommended by EFC are primarily meant for maintenance of civic services and some of the components of the Yashwant Gram Samridhhi Yojana are in consonance with the objectives of local bodies grants under the recommendations of EFC.

#### **Inclusion of SC in ST List**

5100. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to include scheduled castes in the list of scheduled tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the scheduled castes have been included in the list of scheduled tribes recently; and

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof alongwith the reasons for non-inclusion of Kol caste in the list at scheduled tribes which is in large number in Sonbhadra-Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Twelve communities namely Karimpalan and Mavilan of Kerala and Agriya, Baiga, Bhuiya, Chero, Gond, Kharwar, Pankha, Parahiya, Patari and Sahariya of Uttar Pradesh, were transferred from the list of Scheduled Castes to that of Scheduled Tribes vide the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002 as they fulfilled the necessary criteria to be classified as Scheduled Tribes. The Kol community of Uttar Pradesh, as per the approved modalities for deciding such cases, has not yet become eligible for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

[English]

#### **Panel to reform criminal justice system**

5101. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the News item captioned "panel to reform criminal justice system draws flak" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the February 2, 2003;

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

(c) whether the Malimath Committee constituted for reforming the country's criminal justice system has submitted its report to Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to submit its report to the Government.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The Malimath Committee constituted for reforming the country's criminal justice system has since submitted its report to the Government on 21st April, 2003.

#### **Tax Liabilities Against PSUs**

5102. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian listed companies included PSUs had more than Rs. 28,000 crore in disputed tax liabilities at the end of 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details of companies/PSUs alongwith their tax liabilities under dispute as on March, 31, 2002; and

(c) the steps being taken for the expeditious settlement of the disputed claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The total disputed tax liabilities as on 31.3.2002 amounted to Rs. 34,969.25 crores. Separate figures in respect of the disputed tax liabilities of listed Indian Companies and PSUs are not maintained.

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

(c) The following steps are being taken for expeditious settlement of disputed claims in all cases, including listed Indian companies and PSUs:

1. Creation of a large number of posts of Commissioner (appeals) for faster disposal of appeals. Withdrawal of powers to set-side an assessment.
2. Creation of a large number of posts of Tax Recovery Officers for strengthening the tax recovery machinery.
3. Issue of comprehensive instruction on recovery of taxes and stay of demand. Making of the Assessing Officer responsible for collecting all collectible demands.
4. Time-bound disposal of appeals by ITAT where stay of demand has been granted.
5. Periodical monitoring of cases of demands above Rs. 10 lakhs by very senior officers of the Department.

#### **Distress Sale of Paddy**

5103. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken steps to stop distress sale of paddy in various States;
- (b) if so, the States from where the distress sale has been reported during 2002-03; and
- (c) the present position in those States after efforts made to stop distress sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) Before the start of each marketing season, State Governments/UTs are advised to ensure that Fair Average Quality (FAQ) foodgrains are procured from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government. In order to closely monitor the price support operations, a Control Room has been set up on a permanent basis in the Department of Food and Public Distribution. Special Control Rooms are also set up in the FCI Headquarters and its Regional Offices. The State Governments are also advised to set up Control Rooms, which should function round the clock during the procurement season. Any report of distress sale is forwarded to the concerned State Governments for taking immediate remedial measures.

The Government, in its efforts to ensure that the benefits of MSP are invariably passed on to farmers, has issued instructions to the FCI to implement a suitable mechanism so that necessary proof/documents are obtained from the millers at the time of procurement to the effect that, the benefit of MSP and special drought relief price etc. had been passed on to the farmers. Steps to prevent distress sale of paddy have been taken by the FCI by opening more procurement centres, posting of staff and releasing of funds etc. for this purpose.

During the Kharif Marketing Season 2002-2003, instances of sale of paddy below the Minimum Support Price (M.S.P.) were reported from parts of Bihar, Gujarat, U.P. and West Bengal. Investigations, however, have so far revealed that only non-F.A.Q. paddy was sold below the M.S.P.

#### **Trade Mark of Vaastu registered by German company**

5104. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether "Vaastu" has been registered as a trade mark by a German Company five years back; and
- (b) if so, the action proposed to take legal recourse against the registration to save Indian Vaastu experts in their commercial venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trademarks are registered under the sovereign prerogatives of countries according to their respective



trademark laws and have territorial effect i.e. they are valid only in the country of registration and do not curtail the interests of person(s) outside that jurisdiction. Under trademarks law, in India and elsewhere, these expressions can be the subject matter of a trademark which can be registered. Challenge of such registered trademarks is to be made by those whose commercial or other interests are affected in accordance with the laws of the country concerned.

### Under-Invoicing by Drug Companies

5105. DR. BALIRAM:

SHRI A. NARENDRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that many drug manufacturers are indulging in under invoicing and over invoicing;

(b) if so, the details of those companies;

(c) whether legal proceedings are pending against them;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to expedite legal proceedings against drug manufacturers under FEMA;

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

(f) whether they have shifted their companies recently from Hongkong to Mauritius and vice versa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Paddy Procurement

5106. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) the number of paddy procurement centres opened by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Orissa in 2002-03;

(b) the number of procurement centres opened by FCI in other States during that year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposed to set up more paddy procurement centres in Orissa to stop distress sale; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) 20 paddy purchase centers have been opened by the FCI in Orissa in the current Kharif Marketing Season 2002-03.

(b) A statement showing State-wise number of paddy purchase centers opened by FCI is annexed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Statement

*State-wise number of Paddy Purchase Centers Opened by FCI during the Current Kharif Marketing season 2002-03*

State	FCI
Punjab	403
Haryana	25
Delhi	2
Rajasthan	12
Andhra Pradesh	111
Madhya Pradesh	43
Bihar	100
Orissa	20
Himachal Pradesh	4
Total	720

### Closure of Cooperative Banks

5107. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more and more co-operative banks are reporting losses/declaring insolvency;

(b) the details of co-operative banks which have closed down during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of investors affected thereby and the total amount lost by them as a result of such closures/insolvency; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government for strengthening these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), six State Co-operative Banks (SCBs), 112 District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and 239 Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) have reported losses for the year 2000-2001. However, RBI has rejected/cancelled the licences of 54 UCBs and 3 DCCBs during the last three years in view of their deteriorating financial condition and unsatisfactory operations. The State-wise details of these banks are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The data reporting system of RBI and NABARD does not generate the information in the manner asked for.

(d) RBI and NABARD have taken several steps to strengthen the system of regulation and supervision of Cooperative Banks. These include, putting ceiling on operations in call money market and bank finance against shares and debentures, increase in percentage of SLR investments in Government Securities, restrictions on interest rates on deposits offered by UCBs and investment of funds as deposit with other UCBs, introduction of revised entry point norms while setting up new UCBs, reduction of credit exposure, constitution of Audit Committee of Board of Directors to review the internal audit reports, introduction of electronic data processing (EDP) audit system, introduction of capital adequacy norms in a phased manner, introduction of a system of Off-site Surveillance, modification of norms for identifying weak banks, introduction of a system of supervisory rating under the CAMELS model, etc.

#### Statement

*Details of the number of Co-operative banks whose licenses were rejected by Reserve Bank of India during the last three years*

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Cooperative Banks whose licences were rejected
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Gujarat	10
4.	Haryana	1
5.	Jharkhand	1
6.	Karnataka	2
7.	Madhya Pradesh	3
8.	Maharashtra	15
9.	Manipur	1
10.	Tamil Nadu	3
11.	Uttar Pradesh	4
12.	West Bengal	1
Total		57

#### Prosecution against Companies

5108. SHRI SHEESHAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs have initiated prosecutions against companies that are involved in the stock market scam 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of company Affairs has launched 284 prosecutions against 68 entities.

[Translation]

#### Vacant post of Judges in Chhattisgarh High Court

5109. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the delay in hearing of the cases due to insufficient number of judges in High Court of Chhattisgarh State;

(b) whether any proposal for increase in the number of approved posts of judges from 6 to 10 in High Court of Chhattisgarh has been sent by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto and time by which a final decision will be taken up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Against the sanctioned strength of 6 Additional/ Permanent Judges of the Chhattisgarh High Court, 4 Permanent Judges are in position. The Judge Strength was fixed on the formation of the Chhattisgarh High Court on 1st November, 2000.

No proposal for increase in the Judge Strength of the Chhattisgarh High Court has been sent by the State Government.

Delay occurs in hearing of cases due to various factors including insufficient number of judges. It is for this reason that a review of Judge Strength of High Courts is undertaken every three years. Such a review of Judge Strength of the High Courts is currently under way. A view on the revised Judge Strength of Chhattisgarh High Court would also be taken as part of this review.

[English]

#### **Sarvapriya Scheme**

5110. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether the Government are facing hurdles in implementation of Sarvapriya Scheme launched by NCCF for distribution of commodities at fair prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers to sort out the issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government of India launched a scheme entitled 'Sarvapriya' in July, 2000, envisaging distribution of selected eleven commodities of daily use (namely Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Masoor Dal, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soap, Detergent Cake, Exercise Notebooks, Edible Oil & Toothpaste) through the existing PDS and the retail outlets of the State Consumers' Cooperative Federations, State Civil Supplies Corporations and the Consumer Cooperative Societies in the States. The Scheme is voluntary and involves no subsidy. Initially, the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and Pondicherry participated in the scheme. At present, only the three States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh are operating the scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Construction of Godowns**

5111. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provides assistance for construction of godowns in the States to strengthen PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of godowns which came up in Gujarat during the last three years under this pattern of funding, year-wise and district-wise alongwith their capacity; and

(d) the authority who has the ultimate control over these godowns in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Construction of Godowns", financial assistance was provided to States/UTs in the form of 50% subsidy and 50% loan for construction of small godowns up to 2000 Metric Tonnes capacity. This Scheme has since been discontinued from 1.4.2002.

(c) The required information is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The State Government of Gujarat has the ultimate control over the godowns constructed under the Scheme.

**Statement**

Name of State : Gujarat

Year	No. of Godowns	Location	District	Financial assistance sanctioned Rs.	Capacity in MT
2001-02	1	Bhuj	Bhuj	11,10,720	1000
	1	Khabada	Bhuj	7,99,600	500
	1	Anjar	Bhuj	7,99,600	500
	1	Bhachau	Bhuj	7,99,600	500
	1	Bayad	Bhuj	7,99,600	500
Total	5			43,09,120	3000

**Edible Oils**

5112. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether country is producing the required quantity of edible oils;

(b) if so, the total requirement, production and consumption of edible oils during the last three years, State-wise particularly in Gujarat;

(c) the quantity of edible oils imported during the said period; and

(d) the percentage of population of the country consuming indigenous edible oils State-wise particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The import of edible oils during the last three years is as under:

(Quantity in lakh MTs)

Year	Imports of edible oils*
1999-2000	41.96
2000-2001	41.77
2001-2002	42.14 (Prov.)

Source: \* DGCI & S. Kolkata

(d) Approximately 55% of the demand is met through indigenous oils. Data relating to consumption of edible oils, State-wise, is not maintained as there is no restriction on the inter-State movement of oilseeds/oils.

[Translation]

**Computerisation of Bank Branches**

5113. SHRI SURESH PASI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the banks which have computerised their branches alongwith the number of branches computerised;

(b) whether most of the banks have not computerised their rural branches;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the State-wise number of branches of Public Sector Banks yet to be computerised; and

(e) the time by which the branches of banks in Uttar Pradesh particularly rural branches are likely to be computerised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The names of public sector banks which have computerised their branches as on 31.12.2002 alongwith the number of branches yet to be computerised are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (e) RBI has reported that the computerisation of branches, whether urban, semi-urban and rural is a subject matter of individual bank and it is for the bank to decide about

computerisation of their branches depending on, cost, benefit, available capital, economic feasibility and business viability.

### Statement

#### Computerisation of Bank Branches as on 31.12.2002

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Total no. of Branches	No. of Branches fully computerised	Branches already partially computerised	Total no. of branches yet to be computerised
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	State Bank of India	9040	3345	0	5695
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	804	430	2	372
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	891	203	376	312
4.	State Bank of Indore	424	105	133	186
5.	State Bank of Mysore	608	157	165	286
6.	State Bank of Patiala	736	701	0	35
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	413	188	24	201
8.	State Bank of Travancore	671	248	105	318
9.	Allahabad Bank	2059	439	389	1231
10.	Andhra Bank	1082	834	15	233
11.	Bank of Baroda	2713	563	1204	946
12.	Bank of India	2532	1030	1125	377
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	1231	547	83	601
14.	Canara Bank	2421	793	901	727
15.	Central Bank of India	3116	983	238	1895
16.	Corporation Bank	669	448	0	221
17.	Dena Bank	1135	484	281	370
18.	Indian Bank	1378	475	54	849
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	1429	462	774	193
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	981	192	740	49
21.	Punjab National Bank	3863	286	2575	1002

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	891	37	595	259
23.	Syndicate Bank	1740	236	1152	352
24.	UCO Bank	1710	240	440	1030
25.	Union Bank of India	2020	114	1407	499
26.	United Bank of India	1302	241	370	691
27.	Vijaya Bank	830	335	8	487

### **Investment by Foreign Financial Institutions**

5114. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign financial institutions registered in the country;

(b) the funds brought into India through these institutions, and

(c) the amount of direct investment made in India by these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) As per the data maintained by SEBI, there were 502 foreign institutional investors (FIIs) registered with SEBI till 31st March, 2003.

(b) and (c) The cumulative investments made by these Foreign Institutional Investors since inception till 31st March, 2003 amounts to US \$ 15804.7 million.

[English]

### **Procurement of Rice**

5115. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a compulsory levy of rice on price fixed based on MSP is imposed on all rice mills in most of States for procurement of rice in place of paddy under MSP;

(b) if so, is not the system discouraging the mills to modernize their mills to improve quality and differentiate their produce in a market-led economy;

(c) the manner in which the system is not subsidizing inefficient rice mills;

(d) whether the system is desirable in an economy almost self-sufficient/surplus in foodgrains;

(e) whether the system is not subsidizing inefficient rice mills; and

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to consider to make levy system optional to those mills who pay/purchase at MSP or above prices from the farmers?

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

(b) to (e) No, Sir. Rice is collected by way of statutory levy from rice millers/dealers for the Central Pool. The levy percentage is determined by the respective State Governments keeping in view of the requirements for the Central Pool, the marketable surplus and domestic consumption. While fixing the levy price, all the cost elements are invariably taken into account. Therefore, the question of millers suffering any losses does not arise. No representations have been received from any Rice Millers Association for discontinuance of the levy system. Rice millers can seek financial assistance under the Plan Scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for establishment/modernization or expansion of the rice mills up to a maximum of Rs.50 lakh in general areas and Rs.75 lakhs in difficult areas.

(f) Does not arise.

### **Conditions Laid Down for MNC**

5116. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many multinational companies (MNCs) which had been allowed to invest in India in the 1990s on the promise that they would eventually dilute their equity through

public issues are ravaging on their commitment to so dilute their equity;

(b) if so, the number and details of the MNCs that had been so allowed in 1990s on such promise which ones have since diluted their equity and which ones have not yet done so;

(c) whether the SEBI has urged the Government to ensure fulfilment of their promise by MNCs; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Updated information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Committee on Investment Approval**

5117. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee on reforming investment approvals, implementation procedures has been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the committee has submitted the report; and

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the committee and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A committee was set up to examine the existing procedures for investment approval and implementation of projects and to suggest measures to simplify and expedite the process for investments for public and private projects.

(b) to (d) The committee has submitted its report to the Government in two volumes. Part-I of the Report presented in May, 2002, covers upstream issues relating to Government and Public Sector projects i.e. the issues that arise from the conceptualization of the project to the stage of investment approval. Part-II of the report covers down stream issues i.e. from the stage of investment approval till the implementation of the project and their operational phase. Part II of the report was presented in November, 2002.

The Committee in Part-I of its report has, inter-alia, made

wide-ranging recommendations for re-engineering the project cycle for public investments, aiming at greater professionalisation of project preparation, appraisal and post evaluation stages of the cycle. The Committee in Part-II of its report has, inter-alia, recommended re-engineering of regulatory processes at the Central and State level for simplification of the procedures relating to the grant of various approvals and rationalisation of the inspection, record keeping and reporting requirements. The recommendations also envisage greater use of information technology tools in the administration of approvals.

Action on the implementation of recommendations contained in the report has been initiated in the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

[Translation]

#### **Prices Fixed for Foodgrains Supplied by FCI**

5118. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise details of the prices fixed for various types of foodgrains supplied by FCI;

(b) the details of the prices of foodgrains given for public distribution system to the people below poverty line and above poverty line, the prices of foodgrains under Antyodaya Yojana and the export price;

(c) the details of revision of prices; and

(d) the amount spent for the storage of foodgrains by the FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) Wheat and rice are issued by the FCI at uniform Central Issue Price (CIP) to the State Governments/UTs for distribution under TPDS and other welfare schemes.

The CIPs for wheat and rice under the TPDS and other Welfare schemes at present are as under:

(Rs. per quintal)		
TPDS	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3
BPL	415	565
APL	610	830

1	2	3
Antyodaya Anna Yojana	200	300
Mid Day Meal	Free of cost	
SGRY	Free of cost	
Other Welfare Schemes	BPL Rates	

The export prices of wheat and rice fixed from time to time from 2002 onwards are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The present CIPs have remained unchanged since 1st July, 2002.

(d) The amount spent for the storage of foodgrains by the FCI for purposes of distributions during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

2000-01	939
2001-02 (Prov.)	1310
2002-03 (RE)	1370

#### Statement

*Export Price of Wheat (OMSS) (D) Price - WTO Compatible Post Delivery and Other Expenses*

(Rs. Per MT)

Effective export price	From	To
1	2	3
Rs.4150/-	20.10.2000	31.03.2001
Rs.4300/-	01.04.2001	16.08.2001
Rs.4200/-	17.08.2001	30.11.2001
Rs.4250/-	1.12.2001	10.5.2002
Rs.4310/-	11.5.2002	30.9.2002
Rs.4350/- (current crop)	1.6.2002	30.9.2002
Rs.3960/- (luster lost)	1.10.2002	31.3.2003
Rs.4560/- Sound wheat (crop year 2001-02 & before)	1.10.2002	31.12.2002

1	2	3
Rs.4600/- sound wheat (crop 2002-03)	1.10.2002	31.12.2002
Rs.4310/- Sound wheat for crop year 1998-1999 and earlier	11.2.2003	30.6.2003
Rs.4610/- Sound wheat for crop 1999-year 2000	11.2.2003	30.6.2003
Rs.4810/- Sound wheat for crop year 2000-01	11.2.2003	30.6.2003
Rs.4810/- Sound wheat for crop year 2001-02	01.01.2003	30.6.2003
Rs.4950/- Sound wheat for crop year 2002-03	01.01.2003	30.6.2003

*Export Price of Rice (OMSS) (D) Price - WTO Compatible Post Delivery and Other Expenses*

(Rs. per MT)

Effective export price	From	To
1	2	3
Rs.6750/-	27.02.2001	31.03.2001
Rs.5650/- (raw)	26.5.2001	10.05.2002
Rs.6000/- (par-boiled)		
Rs.5760/- (raw) per MT	11.05.2002	31.07.2002
Rs.6115/- (Parboiled) MT		
Rs.5910/- (Raw) per MT	01.08.2002	30.09.2002
Rs.6265/- (Parboiled) per MT		
Rs.5910/- (Raw)	01.10.2002	31.12.2002
Rs.6265/- (Parboiled)	01.10.2002	31.12.2002
Rs.6510/- per MT	16.11.2002	31.03.2003
Raw rice for the current crop year 2002-03		
Rs.6865/- per MT	16.11.2002	31.03.2003
Par-boiled rice for the current crop year 2002-03		
Rs.6260/-	01.01.2003	31.03.2003
Raw rice for the crop year 2001-02 and earlier years		



1	2	3
Rs.6615/- Parboiled rice for the crop year 2001-02 and earlier years	01.01.2003	31.03.2003
Rs.6610/- per MT Raw rice for the current crop year 2002-03	01.04.2003	30.06.2003
Rs.69151/- per MT Par-boiled rice for the current crop year 2002-03	01.04.2003	30.06.2003
Rs.6360/- Raw rice for the crop year 2001-02 and earlier years	01.04.2003	30.06.2003
Rs.6665/- Parboiled rice for the crop year 2001-02 and earlier years	01.04.2003	30.06.2003

[English]

#### Revenue Growth by Mumbai Central Excise Zone

5119. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai Central Excise Zone-I has registered a high growth of revenue of about 42.8 percent upto January 2003 vis-a-vis upto January 2002;

(b) if so, how does this compare with the growth of revenue by other Central Excise Zones in the country;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to link some incentive with the growth of revenue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The total excise revenue collection from all Central Excise Zones in the country has registered \*15.14% growth from April to January in 2002-2003 over corresponding period of 2001-2002.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c).

\* The figure is provisional.

#### Purchase of Excess Production of Tobacco

5120. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to purchase the excess production of tobacco from Karnataka by charging extra taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated number of tobacco growers in Karnataka that would be benefited by this step of the Government and upto what extent?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Upliftment of STs

5121. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests for allocation of funds for upliftment of STs in accordance with the figure of tribal population in each State;

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

(c) the funds allocated during the Tenth Five Year Plan for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) No such request has been received by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs allocates funds to various States under two schemes only, namely Special Central Assistance to the Tribal Sub Plan and Grants-in-aid under article 275(1) of the Constitution. The grant under SCA to TSP is released to the TSP States mainly on the basis of the ST population and the Geographical area. Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution are allocated in accordance with the figure of tribal population in each Tribal Sub Plan and Tribal majority State.

(c) Funds are not allocated to the States Plan-wise but year-wise. Funds released to the State Governments during the first year of the Tenth Plan i.e. for 2002-2003 under SCA to TSP and Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution are at statements I & II.

**Statement-I***Release of SCA to TSP during 2002-2003*

S.No.	Name of State/ UT	2002-2003 (Rs. in lakh)
		Amount Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2732.80
2.	Assam	3058.99
3.	Bihar	556.56
4.	Gujarat	3930.91
5.	Himachal Pradesh	643.53
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	971.94
7.	Karnataka	771.33
8.	Kerala	273.70
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7833.22
10.	Maharashtra	3723.83
11.	Manipur	761.96
12.	Orissa	6495.30
13.	Rajasthan	3649.56
14.	Sikkim	108.02
15.	Tamil Nadu	323.32
16.	Tripura	1041.03
17.	Uttar Pradesh	32.10
18.	West Bengal	2202.57
19.	Jharkhand	5870.24
20.	Chhattisgarh	4626.18
21.	Uttaranchal	92.91
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	200.85
23.	Daman & Diu	99.15
Total		50000.00

**Statement-II***Amount released under Article 275(1) of the Constitution during 2002-2003*

S.No.	States/UTs	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2160.30
2.	Assam	1023.40
3.	Bihar	209.00
4.	Gujarat	2250.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	80.00
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	318.00
7.	Karnataka	904.35
8.	Kerala	588.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	4052.32
10.	Maharashtra	2925.00
11.	Manipur	424.55
12.	Orissa	3641.60
13.	Rajasthan	2224.48
14.	Sikkim	83.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	210.00
16.	Tripura	665.50
17.	Uttar Pradesh	27.00
18.	West Bengal	1543.00
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	300.00
20.	Meghalaya	555.00
21.	Mizoram	240.00
22.	Nagaland	0.00
23.	Jharkhand	2808.00
24.	Chhattisgarh	2689.50
25.	Uttaranchal	78.00
Total		30000.00

### ISI Mark on Biscuits

5122. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a majority of the leading of Glucose biscuits produced in the country do not carry the BIS mark and conceal the important information regarding their nutritional contents;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Certification of biscuits against IS 1011:1992 is not mandatory. Therefore, the manufacturers of various brands of biscuit are not required to obtain certification marks licence for manufacturing biscuits. There are only 66 BIS licensees for biscuits in the country and Bureau of Indian Standards through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection ensures that its licensees adhere to the specifications prescribed in the relevant Indian Standard.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Levy Sugar

5123. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantity of levy sugar has accumulated with the sugar mill;

(b) if so, the total unlifted sugar stocks with the mills as on March 1, 2003;

(c) whether this has come in the way of the mills clearing the sugarcane growers dues;

(d) whether the mills have Sought permission to sell out these stocks in open market even at prices below the levy sugar rates; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the Government response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per reports received from some sugar factories, the levy sugar is not being lifted by the States/ UTs/ FCI/ Agencies nominated by them. As on 1.3.2003, a quantity of 3.32 lakh M.Ts of levy sugar remained unlifted as per the reports received from the sugar factories during the season 2002-2003 (1.10.2002 to 28.2.2003).

(c) to (e) Non-lifting of levy sugar had resulted in accumulation of huge stocks of sugar with the sugar factories and also affected their financial position. Keeping this in view, the sugar factories have been provided temporary relief by way of permitting them to sell equivalent quantity of unlifted levy sugar stock in the open market at rates deemed appropriate by them.

[Translation]

### Japanese Silk Projects

5124. SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received by Chhattisgarh soil based silk project under the Japanese silk project alongwith the amount sanctioned therefor till 31.3.2003;

(b) the details of expenditure undertaken from this amount, year-wise and item-wise; and

(c) the details of the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) The Chhattisgarh Sericulture Project is being implemented by the Govt. of Chhattisgarh with financial assistance from Japanese Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC), Japan. The Project is to be implemented over a period of 10 years in 2 phases at a total cost of Rs. 748.55 crores. The first phase is earmarked for development of tasar culture and the second phase for development of mulberry sericulture. An amount of Rs.65.63 crores has been received till 31.3.2003.

(b) The details of expenditure year-wise and item-wise are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) The details of achievements made under the project are given in the enclosed statement-II.

**Statement-I***Details of Item-wise expenditure incurred under the Project from 98-99 to 2002-2003*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Year	Tasar Plantation	Civil work	Vehicles & equipment	Price escalation	Contingency	Consultancy	Total expenditure
1.	1998-99	0.37	0	0.16	0	0	3.48	4.01
2.	1999-00	3.56	0	0.13	0	0.23	3.44	7.36
3.	2000-01	3.4	0	0.07	0	0.06	2.17	5.7
4.	2001-02	3.07	0	0.16	0	0.03	1.06	4.32
5.	2002-03	2.854	1.08	0	0	0	0	3.934
Total		13.254	1.08	0.52	0	0.32	10.15	25.324

**Statement-II***Details of Physical achievement under the Project from 98-99 to 2002-2003*

S.No.	Year	Tasar Plantation in hectares	No. of beneficiaries benefited	No. of sericulture farmers Groups	No. of self Help Groups formed	No. of reeling Machines Distributed	No. of Spinning Machines Distributed	No. of beneficiaries benefited through reeling & spinning	Tasar cocoon production (lakh in No.)
1.	1998-99	177	233	7	21	0	0	0	0
2.	1999-00	653	990	26	33	100	0	100	0
3.	2000-01	1500.5	1881	59	105	20	0	20	0
4.	2001-02	966.5	972	34	75	130	75	205	2.09
5.	2002-03	671	592	25	56	100	75	175	18.58
Total		3968	4668	151	290	350	150	500	20.67

**[English]****Balance of Payments**

5125. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the balance of payment in the foreign trade during each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange reserve for the same period with year-wise break-up;

(c) whether the foreign exchange reserve

increased continuously while balance of payment remained always negative; and

(d) if so, the factors making the gap up and the dependency of such contributing factors for the year 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) As per the latest data available with the Reserve Bank of India the trade balance on balance of payments basis is as indicated in the table below.

(in US Dollar Million)

April-December

	1999- 2000	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2001- 2002	2002- 2003
Trade Balance	-17,841	-14,370	-12,703	-10,422	-9,760

(b) The total foreign exchange reserves (including Gold and Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) ) at the end of each financial year were: 1999-2000 US \$ 38,036 million, 2000-2001 US \$ 42,281 million, 2001-2002 US \$ 54,106 million and 2002-2003 US \$ 75,428 million.

(c) In terms of balance of payments accounting practices, the accretion to foreign exchange reserves takes place only when there is a surplus in the overall balance of payments. For the sixth year in succession, the balance of payments recorded an overall surplus contributing to reserve accretion.

(d) During the year 2001-2002, the accretion to foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and valuation changes) was of the order US \$ 11,757 million of which US \$ 1,351 million and US \$ 9,545 million were through current account surplus and net capital account (excluding errors and omissions of \$861 million) respectively.

#### ATMs in Banks

5126. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ATMs installed by various banks are not disbursing the cash as demanded by the customers;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints from customers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof, bank-wise particularly in respect of SBI branches in Delhi;

(d) whether ATMs of various Nationalised/private banks disburse fake currency notes and customers have no option at that point of time;

(e) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last one year, bank-wise; and

(f) the corrective measures taken by the

Government to protect and safeguard the interest of customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) As reported by public sector banks, ATMs disburse cash as demanded by customers within the prescribed limits.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No such instance of fake currency disbursement by the ATMs has come to notice.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) As reported by banks, monitoring of ATM status including cash holding and adoption of suitable technology for detection of fake currencies are regularly undertaken. Customer complaints, if any, are immediately attended and all precautions are taken to protect customer interest for services effected through ATMs.

[Translation]

#### Assistance from World Bank and DFID

5127. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the present status of the proposal to get assistance from World Bank and Department for International Development (DFID) for undertaking financial assistance for restructuring and budgetary reforms in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs.

[English]

#### Export of Indian Human Hair

5128. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the annual earning on the export of Indian human hair;

(b) the import and export policy of the Government in this regard;

(c) the names of the countries who are in the fray; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to capture the overseas markets in order to enhance the export of Indian human hair?

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

(a) The annual exports of human hair and its products is of the order of 33 million US Dollars;

(b) There are no specific restrictions on import and export of human hair and can be done freely;

(c) China, USA, Hong Kong and Tunisia are among the top importing countries;

(d) The export promotion council have so far taken two 3-member delegation of human hairs to Hong Kong, South Korea and Japan and USA.

[Translation]

#### **Funds for Setting up Hospitals**

5129. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any proposal from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare requesting for more funds during the current Five Year Plan for setting up an institute in every State on the lines of AIIMS; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be made available for the purpose during the year 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Small Saving Agents**

5130. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of issues raised by small saving agents and small investors connected with various postal small savings services in Mumbai;

(b) the details of the issues raised by them; and

(c) the action plan prepared to sort out their issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Various issues relating to small savings schemes viz. introduction of new schemes, amendments to the rules governing existing schemes, interest rates, commission payments, etc., are brought to the notice of the Government by small investors as well as small savings agents from all parts of the country including Mumbai, from time to time. These issues/demands provide valuable inputs for framing Government's policy towards small savings.

#### **World Bank Aid for Projects in Karnataka**

5131. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether three projects of Karnataka, the Karnataka Municipal Reforms' Project, Community Heralded Empowerment Transformation and New Awakening Project and the Karnataka Structural Adjustment Programme are pending before the World Bank for approval;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have recommended the World Bank to provide aid to these three projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Government has been asked to formulate the project in accordance with the guidelines issued in this regard recently;

(e) if so, whether the State Government has fully completed these formalities; and

(f) if so, the time by which the Government is confident of getting the World Bank aid for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (f) **Karnataka Municipal Reforms Project** :

The Concept Note of Government of Karnataka for the project has been posed to World Bank. The proposed project is to support state and local government reforms to improve city management and upgrade and expand municipal services. The proposal is at stage of project formulation by Government of Karnataka in consultation with World Bank.

### Community Heralded Empowerment Transformation and New Awakening Project :

The Concept Note of Government of Karnataka for the project has been posed to World Bank. The proposal is for reducing poverty by improving economic opportunities and raise living standards. It is at stage of revision of the Concept Note by Government of Karnataka.

### Karnataka Structural Adjustment Programme

The proposal has been posed to the World Bank. The programme is at stage of preparation by Government of Karnataka in consultation with World Bank. As per the World Bank procedures, the programmes once fully prepared, are appraised, negotiated and approved. The State Government is required to provide all necessary information and take advance agreed action at every stage of programme development. It is not possible to state how long this entire process would take.

### Export of Steel to South-East and Central Asian Countries

5132. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been tremendous demand for steel in some of the South-East and Central Asian countries;
- (b) whether India has been exporting large quantity of steel to these countries; and
- (c) if so, the quantity of steel exported to these countries during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Values of steel exported to the South East and Central Asian countries during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as under:

(Value in Rs. Crores)

South East Asian Countries		Central Asian Countries	
2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02
469.39	553.76	4.41	8.76

### Inclusion of Tamangs and Limbos in Tribal List

5133. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Sikkim has approached the Union Government for including the Tamangs and Limbos amongst the tribals in the State for the purposes

of allocation of seats reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in the State and Central Legislatures in the light of the adoption of the SCs/STs Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2002;

- (b) if so, the precise demands made in this regard; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Rules Framed by US for Container

5134. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether US Government has framed new rules for containers entering the country through its ports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there have been raised questions about fear of discrimination for cargo from the Indian sub-continent and extra costs incurred due to the new rules; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The US Customs has introduced the 24 hours Advance Manifest Filing Rule with effect from 2nd December 2002. This rule is applicable to cargo going to USA by sea.

(c) The US Customs 24-hour Advance Manifest Filing Rule is non-discriminatory and applies to all countries of the world.

(d) Cases of delay or extra cost due to this rule have not been brought to the notice of the Government. However, India has registered its concerns with the Government of USA.

### FDI in Gujarat

5135. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) the direct foreign investment in the State of Gujarat during the last one year attracted Rs. 8000 crore of investment; and

(b) if so, the main sectors in which the FDI have invested during the one year, Sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) During the year 2002, foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals amounting to Rs.948.49 crore (excluding ADRs/GDRs) were approved for Gujarat. The total inflows received during the year amounted to Rs.288.43 crore. The sectoral break-up of the inflows is as under:

Sl.No.	Sector	Inflows (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Metallurgical Industries	59.89
2.	Electrical Equipments (including Software & Electronics)	15.19
3.	Transportation Industry	24.27
4.	Industrial Machinery	0.39
5.	Chemical (other than Fertilizers)	1.44
6.	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	4.70
7.	Textiles (including dyed, printed)	2.55
8.	Food Processing Industries	0.22
9.	Ceramics	0.20
10.	Consultancy Services	0.20
11.	Service Sector	105.40
12.	Miscellaneous Industries	73.98
Total		288.43

### Voluntary Retirement Scheme

5136. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority have absorbed employees of LIC and Public Sector General Insurance Companies after their voluntary retirement from respective organisation;

(b) if so, the details of those employees alongwith the details of organisation, last post held in the organisation and to the post to which absorb in the IRDA;

(c) whether the employees absorbed to the post in IRDA have the requisite academic/professional qualifications;

(d) if so, the details of each absorbed employee alongwith the details of their post/designation, educational qualifications and requisite qualification for the post/designation; and

(e) the details of organisational structure of IRDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has reported that they have absorbed some of the employees of LIC and public sector general insurance companies who have been working with the Authority since its constitution as IRA in 1996.

(b) The information is enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected from IRDA and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

#### *List of Officers/Employees taken from LIC and Non-Life PSUs*

S. No.	Name & Designation	Qualification	Organisation	Previous Designation	Designation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Prabodh Chander	B.A. LLB A.I.I.I.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Manager	OSD from 1.08.2002- Executive Director
2	K. Subrahmanian	B.Sc. A.I.A. F.A.S.I.	LIC of India	Sr. Divisional Manager	Sr. Actuary from 1.08.2002 - Executive Director
3	Mukesh Sharma	B.A. L.I.I.I.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Assistant Administrative Officer	Deputy Director



1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Rakesh Bajaj	M.A. F.I.I.I.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
5	Arup Chatterjee	B.A. (Hons) M.A. Executive Masters in International Trade	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
6	Anil Kumar Arora	B.Com. L.I.I.I.	LIC of India	Assistant Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
7	Randip Singh Jaggal	B.Sc. (Hons) M.Sc. M.Tech M.B.A.	National Insurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
8	Suresh Mathur	B.A. (Management) M.B.A. L.I.I.I.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Asstt. Manager	Deputy Director
9	Kamal Kumar Chaudhry	B.Com (Hons) M.Com A.I.I.I.	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
10	Dinesh Khansili	B.Sc. Associate of Actuarial Society of India	LIC of India	Assistant Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
11.	J. Meena Kumari	B.Sc. (MPC) Associate of ASI, Mumbai Dip. In Actuarial Techniques, I.A., London Certificate in Finance & Investment, I.A. Subjects - 301, 302,303, ASI, Mumbai	LIC of India	Assistant Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
12	Sanjeev Kumar Jain	B.A. B.Ed. M.A. M.Ed. Diploma in IRPM & B.M. A.I.I.I.	United India Insurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
13.	T.S. Nayak	B.E. (Mechanical Engg.)	New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director

1	2	3	4	5	6
14	B. Raghavan	B.Com. L.L.B.	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	Stenographer	Assistant Director
15	Suresh Nair	B.A.	LIC of India	Stenographer	Assistant Director
16	A. Krishnan	B.Sc. M.A. L.I.I.I	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	Administrative Officer	Deputy Director
17	Manju Arora	M.A.	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	Stenographer	Junior Officer
18	Shiksha Shaha	B.A. Advanced Certificate in PC Application A.I.I.I.	Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	Assistant	Junior Officer

#### **NPA of Non-Banking Finance Companies**

5137. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has recently asked the Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) to furnish information regarding non-performing assets in their balance sheets;

(b) if so, the details of the non performing assets of NBFCs as on March 31, 2003;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure non-performing assets of NBFCs are cleared within a stipulated period of time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Non-performing assets of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as on March 31, 2002 (latest available) were Rupees 3294.87 crores.

(c) and (d) RBI have further reported that it has prescribed, as part of the prudential standards for NBFCs, the norms for provisioning against Non Performing Assets (NPAs). The provisions are to be created by NBFCs at a graded scale of percentage of the outstanding balance after the assets became non performing. The norms envisage that the NBFCs either realise their dues from the borrowers through

recoveries or sale of securities charged to them or make provisions out of their profit and loss account within a specified period.

[Translation]

#### **Training to Backward Tribes**

5138. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions made to provide professional training to the people belonging to Gujjar and Bakrawal tribes in Jammu and Kashmir alongwith the details of the training centres being run there; and

(b) the trades in which the training is being given to the above people?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements inter alia, a Scheme of Vocational Training in Tribal Areas in the country, under which a 100% grant-in-aid is provided for setting up Vocational Training Centres (VTC), both to the State Govts. as well as to NGOs. Under this Scheme two VTCs have been sanctioned to the Govt. of J&K at—

(i) Kijipora, Kangan, Distt. Srinagar.

(ii) Agling Leg, Distt. Leh

The VTCs are to provide training to the tribal population of the area which includes the Gujjar & Bakrawal tribes.

The Vocational Training Centre at Kijipora Kangan, Srinagar is already running. However the VTC at Leh will be operationalized after the construction of the building,

(b) The trades sanctioned for the two VTCs are:

Kangan	Leh
(i) Watch Repairs	(i) Cutting/Tailoring
(ii) Welding	(ii) Fresco painting
(iii) Radio/TV Repair	(iii) Pashmina-spinning
(iv) Plumbing	(iv) Handloom weaving
(v) Electricianship	(v) Carpentry

[English]

#### Defaulting Companies

5139. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various orders issued by Company Law Board against the defaulting companies are not being implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the companies who have not implemented the orders issued by the Company Law Board; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In some cases, companies have not implemented the orders of the Company Law Board as they have either gone into liquidation, have been referred to BIFR scheme, or the companies are not at the given address.

(c) A list is enclosed as statement.

(d) Either prosecutions are filed or legal action has been initiated under the relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 in the Court of competent jurisdiction by the Registrars of Companies against these companies, except in case of Non Banking Financial Companies against whom action is taken by Reserve Bank of India under Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

#### Statement

*List of Companies who have not implemented CLB's Orders*

S. No. Name of the Company

1	2
1.	M/s 21st Century Management Services Ltd.
2.	M/s A.P. Finance & Leasing India Ltd.
3.	M/s ABI Overseas Limited
4.	M/s ACF Laboratories Ltd.
5.	M/s Adyar Ananda Benefit Fund Limited
6.	M/s Agra Estates Ltd.
7.	M/s Allied Resions & Chemicals Ltd.
8.	M/s Alpica Finance Ltd.
9.	M/s Anandparivar Savings Cor. India Ltd.
10.	M/s Anupriya Investment Co. Ltd.
11.	M/s Apurw Finance Ltd.
12.	M/s Araya Hotels Ltd.
13.	M/s Artech Power Products Ltd.
14.	M/s Asia Television Network Ltd.
15.	M/s Asian Alloys Ltd.
16.	M/s Asra Estate Private Ltd.
17.	M/s Asra India Savings & Investments Ltd.
18.	M/s Associated Business Credits Ltd.
19.	M/s ATN International Ltd., W.B.
20.	M/s Autolite India Ltd.
21.	M/s Autopal Industries Ltd.
22.	M/s Badrika Plantations Ltd.
23.	M/s Bagwe Udyog Ltd.
24.	M/s Banka (I) Ltd.
25.	M/s Barl India Finance & Inv. Ltd.
26.	M/s Barl Plantations Ltd.

1	2
27.	M/s BCL Finance Services Ltd.
28.	M/s Beta Nophtol Ltd.
29.	M/s BIL Ltd.
30.	M/s Cable Corporation of India Ltd.
31.	M/s Carona Ltd.
32.	M/s Cepharm Milk Specialities Ltd.
33.	M/s Cepharm Organics Ltd.
34.	M/s CFL Capital Financial Services Ltd.
35.	M/s Chartered General Fin. Inv. Ltd.
36.	M/s Choksi Tube Company Ltd.
37.	M/s Chromepet Saswatha Nidhi Ltd.
38.	M/s CIFCO Finance Ltd.
39.	M/s Coimbatore Lakshmi Investments Ltd.
40.	M/s Continental Castings Ltd.
41.	M/s CRB Capital Ltd.
42.	M/s Credential Finance Ltd.
43.	M/s Crystal Capital Corporation Ltd.
44.	M/s Crystal Credit Corporation Ltd.
45.	M/s DCM Financial Services Ltd.
46.	M/s DCM Ltd.
47.	M/s DCM Shriram Leasing & Fin. Ltd.
48.	M/s Deepika Leasing & Finance Ltd.
49.	M/s Dolphineconomy India Ltd.
50.	M/s Duncam Industries Ltd.
51.	M/s Dunlop India Ltd.
52.	M/s Dynavox Electronics Ltd.
53.	M/s Dynovox India Ltd.
54.	M/s Electrex (India) Ltd.
55.	M/s Eleot Power Control Ltd.

1	2
56.	M/s Enkay Texofood Ind. Ltd.
57.	M/s Euro Cotspin Ltd.
58.	M/s Favourite Small Inves. Ltd.
59.	M/s Fidelity Finance Ltd.
60.	M/s Fidelity Industries Ltd.
61.	Finlay Terafood Industries Ltd.
62.	M/s Firs Financial Services Ltd.
63.	M/s Formost Ind. (I) Ltd.
64.	M/s Forward Securities Ltd.
65.	M/s Genelac Ltd.
66.	M/s Ghanshyam Steel Works Ltd.
67.	M/s Golden Rays Housing & Hire Purchase Ltd.
68.	M/s Gomukh Finance & Investment Ltd.
69.	M/s Gujarat Oils & Industries Ltd.
70.	M/s Hamco Mining & Smelting Ltd.
71.	M/s Haryana Credit & Leasing Ltd.
72.	M/s Helios Chemicals Ltd.
73.	M/s Helios Finance & Investment Ltd.
74.	M/s Helios Plantations & Development Ltd.
75.	M/s Helios Products Ltd.
76.	M/s HICO Products Ltd.
77.	M/s Hindustan Financial Management Ltd.
78.	M/s Hindustan Wires Ltd.
79.	M/s Hoffland Finance Ltd.
80.	M/s IFB Industries Ltd.
81.	M/s INCAB Industries Ltd.
82.	M/s Indodan Ind. Ltd.
83.	M/s Jagriti Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd.
84.	M/s Jenner Pharmaceuticals (P) Ltd.

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85.	M/s Jenson & Nicholson Financial Services Ltd.
86.	M/s Jiwanlal (1929) Ltd.
87.	M/s JVG Finance-Ltd.
88.	M/s K.M. Capital Ltd.
89.	M/s Kaashyap Foundations Ltd.
90.	M/s KDT Agro Industries Ltd.
91.	M/s KDT Hotels & Resorts Ltd.
92.	M/s Keonies Magnavision Computers Ltd.
93.	M/s KHSL Industries Ltd.
94.	M/s KMF Ltd.
95.	M/s Krishi Export Commercial Corpn.
96.	M/s Kuber Mutual Benefit Ltd.
97.	M/s Labh Construction Ltd.
98.	M/s Laxmi Sugar & Oil Mills Ltd.
99.	M/s Leatin India Ltd.
100.	M/s Llyods Finance Ltd.
101.	M/s Lunar Diamonds Ltd.
102.	M/s Madhumilan Fin. Corp. Ltd.
103.	M/s Madhur Food Products Ltd.
104.	M/s Mafatlal Finance Ltd.
105.	M/s Mafatlal Industries Ltd.
106.	M/s Mahima Mutual Benefits Ltd.
107.	M/s Mangal Finance Ltd.
108.	M/s Manu Multi Media Ltd.
109.	M/s Maradia Chemicals Ltd.
110.	M/s Mercard Ltd.
111.	M/s Modern Denim Ltd.
112.	M/s Modern Melleables Ltd.
113.	M/s Modern Syntex (India) Ltd.

1	2
114.	M/s Modern Terry Towels Ltd.
115.	M/s Modern Threads (India) Ltd.
116.	M/s Moolchand Exports Ltd.
117.	M/s N.P. Mutual Benefit Ltd.
118.	M/s Nagarjuna Finance Ltd.
119.	M/s Nath Capital & Financial Services Ltd.
120.	M/s Nath Pulp & Papers Ltd.
121.	M/s Nath Seeds Ltd.
122.	M/s National Dwellings of India Ltd.
123.	M/s Northern Housing Development Corpn. Ltd.
124.	M/s NUCHEM Ltd.
125.	M/s NUTECH Financial Services Ltd.
126.	M/s Oban Finance & Investment Ltd.
127.	M/s Onida Finance Ltd.
128.	M/s Oriet Trust of India Ltd.
129.	M/s Overseas Cables Ltd.
130.	M/s P.L. Finance Ltd.
131.	M/s Park Town Benefit Fund Ltd.
132.	M/s Patla Developers Ltd.
133.	M/s Pennar Industries Ltd.
134.	M/s Pentafour Products Ltd.
135.	M/s Perfect Benefit Fund Ltd.
136.	M/s Phar East Labs. Ltd.
137.	M/s PLA Surgicals & Pharma Ltd.
138.	M/s Pratima Milk & Food Agro Ltd.
139.	M/s Precision Fastners Ltd.
140.	M/s Premier Housing & Enterprises Ltd.
141.	M/s Pretto Leather Industries Ltd.
142.	M/s Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Ltd

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143.	M/s Rajasthan Balls Bearings Ltd.
144.	M/s Ram Kaashyap Investment Ltd.
145.	M/s Raunaq Finance Ltd.
146.	M/s Regency Industries Ltd.
147.	M/s REPL Engg. Ltd.
148.	M/s Rockland Leasing Ltd.
149.	M/s Rockland Thermonics Ltd.
150.	M/s Rollatainers Ltd.
151.	M/s Roofit Ind. Ltd.
152.	M/s S & S Industries Ltd.
153.	M/s S&S Industries & Enterprises Ltd.
154.	M/s S.M. Finance Ltd.
155.	M/s S.N. Finance Ltd.
156.	M/s Sanmac Auto Investments & Fincase Ltd.
157.	M/s Saurashtra Paper & Boards Ltd.
158.	M/s Schematic Finance Ltd.
159.	M/s Shankar Weaving Mills Ltd.
160.	M/s South Asian Financial Exchange Limited
161.	M/s Sri Kandasamy Permanent Benefit Fund Ltd.
162.	M/s Srimuthukumaraswamy Permanent Fund Ltd.
163.	M/s Srivasavi Parameshwari Permanent Fund Ltd.
164.	M/s Sun Earth Ceramics Ltd.
165.	M/s Sunrise Securities Ltd.
166.	M/s Synthetics & Chemicals Ltd.
167.	M/s Tamil Nadu Finance Ltd.
168.	M/s Thapar Agro Mills Ltd.
169.	M/s Thapar Ispat Ltd.
170.	M/s The New India Industrial & Savings Co. Ltd.
171.	M/s Thondal Mandalam Benefit Fund Ltd.

1	2
172.	M/s Transcontinental Leasing & Financial Services Ltd.
173.	M/s United Canara Credit & Leasing Ltd.
174.	M/s Usha Martin Industries Ltd.
175.	M/s Vasundhara Marine Products Ltd.
176.	M/s Vatsa Corporation Ltd.
177.	M/s Vatsa Music Ltd.
178.	M/s Vhel Industries Ltd.
179.	M/s Vijaya Commercial Credit Ltd.
180.	M/s Vijaya Leasing Ltd.
181.	M/s Vijitha Finance Ltd.
182.	M/s Viniyoga Clothex Ltd.
183.	M/s Vishwasakthi Finance Ltd.
184.	M/s Warner Multimedia Ltd. (Formerly known as G.S. Ltd.)
185.	M/s Western India Securities Ltd.
186.	M/s World Link Finance Ltd.
187.	M/s Yashaswi Ltd.

#### **Import of Currency Printing Paper**

5140. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of currency printing paper imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the name of the country and company from whom the import has been made;

(c) whether the standard of the currency paper has been changed during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The details of Currency Printing Paper imported in the last three years are as follows:

Year	Quantity (In Metric Tonnes)
2000-2001	8544
2001-2002	2162
2002-2003	1090

(b) The names of the companies and the countries from whom currency note paper has been imported as above in the last 3 years are as follows:

- (i) M/s Arjo Wiggins, France.
- (ii) M/s AB Tumba Bruk, Sweden (Now M/s Crane AB)
- (iii) M/s Portals, UK.
- (iv) M/s VHP Security Papermill, Netherlands.
- (v) M/s National Bank of Ukraine, Ukraine.
- (vi) M/s Papierfabrik Louisenthal, Germany.

(c) to (e) In order to increase the stiffness, the thickness and GSM (grammage per sq.mtr.) in the bank note paper of Rs.1000/- was slightly increased.

#### Purchase of Stationery

5141. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5063 regarding purchase of Stationery dated December 20, 2002 and state:

- (a) whether the information has since been compiled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI V. SRINIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5063 dated 20.12.2002, on Purchase of Stationery, pertained to the Department of Personnel & Training. As suggested by the Department of Personnel & Training, an assurance was given by this Department. The Department of Personnel & Training has informed that the information pertaining to the assurance is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Sugar Production in Maharashtra

5142. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of sugar produced in Maharashtra during the current season, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;
- (b) the location-wise number of the sugar mills in Maharashtra which were operating during the above period; and
- (c) the location-wise number of the sugar mills which are operating at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The quantum of sugar produced in Maharashtra during the current season, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is as under:

Sugar Season (Oct.-Sept.)	Sugar Production (in lakh Tonnes)
2000-2001	67.05
2001-2002	55.84
2002-2003 (upto March, 2003)	53.56

(b) and (c) A statement showing the location-wise operating sugar factories during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and at present is enclosed.

#### Statement

Maharashtra		Sugar Seasons		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
		1	2	3
1.	Shree Pandurang SSK Ltd., P.O. Shreepur, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
2.	The Saswadmal Sugar Factory Ltd., P.O. Malinagar, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
3.	Sahakar Maharishi Shankarao Mohite Patil SSK Ltd., Akluj, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
4.	Shri Shankar SSK Ltd., Sadashivnagar, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
5.	Shree Sidheshwar SSK Ltd., Kumathe, P.O. Tikekarwadi, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
6.	Vithal SSK Ltd., Gursale Taluk Pandharpur, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
7.	Bhima SSK Ltd., Sikandar Takli, Teh. Mahol, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
8.	Bhogawati SSK Ltd., Irle Vairag, Taluka Barsi,	Worked	Worked	Worked
9.	Shri Sant Damaji SSK Ltd., Shiranadagi, Tk. Karmala,	Worked	Worked	Worked
10.	Indra SSK Ltd. Mirajagim, TK. Akalkot, Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
11.	Adinath SSK Ltd., Jeur Lave Bhalwani, Teh. Karmala Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
12.	Chandrabhaga SSK Ltd., Bhalwani, TK. Pandharpur Distt. Sholapur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
13.	The Ravalgaon Sugar Farm Ltd., Ravalgaon, Distt. Nasik	Worked	Worked	Worked
14.	Karamveer Kakasaheb Wagh SSK Ltd., Ranwad, Taluk Niphad, Distt. Nasik	Worked	Worked	Worked
15.	Kadwa SSK Ltd., Materewadi Taluka Dindori, Distt. Nasik.	Worked	Worked	Worked
16.	Niphad SSK Ltd., P.O. Bhausaheb Nagar, Distt. Nasik	Worked	Worked	Worked
17.	Nasik SSK Ltd., Palse, Distt. Nasik	Worked	Worked	Worked
18.	Vasantrya Dada Patil SSK Ltd., Vithewadi Lohaner, Distt. Nasik	Worked	Worked	Worked
19.	The Kopargaon SSK Ltd., Kolpewadi, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked



		1	2	3
20.	The Pravara SSK Ltd., Pravaranagar, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
21.	Ashok SSK Ltd., Ashoknagar P.O. Shirampur, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
22.	Shri Ganesh SSK Ltd., Ganeshnagar, P.o. Ranjangaon Khurd, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
23.	The Sanjivani (Takli) SSK Ltd., Tal. Kopargaon Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
24.	The Rahuri SSK Ltd., P.O. Rahuri Factory, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
25.	The Shrigonda SSK Ltd., P.O. Shrigonda, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
26.	Sangamner Bhag SSK Ltd., Amritnagar, Tal. Sangamner Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
27.	Dnyaneshwar SSK Ltd., Bhende Taluka Newasa, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
28.	Shri Jagdamba SSK Ltd. Rashin, Karjat, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
29.	Shri Vrideshwar SSK Ltd., P.O. Vridheshwar Sakhar Karkhana, Taluka Pathardi, Distt. Ahmednagar (Pimpalgaon)	Worked	Worked	Worked
30.	The Mula SSK Ltd., Sonai, Taluka Newasa, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
31.	Parner Taluka SSK Ltd., Farmer, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
32.	Bhausahab Mahadeo Hande Agasti SSK Ltd., Jamgaon, Teh. Akola, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
33.	Kedareshawar SSK Ltd. Bodhegaon Teh. Shegaon Distt. Ahmednagar.	Worked	Worked	Worked
34.	Bhogawati SSK Ltd., Shahunagar, Post Parite, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
35.	Sh. Chhatrapati SSK Ltd., Kasaba Bhavada, Kolhapur Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
36.	Shree Panchganga SSK Ltd., Ganganagar, Ichalkaranji, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
37.	Shree Warna SSK Ltd., P.O. Warnanagar, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
38.	Kumbhi Keshri SSK Ltd., Kuditre, Tal. Karvir, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
39.	Shree Dudhganga Vedganga SSK Ltd., Bidri, P.O. Mouninagar, Tal. Kagal, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
40.	Shri Datta SSK Ltd., Asrule, Tal. Panhala, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
41.	Shri Datta SSK Ltd., Shirol, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
42.	Daulat Shetkari SSK Ltd., P.O. Halkarni, Tal. Chandgad, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
43.	Gadhinglaj Taluka SSK Ltd., Gadhinglaj, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
44.	Chhatrapatti Shahu SSK Ltd. Kagal, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
45.	Jawahar Shetkari SSK Ltd., Hupari, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
46.	Ajara Shetkari SSK Ltd. Gavse Tk, Ajara, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
47.	Indapur SSK Ltd., Bijawadi, Taluka Indapur, Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
48.	Shri Chhatrapatti SSK Ltd., Bhavaninagar, Tal. Indapur Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
49.	The Malegaon SSK Ltd., Malegaon, B.K. Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
50.	Shree Someshwar SSK Ltd., P.O. Someshwar at, Nira Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
51.	Yeshwant SSK Ltd., Chintamaninagar, P.O. Theur, Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
52.	Bhima SSK Ltd., Patas, Taluka Daund, Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
53.	Vighnagar SSK Ltd., Junnar Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
54.	Rajgad SSK Ltd., Nigade, Tal. Bhor, Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
55.	Ghodganga SSK Ltd., Nhavare Teh. Shjnr, Distt. Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
56.	Shri Sant Tukaram SSK Ltd. Kasarsai TK. Mulshi, Distt. Pune.	Worked	Worked	Worked
57.	Gangapur SSK Ltd., P.O. Raghunathnagar, Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
58.	Sidheshwar SSK Ltd., Sillod Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
59.	The Kannad SSK Ltd., Kannad, Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
60.	The Vinayak SSK Ltd., Parsoda, Taluka Vaijapur, Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
61.	Shri Santh Ek-Nath SSK Ltd. Paithan, Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
62.	Shri Namdev Rao B. Gakekar Coop. Deogiri SSK Ltd., Phulambr Tal. & Distt. Aurangabad	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
63.	Krishna SSK Ltd., Rethare Budruk, P.O. Shivr Nagar, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
64.	Shriram SSK Ltd., Phaltan, Distt. Satara	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
65.	New Phalthan Sugar Works Ltd., Taluka Phalthan, P.O.Shakharwadi, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
66.	Kisanveer Satara SSK Ltd., Bhuinj, Taluka Wai, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
67.	Balasaheb Desai SSK Ltd., Daulatnagar, Marali, Taluka Patan, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
68.	Sahyadri SSK Ltd., Yeshwantnagar, Taluka Karad, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
69.	Ajinkyatra SSK Ltd., Shendre, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
70.	Jarandeshwar SSK Ltd. Chimangaon TK. Koregaon Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
71.	Godavari Manar SSK Ltd., Shankarnagar, P.O. Ramtirth, Distt. Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
72.	Kalambar Vibhag SSK Ltd., Kalambar, Post Gandhinagar, Distt. Nanded	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
73.	Shri Bhaurao Chavan SSK Ltd., At Degaon, Mundkhed, Teh. & Distt. Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
74.	Shankar SSK Ltd., Phulenagar, Teh. Bhokar, Distt. Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
75.	Jai Ambika SSK.Ltd. Mohan Nagar Kuntur T.K. Biloli Distt. Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
76.	Shree Panzarakan SSK Ltd., Bhadne Tal. Sakri, Distt.Dhulia	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
77.	Shree Satpuda Tapi Parisar SSK Ltd., Sahada, P.O.Purshottamnagar, Distt. Dhulia	Worked	Worked	Not Worked
78.	Pushpadanteshwar SSK Ltd. Samsheerpur TK. Nadurbar Distt. Dhulia.	Worked	Worked	Worked
79.	Shirpur Shetkari SSK Ltd., Dahiwad, Tal Shirpur, Distt. Dhule	Worked	Worked	Worked
80.	Jijamata SSK Ltd., Dusrabid, Tal. Mahkar, Distt. Buldana	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
81.	Vasant SSK Ltd, Pusad, Distt. Yavatmal	Worked	Worked	Worked
82.	Jai Kisan SSK Ltd., Bodegaon, Teh. Darwha, Distt. Yavatmal	Worked	Worked	Worked
83.	Shri Shankar Shetkari SSK Ltd., Village Mangrul, Distt. Yavatmal	Worked	Worked	Worked
84.	Pushpawati SSK Ltd., At Chikhali, Tal. Pusad, Distt. Yavatmal	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
85.	Rajaram Bapu Patil SSK Ltd., Rajaramnagar Post Sakharale, Taluka, Walwa, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
86.	Vasantdada Shetkari SSK Ltd., P.O. & Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
87.	Jath Taluka Shetkari SSK Ltd., At Tippehalli Jath, Taluka Jath, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
88.	Vishwas SSK Ltd., Yeshwatnagar, Post Chikhali, Taluka Shirala, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
89.	Hutatma Kisan Ahir SSK Ltd., Walve, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
90.	Yeshwant SSK Ltd., Nagewadi, Taluka Khanapur, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
91.	Mahankali SSK Ltd., Kavathe Mahankal, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
92.	Tasgaon Taluka SSK Ltd., Tasgaon, (Turchi Phata), Post Turchi, Tal. Tasgaon, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
93.	Manganga SSK Ltd., Atpadi Sonarsidhnagar, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
94.	Terna Shetkari SSK Ltd., Ternanagar, Taluka Dhoki, Distt. Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
95.	Tulja Bhawani Shetkari SSK Ltd., Naldurg, Tal. Tuljapur, Distt. Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
96.	The Ambajogai SSK Ltd., P.O. Ambasakhar, Tal. Ambajogai, Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
97.	Jai Bhavani SSK Ltd., Georai, Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
98.	Kada SSK Ltd., Tak. Ashti, Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
99.	Gajanan Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd., At Taluka & Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
100.	Majalgaon SSK Ltd., Nithrud, Teh. Majalgaon, Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
101.	Madhukar SSK Ltd., P.O. Faizpur, Distt. Jalgaon	Worked	Worked	Worked
102.	Belganga SSK Ltd., Taluka Chalisgaon, Distt. Jalgaon (Bhoras)	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
103.	Shri Chopada SSK Ltd., Machale, Teh. Chopada, Distt. Jalgaon	Worked	Worked	Worked
104.	Shri Sant Muktabai SSK Ltd., Ghondasgaon Teh. Edlabad Distt. Jalgaon	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked

		1	2	3
105.	The Godavari Dudhana SSK Ltd., Deonandra, Taluka Pathari, Distt. Parbhani	Worked	Worked	Worked
106.	Purna SSK Ltd., Basmathnagar, Distt. Parbhani	Worked	Worked	Worked
107.	Narsinha SSK Ltd., At Lohgaon, Distt. Parbhani	Worked	Worked	Worked
108.	Barashiv Hanuman SSK Ltd. Jawala Bazar Tk. Basmathnagar Distt. Parbhani.	Worked	Worked	Worked
109.	Samarth SSK Ltd., Mahalala Tal. Ambad, Distt. Jalna	Worked	Worked	Worked
110.	Jalna SSK Ltd., Village Ramnagar, Teh. & Distt. Jalna	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
111.	Shri Bageshwari SSK Ltd., Warphal, Tal. Partur, Distt. Jalna	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
112.	Jai Jawan Jai Kisan SSK Ltd., Nalegaon, Tal. Ahmedpur, Distt. Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
113.	Shetkari SSK Ltd., Killari Distt. Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
114.	Manjara Shetkari SSK Ltd., Tal. Chincholirao, Distt. Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
115.	Shivajirao Patil Nilangakar SSK Ltd. Ambulga (B.K.) TK. Nilanga, Distt. Latur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
116.	Shri Kondeshwar SSK Ltd. Ramnagar Tk. Phubgaon Distt. Amravati	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
117.	Shriram SSK Ltd., Babdeo, Teh. Mauda, Distt. Nagpur	Worked	Worked	Worked
118.	Mahatma SSK Ltd., Jamani, Tal Salo, Distt. Wardha	Worked	Worked	Worked
119.	The Wainganga SSK Ltd., Teh. Maholi Road, Distt. Bhandara	Worked	Worked	Worked
120.	Balaji SSK Ltd., Masalapen, Tal. Risod, Distt. Akola	Worked	Not Worked	Not Worked
121.	Akola Zilla SSK Ltd., Vizore, Distt. Akola	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
122.	Jaiwant Patil SSK Ltd. Hadsani, Tq.-Hadgaon, Distt.- Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
123.	Sonhira SSK Ltd. Wangi, Tk.- Khanapur, Distt.Sangli.	Worked	Worked	Worked
124.	Natural Sugar and Allied Industries Ltd., Kallam, Distt.- Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
125.	Vaidyanath SSK Ltd. Pangari, Tk.- Ambajogai, Distt.- Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
126.	Ramganesb Gadkari SSK Ltd.Saoner, Distt.- Nagpur	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
127.	Sahakar Maharshi Late Shri Bapuraoji Deshmukh SSK Ltd. Vela, Teh- Hinganghat,Distt.- Wardha.	Worked	Worked	Worked
128.	Bhima Shankar SSK Ltd.Pasgaon Via Avasari Teh. Ambagaon Distt. -Pune.	Worked	Worked	Worked
129.	Kagal Taluka SSK Ltd. Hamidwade Kaulage,Tk.-Kagal, Distt-Kolhapur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
130.	Lokmangal Agro Industries Ltd. Vill-Bibi Darphal, Tk.-North Solapur,Distt.-Solapur	Worked	Not Worked	Worked
131.	Ninai Devi SSK Ltd. Kokarud, Tk.-Shirala, Distt.- Sangli.	Worked	Worked	Worked
132.	Dongarai Sagareshwar Shetkari SSK Ltd. Raigaon Tk.- Khanapur, Distt.-Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
133.	Gangarnai Sugar Industries Ltd. Ghatnandra, Tk-Silod Distt.- Aurangabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
134.	Balaghat Setkari SSK Ltd. Ujana Teh. Abmedpur Distt. Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
135.	Dwarkadhish Sakhar Karkhana Ltd. Shavare, P.O.- Taharabad, Tk- Bagaian, Distt.-Nasik.	Worked	Worked	Worked
136.	Saikrupa Sakkar Karkhana Ltd., Devdaithan Tk Rigonda, Distt.- Ahmednagar.	Worked	Worked	Worked
137.	Pannageshwar Sugar Mills Ltd., Pangaon, Tk. Renapur Distt. Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
138.	Vithalrao Shinde SSK Ltd. Ganga Mayenagar, TK Madha, Distt Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked

		1	2	3
139.	Vikas SSK Ltd. Vaishalinagar, Nivli, Tk. & Distt. Latur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
140.	Shree Rameshwar SSK Ltd. Raosaheb Nagar, Post Sipora Bazar, Tk. Bhokar dan, Distt Jalana.	Worked	Worked	Worked
141.	Anuradha Sugar Mills Ltd. Shri Munsaji Maharaj Nagar Waru (Dhad) Taluk, Distt Buldana.	Worked	Worked	Worked
142.	Chatrapati Sambhaji Raje Sakhar Udyog Ltd. Dindyalnagar, Chittepimpalgaon, TK & Distt Aurangabad.	Worked	Worked	Worked
143.	Rayat SSK Ltd. Shewalewadi, TK. Karad, Distt Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
144.	Nagar TK. SSK Ltd. Walki, Taluk Nagar, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
145.	Shri Vithal SSK Ltd. Murum, TK. Omerga, Distt Osmanabad.	Worked	Worked	Worked
146.	Dr. BabaSaheb Ambedkar SSK Ltd., Keshegaon, Distt. Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
147.	Jai Mahesh Sugar Industries Ltd. Pawarwadi, TK. Majalgaon, Distt. Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
148.	Yogeshwari Sugar Industries Ltd. Laxminagar, At Limba, TK. Pathri, Distt. Parbhani	Worked	Worked	Worked
149.	Loknete Baburao Patil SSK Ltd. Laxminagar TK Mohol Distt. Sholapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
150.	Nira Bhima SSK Ltd. Shahjinagar, TK Indapur, Distt Pune	Worked	Worked	Worked
151.	Padamshree Dr. Vithal Rao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd. At Kothi TK. Kaij, Distt Beed	Worked	Worked	Worked
152.	Sangola TK SSK Ltd. Waki (Shivane), TK Sangola Distt. Sholapur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
153.	Sharad SSK Ltd, Narande, TK Hatkangale, Distt. Kolhapur.	Worked	Worked	Worked
154.	Sharangdhar Sugar Mills Ltd. Ukali, Tal - Mehkar, Distt. Buldana	Worked	Worked	Worked
155.	Shri Makai SSK Ltd., Bhilarwadi, Tal-Karmala, Distt. Solapur	Worked	Worked	Worked



		1	2	3
156.	Shivshakti Shetkari SSK Ltd. Washi (Tandulwadi) Taluk Washi, Distt. Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
157.	Shambhu Mahadev Sugar & Allied Ind. Ltd. Havargaon, Tq. Kallam, Distt. Osmanabad	Worked	Worked	Worked
158.	Shri Sant Shiromani Maruti Maharaj SSK Ltd. Maulinagar, Belkund, Tk. Ausa, Distt Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
159.	Udaysingrao Gaikwad SSK Ltd. Sonawade, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
160.	Kranti SSK Ltd, Kundal Tal. Palus, Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
161.	Shivshakti Adivasi & Megaswargiya SSK Ltd, Pahurzira, Tal. Shegaon Distt, Buldana	Worked	Worked	Worked
162.	Priyadarshini Shetkari SSK Ltd, Tondar, Tk. Udgir, Distt, Latur	Worked	Worked	Worked
163.	Pratapgad SSK Ltd, Kalghar, Tk. Jawali, Distt. Satara	Worked	Worked	Worked
164.	Sarvodaya SSK Ltd. Karamdwadi, Tk. Walwa. Distt. Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
165.	Jai Shivshankar SSK Ltd., Sheshnagar, Manjari. Tk. Mukhed, Distt. Nanded	Worked	Worked	Worked
166.	Mohanrao Shinde SSK Ltd. Mohannagar, Tk. Miraj, Distt Sangli	Worked	Worked	Worked
167.	Rever Taluka SSK Ltd, Onkareshwar, Karjod, Tk. Raver, Distt. Jalgaon	Worked	Worked	Worked
168.	Indira Gandhi Bhartiya Mahila Vikas SSK Ltd. Tambale, Tk. Bhudargad, Distt. Kolhapur	Worked	Worked	Worked
169.	Kukadi SSK Ltd, Pimpalgaon Pisa, Tal. Shrigonda, Distt. Ahmednagar	Worked	Worked	Worked
170.	Hiwaramai Sugar Industries Ltd., Mondhale, Tal Pachora, Distt. Jalgaon	Worked	Worked	Worked

**Foodgrains from Central Pool to Bihar**

5143. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar State Government has requested the Union Government to release foodgrains to the State from the central pool as per the total requirements under the public distribution system in view of the drought and flood situation in the State;

(b) if so, the total demand of the State under the public distribution system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) No such request has been received from the State Government of Bihar. However, the State Government is being allotted a monthly quantity of 1,64,357 tonnes of rice and 2,46,535 tonnes of wheat as per its entitlement under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In addition, a quantity of 25,000 tonnes of foodgrains (15,000 tonnes of rice and 10,000 tonnes of wheat) was allotted to the Government of Bihar, free of cost, for flood relief in August, 2002.

[English]

#### Rejection of Wheat Consignment

5144. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether after rejecting several consignment of Indian wheat, Iraq has finally accepted the consignment of wheat recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of consignment rejected by the Iraq and reasons therefor;

(d) the quantum of wheat export orders received by Indian firms from abroad at present and number out of them met out so far; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to export more wheat to foreign countries after keeping considering the grounds of rejection of Indian wheat abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) State Trading Corporations has reported that one consignment of 22,000 MTs of Indian wheat lifted from the Central Pool has been accepted by the Grain Board of Iraq. No recent case of rejection of Indian wheat has been reported.

(d) India has exported wheat worth Rs.21.35 crores and Rs.43.03 crores during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively to Iraq as per published figures of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics.

(e) The exporters can choose the stocks in the Central Pool available over and above, the local PDS/Welfare schemes requirement.

#### Deposit of Income Tax Dues in Banks

5145. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India appealed to tax payers to utilise branches of Public Sector Undertakings banks to deposit their income tax dues well in advance; and

(b) if so, the details of banks where such facilities are available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has been issuing Press Communication for the convenience of Income Tax Assesseees to utilise branches of Public Sector Banks to deposit their income tax dues well in advance.

(b) The facilities for deposit of income tax dues are available in all designated branches of all Public Sector Banks. J & K Bank Ltd and HDFC Bank. The number of such branches of Banks exceeds five thousand.

#### Production of Ethanol

5146. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar factories have applied for loan from Sugar Development Fund for production of Ethanol which have recently been allowed to be mixed with petrol upto 10%;

(b) if so, quantum of funds available under the Sugar Development Fund for this purpose;

(c) whether all the loan applications, particularly in Maharashtra, will be covered; and

(d) if not, the action proposed by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Funds are available under the Sugar Development Fund for this purpose. Rs.50.00 crores has been provided in BE 2003-04.

(c) All loan applications are processed in accordance with the Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Privatisation of Banks

5147. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow upto 67 per cent share participation by private organisation in Public Sector Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have already released 20-40 per cent shares of thirteen Public Sector Banks for participation by private organisations;

(d) if so, the names of such banks with percentage release of shares to private parties during the last three years;

(e) whether 41 percent Government shares in State Bank of India have already been handed over to private organisations;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reasons for such violation of Nationalisation Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to amend Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 with a view to modifying the stipulation of minimum prescribed Government shareholding in nationalised banks from 51% to 33% to enable nationalised banks to raise capital from market without affecting their public sector character. Accordingly, Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Amendment Bill, 2000 was introduced in Lok Sabha in December, 2000 which has been referred to Standing Committee on Finance.

(c) and (d) A list containing the names of banks who have so far gone for public issue, details of fresh equity, details of amount raised and extent to which Government's shareholding has been diluted in these banks is enclosed as statement.

(e) to (g) As per State Bank of India Act, 1955, the RBI needs to hold a minimum of 55% of shareholding. As such there is no violation of State Bank of India Act, 1955. The present holding of SBI shares are:

RBI	59.73%
Others	40.27%

### Statement

#### Nationalised Bank - Public Issue Particulars and Headroom Available

\*Rs. in Crores

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Equity after Public Issue*	Post Issue Share Holding			
			Govt.	%	Others	%
1.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	192.54	128.00	66.48	64.54	33.52
2.	Dena Bank	206.82	146.82	71.00	60.00	29.00
3.	Bank of Baroda	296.00	196.00	66.88	100.00	33.12
4.	Bank of India	639.00	489.00	77.00	150.00	23.00
5.	Corporation Bank	120.00	82.00	68.33	38.00	31.67
6.	Syndicate Bank	471.97	346.97	73.52	125.00	26.48
7.	Indian Overseas Bank	444.80	333.60	75.00	111.20	25.00
8.	Vijaya Bank	359.24	259.24	72.16	100.00	27.84
9.	Andhra Bank	450.00	300.00	67.00	150.00	33.00
10.	PNB	265.30	212.24	80.00	53.06	20.00
11.	Union Bank of India	480.00	280.00	58.33	200.00	41.67
12.	Allahabad Bank	346.70	246.70	71.16	100.00	28.84
13.	Canara Bank	410.00	300.00	73.17	110.00	26.83

[Translation]

### **Objectives of National Renewable Fund**

5148. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the purpose for which National Renewable Fund was set up by the Government;
- (b) whether the said purpose of this fund has been affected due to closure of a number of PSUs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount allocated by the Government under this fund during the last two years; and
- (e) the number of employees of various PSUs benefited by this fund during the said period, PSU-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (e) The Government of India had established the National Renewal Fund (NRF) on 3rd February, 1992, as a safety net for workers affected by industrial restructuring arising out of the New Industrial Policy announced in the Parliament on 24-07-1991. The Fund was established for a maximum period of ten years from the date of its inception. The objectives of the NRF were (i) to provide assistance to cover the costs of retraining and redeployment of employees arising as a result of modernisation, technology upgradation and industrial restructuring; (ii) to provide funds, where necessary, for compensation of employees affected by restructuring or closure of industrial units, both in the public and private sectors; and (iii) to provide funds for employment generation schemes both in the organised and unorganised sectors in order to provide a social safety net for labour needs arising from the consequences of industrial restructuring. However, assistance from the NRF was provided for implementation of voluntary retirement scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings and counselling/retraining/redeployment scheme for workers rationalised from the organised sector. The NRF was maintained in Public Account upto 1998-99. During the period from 1.4.1999, assistance for the above schemes was provided through a new budgetary arrangement without transferring resources to or from the NRF. The total expenditure incurred on these schemes from their inception upto 2000-01 was Rs. 3060 crore including Rs. 2616.41 crore from the NRF. As per information available, the VRS coverage during this period was 1.38 lakh employees,

the number of employees retrained 54,477 and the number redeployed 18,747. The Government introduced revised Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) vide Department of Public Enterprises Office Memorandum No.2(32)/97-DPE(WC) dated 5th May, 2000 and, consequently, the NRF was abolished vide a Gazette Notification on 12th July, 2000.

### **Foreign Nationals in Voters Lists**

5149. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 4675 dated 19.12.2000 and state:

- (a) the number of foreign nationals enrolled in the voters lists of Delhi; and
- (b) the action taken so far to remove their names?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### **Foreign Funding Agencies**

5150. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the foreign financial institutions which are funding the projects in various States are imposing terms and conditions for utilisation of the funds;
- (b) if so, whether any such report has been made by any State Government to the Union Government; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) The foreign financial institutions are providing credit/loan to the Government on their usual terms and conditions. These terms are mentioned in the annexed Statement.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

## Statement

## General Terms and Conditions of Loans from Foreign Financial Institutions

Sl. No.	Source	Currency	Type of Loan (Conc./Mixed)	Grace Period (Years)	Period of Repayment after Grace Period (Years)	Current Rate of Interest (in %)	Commitment Charges on Undisbursed Loan Amount (in %)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	I.B.R.D.	US Dollar	Semi-concessional	5	15	Variable*	0.75	<p>* (i) Interest-Variable every 6 months.</p> <p>(a) Currency Pooled Loans (VLR-1989) Interest rate is determined based on the cost of qualified borrowings plus a spread. The lending rate applicable for the period from 01-07-2002 to 31-12-2002 is as under:</p> <p>Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued prior to 31.07.1998      5.02% p.a. (includes a spread of 50 basis points.)</p> <p>Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued after 31.07.1998      5.27% p.a. (includes a spread of 75 basis points.)</p> <p>(b) US Loans Floating Rate Single Currency Loans Interest rate is determined based on 6 month LIBOR rate plus a variable spread. The rate applicable for interest payment date beginning 15-02-2003 to 14-8-2003 is as follows:-</p> <p>Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued prior to 31-07-1998      1.55% p.a. (with a spread of 21 basis points)</p> <p>Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued on or after 31-07-1998      1.79% p.a. (with a spread of 45 basis points)</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
								<p>(ii) Commitment Charges payable on the undisbursed loan amount at 0.75% Bank have been notifying waiver of 0.50% since July, 1991.</p> <p>(iii) Front End Fee - 1% (one time payment) of the loan amount is payable in respect of loans negotiated after 31-7-1998.</p> <p>(iv) Interest Waiver for Prompt Payment - As notified by Bank, the waiver applicable for 2001 is as under:-</p> <p>Loans for which invitation to negotiation was issued prior to 31-07-1998      0.15%</p> <p>Loans for which invitation to negotiation was issued after 31-07-1998      0.25%</p>
2.	I.D.A.	S.D.R.	Concessional	10	25	0.75	0.50	<p>(i) In respect of credits finalised till July 1988, the repayment period was 50 years including a grace period of 10 years. IDA credits presently enjoy a grace period of 10 years with a repayment period of 25 years.</p> <p>(ii) Commitment charge payable at 0.50% on the undisbursed credits are being fully waived by Bank since 1989-90.</p> <p>(iii) 0.75% shown under Interest Column is termed as Service Charge.</p>
3.	I.F.A.D.	S.D.R.	Concessional	10	40	0.75		<p>The payment of 0.75% shown under Interest Column is termed as Service Charge.</p>
4.	A.D.B.	US Dollar	Semi-Concessional	3 to 5	20 Variable*	0.75		<p>* Interest - Variable every six months. The interest rate is determined based on average cost of preceding six months of the respective pools of outstanding borrowings established to fund such loans. The lending rate for the period 1-6-2002 to 31-12-2002 is 6.34% on single currency US \$ loans and 3.91% in respect of multi-currency loans.</p> <p>Commitment Charge - 0.75% on undisbursed loan amounts. However, the undisbursed amount is reckoned on a graded basis in respect of project loans. For programme loans it is on the entire loan amount.</p>

### Dumping of Steel Products

5151. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the designated authority has investigated the dumping of steel products in the country;
- (b) if so, the countries which are indulging in dumping of steel products; and
- (c) the action initiated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, sir. The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties has so far initiated 8 anti-dumping investigations relating to imports of Steel and Steel products.

(b) The countries involved are Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, China, Romania, Austria, Czechoslovakia, EU, Japan, Canada, USA, Korea, Poland, South Africa, Venezuela, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, U.K., Australia and Singapore.

(c) Definitive anti-dumping duty has been imposed in 5 cases and provisional anti-dumping duty has been imposed in one case.

### Fake Ration Cards

5152. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have taken up the matter with the State Government of West Bengal to check the fake ration cards obtained by Bangladeshi nationals in border areas as reported in the 'Statesman' dated March 5, 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to check such activities of Bangladeshies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It has been reported that the Government of West Bengal has formulated strict procedures like production of birth Certificate, Voter identity cards etc. for cross checking the genuineness before the ration cards are issued. The District Magistrates as the head of the District Administration, have been given full power for thorough scrutiny in the matter of issue of ration cards to

the applicants residing within 15 Kms. of the border districts.

[Translation]

### Exemption Given in Income Tax for Education Sector

5153. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to give income tax exemption to all the grants provided for education sector;
- (b) if so, whether any task force has been constituted to conduct a study in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the task force is likely to give its report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Sick Industrial Units

5154. SHRI Y.V. RAO:

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of sick companies under rehabilitation as on date;
- (b) the number of industrial units which were given revival package by BIFR during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government are aware that M/s. Sri Rayalaseema Paper Mills Ltd. which was taken over by a promoter as per the schemes sanctioned by BIFR has been closed down as banks not obeyed the orders of BIFR; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to direct the concerned banks to strictly follow the orders of BIFR in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected

and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

### **Anti-Dumping Investigation Against China**

5155. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

(a) whether the anti-dumping investigations against China and other countries have been on the rise;

(b) if so, the details of cases detected by the designated authority so far, country-wise;

(c) the number out of them in which inquiry has been completed and the results thereof; and

(d) the time by which the remaining cases are likely to be investigated?

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

(a) Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has so far initiated 153 anti-dumping investigations since the initiation of first case in 1992. The number of cases initiated during the last three years i.e. 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-2003 is 28, 30 and 30 respectively involving various countries including China.

(b) Country-wise break up of the anti-dumping cases initiated by DGAD is given in the table below:

Country	Number of cases initiated
China	66
Taiwan	25
EU	25
Korea	24
Japan	19
USA	18
Singapore	18
Russia	14
Thailand	12
Indonesia	11
Brazil	6
Others (include 37 countries)	107

(c) Present Status of the 153 cases initiated by DGAD is as follows:

Cases in which final findings have been issued	117
Cases in which preliminary findings have been brought out and further proceedings are on	19
Cases under investigation for preliminary findings	11
Cases initiated but closed	6
Total	153

(d) As per the Anti-Dumping Rules framed under Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (as amended), anti-dumping investigation is required to be concluded within a period of 12 months from the date of its initiation. However, in exceptional circumstances it may be extended by 6 months.

[Translation]

### **Constitution Review Commission**

5156. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN. B. THAKKAR:

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

(a) whether the Constitution Review Commission constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah for the purpose of bringing about comprehensive changes in the electoral laws and to recommend certain new fundamental rights, has submitted its final report to the Government;

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

(c) the action taken so far by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):



(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) has submitted its report to the Government on 31st March, 2002. The Commission has made various recommendations pertaining to (i) Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and Fundamental Duties; (ii) Electoral Processes and Political Parties; (iii) Parliament and State Legislatures; (iv) Executive and Public Administration; (v) The Judiciary; (vi) Union-State Relations; (vii) Decentralization and Devolution; and (viii) Pace of Socio-Economic Change and Development. Details of the recommendations on Electoral Processes and Political Parties are given in the statement.

(c) The full text of the report of the Commission has been put on the Internet and the report has also been forwarded to all Ministries/Departments for examining and processing the same. Action on the recommendations lies with the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, which are administratively concerned with the subject matter of the recommendations.

#### Statement

Recommendations made by the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution on Electoral Process.

1. Introduction of Electronic Voting Machines in all constituencies.
2. Empowerment of Election Commission of India to countermand and order fresh elections, ordering re-poll in entire constituency. Use of tamper-proof video and other electronic surveillance at sensitive stations.
3. Election campaigning on caste or religious basis and attempts to spread caste and communal hatred be made punishable with mandatory imprisonment or even disqualification of the candidates.
4. Amendment in Representation of People's Act to include tougher provisions for disqualification of candidates, charged with offences punishable with imprisonment of 5 years or more or convicted with imprisonment of 6 months or more and derecognition of political parties which field such candidates despite being aware of his antecedents.
5. Barring of any person convicted of heinous crimes like murder, rape, smuggling, dacoity, etc., permanently from contesting for any political office.
6. Setting special Courts to dispose criminal cases against politicians speedily. Empowering these courts to decide whether there is indeed a prima-facie case justifying the framing of charges by the police against a potential candidate in a time-bound manner. The special courts should be constituted at the level of High Courts and their decisions should be appealable before the Supreme Court only. Cases should be decided within a period of 6 months.
7. The provision in sub-section (4) of Section 8 of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, should be suitably amended so that the benefit of this provision is not available for the purpose of the person contesting fresh elections.
8. The provision regarding disqualification of a person from contesting elections after charges are framed in a Court for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a maximum period of 5 years or more after expiry of a period of one year should be equally applicable to sitting MPs and MLAs.
9. Restoring the position prevailing before 1975 amendment of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, to enable the President to determine the period of disqualification under Section 8A on direct opinion of the EC to avoid any delay in the matter.
10. Special Courts or special election benches in High Courts should dispose of election petitions and election disputes.
11. Matter regarding election expenses and their auditing, etc., should be rationalized.
12. All candidates and every holder of a political position must declare his assets and liabilities and those of his close relatives at the time of elections or annually as the case may be.
13. Proposals of State funding the elections should be deferred till regulatory mechanisms are firmly in place.
14. Campaign period should be reduced considerably. Candidates should not be allowed to contest from more than one constituency. Election code of conduct should come into operation immediately on declaration of elections and violations should be made a penal offence.
15. The Commission has recommended a careful and full examination of the issue of prescribing a minimum of 50% plus one vote for elections in all its aspects in consultation with various political parties and other interested parties.
16. Inter-State delimitation exercise of Lok Sabha and

Assembly constituencies may be undertaken. SC and non-scheduled areas ST seats should be rotated.

17. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution should be amended to provide that all persons who defect, whether individually or in groups, must resign from their seats and contest fresh elections. Defectors should be debarred from holding any public post or any remunerative political post during the remaining term or till fresh elections. The vote cast by such defectors should be treated as invalid and decision on disqualification should vest with the Election Commission.
18. There should be a ceiling of 10% on the number of Ministers in a State or the Union Government by making suitable law. Practice of creating political offices with perks equivalent to Ministers should be discouraged and restricted to 2% of the total strength of the Lower House.
19. Independent candidates should be discouraged. Security Deposits in respect of these candidates should be doubled. The deposits should be double every progressive year in case they fail to win elections and they should be debarred from contesting elections for a period of 6 years if they fail to get 5% of the total votes cast and debarred permanently for failing to win 3 elections.
20. The limit for forfeiting the security deposit should be increased from 16.67% to 25% to reduce non-serious candidates.
21. It should be possible without any constitutional amendment to provide for the election of the Leader of the House (Lok Sabha/State Assembly) along with the election of the Speaker and in like manner under the Rules of Procedure. The person so elected may be appointed the Prime Minister/Chief Minister.
22. The issue of eligibility of non-Indian born citizens or those whose parents or grandparents were citizens of India to hold high offices in the realm such as President, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Chief Justice of India should be examined in depth through a political process after a national dialogue.
23. The CEC, other Elections Commissioners should be appointed on the recommendation of a body consisting of the PM, Leader of Opposition in both the Houses and Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha respectively.
24. Only those persons who have cleared all Government dues should be cleared to contest elections. That the matter is pending before a Court of law should be no excuse in the matter.
25. Suitable amendments should be made in the Constitution to empower the Election Commission to identify and declare various offices 'under the Government to be within 'Offices of Profit'.

[English]

### **Structural Adjustment Loan**

5157. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States from which proposals for structural adjustment loan have been received;

(b) whether Government have made elimination of subsidies as pre-condition for States seeking structural adjustment loans from World Bank and Asian Development Bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the States whose proposals have not been posed to the World Bank for consideration alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The proposals for structural adjustment loan have been received from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Kerala.

(b) and (c) Government of India has framed guidelines for formulation of Structural Adjustment Loans which Include rationalization of user charges.

(d) The proposals from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have not been posed to the World Bank so far on account of ceiling on World Bank finance for adjustment operations and also their proposals/requests not being in line with guidelines.

### **Diversion of External Loan by Orissa**

5158. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the diversion of funds obtained from Department for International Development and World Bank by the Government of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to stop the diversion of funds by Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The assistance from Department for International Development and World Bank for structural adjustment are provided in the form of Gross Budgetary Support to the States. The State Governments are accountable to their legislature for proper utilisation of funds through State Audit Report prepared by the C&AG of India under Article 151 (2) of the Constitution.

#### **Diversion of Wheat in Haryana**

5159. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

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

(a) the findings of the probe into diversion of wheat meant for the consumers to the traders by the Food Corporation of India in Haryana;

(b) the details of the *modus operandi* of the scandal;

(c) the quantity and value of wheat diverted to traders, the monetary loss suffered by FCI and the estimated profits made by the traders by selling this wheat at exorbitant prices;

(d) the action taken against the concerned officials; and

(e) the present status of the above said scandal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) As per the report of CBI irregularities were committed in the open sale of wheat under open market sale scheme in FCI depots of Rohtak, Kurukshetra and Karnal.

(b) Under the OMSS (D), foodgrains were sold to the traders after obtaining an affidavit that he would not sell the stocks outside revenue district to which he belonged.

However the original buyer sold the stocks to another party within the same revenue district while the second party sold the wheat outside the revenue district.

(c) During the period October, 1993 to April, 1997, 29.14 lakh MTs wheat under OMSS (D) was sold in Haryana. However, during the year 1996-97 Haryana Region sold 3.71 lakh MTs of wheat. In Haryana, FCI conducted sales upto November, 1996 only under OMSS (D) and thereafter sale was conducted through State Government. There was no monetary loss to the FCI as the sale of wheat to the traders was made at fixed rates. There is no information about the estimated profits made by the traders by selling this wheat.

(d) and (e) The investigation has been completed by the CBI and action has been taken against the guilty officials.

#### **Revival of Textile Mills in Maharashtra**

5160. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of textile and spinning units in Maharashtra are sick and the number of sick units has increased significantly over the past five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof on the basis of the latest review report;

(c) the details of initiatives taken over the past three years and results thereof; and

(d) the details of action plan envisaged under the new policy for revival of textile industry in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) As on 31st December 2002, out of 702 all textile cases registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA), 1985, there were 138 textile cases in the state of Maharashtra.

The year wise cases registered with BIFR in the state of Maharashtra during the last five years are as under:

1998	69
1999	78
2000	88
2001	114
2002	138

On the basis of information collected by the Office of the Textile Commissioner, Mumbai the details of sick textile and spinning units in Maharashtra as on 31st December, 2002 are as under:

Sl. No.	Status under BIFR	All textile cases including Spinning Cases	Spinning Cases
1	Declared No Longer Sick	12	2
2	Draft Scheme	2	
3	Dropped as Net Worth become Positive	3	
4	Failed Reopened	1	
5	Non Maintainable	20	1
6	Other	1	
7	Scheme Sanctioned under section 17 (2)	1	
8	Scheme Sanctioned under section 18(4) SICA 1985	8	1
9	Under Enquiry	59	4
10	Winding Up Notice	3	
11	Winding up recommended section 20(1) SICA, 1985	28	4
Total		138	12

(c) In order to prevent the sickness and subsequent closure of the industrial units, Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA), 1985 and has established the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. BIFR appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units and to oversee the implementation of the same. As a result of this, as on 31.12.2002, 3 spinning cases in Maharashtra have been declared no longer sick or scheme sanctioned under section 18 (4) SICA 1985.

(d) The Government has taken a number of measures for growth of textile industry of entire country including State of Maharashtra. This includes:

- i) Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton during 1999-2000 for a period

of 5 years. This Mission has four Mini Missions. It aims to bring about all round improvement in the production, productivity and quality of cotton through research, transfer of technology and improvement in processing and marketing of cotton.

- ii) In the current budget of 2003-2004, in order to strengthen the textile industry excise duty on fibres, yarn, fabrics / made ups and readymade garments (RMG) has been reduced considerably. Central Value Added Tax (CENVAT) chain has been completed and the number of exemptions and deemed credit schemes have been withdrawn. A special package for powerloom industry has been announced. Recognizing the need to prevent sickness in the textile industry, Government is considering a mechanism for restructuring the debt portfolio of viable and potentially viable textile units. The details will be decided in consultation with all the stakeholders.
- iii) Specified list of textile machinery with state of art technology has been allowed to be imported at basic excise duty of 5%.
- iv) Garment industry has been de-reserved from SSI sector with effect from 1st January, 2001 to encourage large-scale investments in the garment sector and achieving of economies of scale. Small-scale investment limit has been raised to Rs.5 Crores in case of knitting and knitwear items.
- v) Government has formulated "Apparel Parks for Exports" with a view to involve State Governments in promoting investment in the apparel sector. The Central Government will give as a grant 75% or maximum of Rs. 10 crore of the capital expenditure incurred by the State Government on the infrastructure facilities of the Apparel Park, while the remaining 25% will be borne by the agency.
- vi) Government has launched "Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)" for plugging critical infrastructure gaps in traditional textile/apparel clusters to help the units located therein to become globally competitive. The central assistance under the scheme is available to the extent of 100% of the critical components of the project in respect of Common Effluent Plant, improving water supply and drainage facilities and construction of creche building for apparel units, whereas the other components would be funded

on 75:25 between centre and State/reputed agencies concerned.

- vii) BIFR has sanctioned rehabilitation scheme for Revival of NTC (SM) and NTC (MN), the 2 subsidiaries of National Textile Corporation (NTC) in Maharashtra which is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2002. The details of the Scheme are given below:

Subsidiary	No. of mills for survival	No. of mills for Closure	Cost of Scheme
NTC(MN)	8	10	Rs. 702.52 crore
NTC(SM)	9	8	Rs. 799.84 crore

SM = South Maharashtra

MN = Maharashtra North

#### Inclusion in ST List

5161. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the communities recommended by the Government of Orissa and other organizations for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes till date;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to include such communities in the list?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) Recommendations in respect of about 243 groups/sub groups had been received for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Orissa. Out of these 113 groups/sub groups have already been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes as synonyms of various communities vide the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002. The remaining recommendations have been processed as per the modalities approved for deciding such claims.

[Translation]

#### Loans to Agro Based Industries

5162. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether agro industries are likely to play a special role for bringing reforms in the economic set up of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether agro based industries were provided less loan during the last three years from the public sector banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for the constant decline in the percentage of loan for this sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Agro-based industries are likely to play a vital role for bringing reforms in the economic set up of the country. Major impact of the agro-based industries will be that about 24.3% of the gross domestic product comes from agriculture, earning foreign exchange through value addition and better price realization to the farmers. In addition these industries provide employment generation with locally available resources and manpower and reduces migration of rural people to urban area.

(c) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the public sector banks' total outstanding credit to agro-based industries during the last three years were as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. Crores)
March 2001	28186
March 2002	28923
February 2003	29331

(d) It may be seen from the above data that the public sector banks' loans to the agro-based industry sector has been increasing year by year.

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

[English]

#### Technology Mission on Jute

5163. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the jute Technology Mission is facing difficulty due to certain clarifications sought by the Planning Commission about the objectives and intention of the Mission;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any Expert Committee has also been set up to identify the areas where the JTM can be utilized;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the main bottlenecks faced by the JTM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL(YATNAL): (a) to (d) Planning Commission suggested an evaluation of the existing programmes by an expert group before according its approval for the Jute Technology Mission (JTM). Accordingly, an Expert Group on Research and Development, Investment and Growth in the jute sector has been constituted to review the existing schemes and programmes being implemented by different Ministries for promotion of Jute.

(e) There are no other bottlenecks in implementation of JTM and it will be implemented after receiving due approvals.

#### **Vacant post of Judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court**

5164. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court as on date and the number of posts lying vacant and since when;

(b) the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts of judges;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the strength of judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court further to eliminate pendency of cases therein;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government for filling up of the vacant posts of judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) Against the approved strength of 39 Additional/

Permanent Judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court, 35 Judges are in position, leaving 4 vacancies to be filled up. These vacancies have occurred on the retirement of Judges.

The filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is a continuous, consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement or elevation of Judges Justice of High Courts/Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Government reviews the Judge strength of High Courts periodically every three years. The increase in the Judge strength of a High Court is considered only when the average rate of disposal of main cases in the concerned High Court is above the national average.

#### **Setting up of Debts Recovery Tribunals**

5165. SHRI S. MURUGESAN:

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Debts Recovery Tribunals at Madurai and Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by when these are likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) There is no proposal at this stage to set up DRTs at Madurai and Trivandrum. Currently there are three DRTs (Chennai-I, Chennai-II and Coimbatore) having jurisdiction over cases pertaining to Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry and one DRT at Emakulam having jurisdiction over cases pertaining to Kerala and Lakshadweep. The present workload in the above DRTs does not justify creation of another DRT immediately to cover cases in Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala and Lakshadweep.

[Translation]

#### **ATM Facility in SBI**

5166. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has launched any scheme for technical upgradation and computerisation of their branches;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds likely to be spent thereon;

(c) whether ATM facility has been provided in all the branches of the SBI;

(d) if not, the number of branches of SBI particularly in Uttar Pradesh where ATM facility has not been provided; and

(e) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in all the branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir. SBI has launched a scheme for computerisation of its remaining 5400 non-computerised branches by March, 2005.

(b) Out of these 5400 non-computerised branches, 3090 are proposed to be computerised during the current year and the remaining 2400 branches in the subsequent year. The number of branches to be computerised are spread over the 14 circles of the Bank. The funds outgo for computerisation of 3090 branches is estimated at Rs.154 crores.

(c) ATM facility has not been provided in all branches of SBI.

(d) and (e) In Uttar Pradesh, State Bank of India has 1216 branches and 125 ATMs. Deployment of another 104 ATMs is in progress. SBI is progressively increasing the coverage of branches/locations with ATMs. By the end of 2003-2004 around 2800 ATMs are expected to be in place.

#### **Filling up the Post of Security Personnel**

5167. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exploitation of the labour has been reported in FCI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether more than five thousand post of security personnel are lying vacant in this Corporation; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Government would fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The total number of vacant posts of Watch and Ward staff in FCI as on 31.12.2002 was 1920. A proposal to allow FCI to fill up 500 posts of Watch and Ward staff, by direct recruitment, has been received in the Ministry.

[English]

#### **Diversion of Foodgrains**

5168. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:

SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

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

(a) whether large quantity of foodgrains meant for BPL families are sold in the open market;

(b) if so, the manner in which Government plan to stop such malpractices;

(c) the punishment Government propose to impose on such traders; and

(d) the number of traders who were punished during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. In the event of diversion of foodgrains supplied under Public Distribution System (PDS), action is liable in terms of Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001. Violations are punishable under Section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995.

[Translation]

#### **Additional Grants Sought by Bihar Government**

5169. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total additional amount of financial assistance sought by Bihar Government during the last three years upto March 31, 2003;

(b) the project-wise allocation made by the Governments, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for non-disbursal of the total amount sought in respect of every case;

(d) whether the additional amount sought for has been released during the current financial year;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

States, decided in Annual Plan discussions between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Chief Minister concerned is allocated by the Planning Commission, keeping in view availability of funds. The details of project-wise Additional Central Assistance allocated to Bihar during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) No Additional Central Assistance has so far been sought by the Government of Bihar during the current financial year.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Additional Central Assistance to

### Statement

(In Crore Rupees)

<b>A. One time Additional Central Assistance sanctioned during 2002-03</b>		
1.	Installation of Energy Meter in PESU, Patna and Muzaffarpur Circles of BSEB	30.00
2.	Restoration of Irrigation Potential	20.00
3.	Missing Links of the Flood and Naxalite Affected Areas	20.00
4.	Establishment of Mental Hospital	5.00
5.	Construction of Flyover at Chiryatand in Patna City	10.00
6.	Establishment of Self-Help Group for Economic Development and Empowerment of Rural Women	5.00
7.	Million Shallow Tubewell Programme	10.00
Total		100.00
<b>B. One time Additional Central Assistance sanctioned during 2001-02</b>		
1.	Million Shallow Tubewell Programme	20.00
2.	132 KV Cable Crossing in Ganga Bridge	20.00
3.	Construction of Panchayat Bhavan	10.00
4.	Construction of Chapra Engineering College Building and opening of an Extension Centre of Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra (Ranchi) at Patna	9.00
5.	Establishment of Administrative Training Institutes	1.00
6.	Re-establishment of Irrigation Capacity and Execution of Pending Projects	10.00
7.	Extension of Pending Bateshwar Ganga Pump River Scheme.	2.00
8.	Construction of Missing Links in Extremists Affected Areas	0.50
9.	Integrated Water Resources Development Programme	5.00
10.	Joint Forest Management under Food for Work Prog.	5.00



11.	Improvement of Patna Medical College	7.00
12.	Cleanliness, Sewerage, Solid Waste Management and Addl. Health related facilities at Patna, Chapra & Gaya	7.00
13.	Development of SCs/STs	3.50
14.	National Commission on Population : Population Stabilisation activities in high fertility districts (Saran (Chapra), Araria, Aurangabad, Darbhanga, Gopalganj, Nawada)	3.00
Total		103.00
<b>C.</b>	<b>One time Additional Central Assistance sanctioned during 2000-01</b>	
1.	Construction of the building of J.D. Women's College, Patna	0.50
2.	Million Shallow Tubewell Scheme	25.50
3.	Major & Medium Irrigation	24.00
4.	Strengthening of infrastructure gaps in health and family welfare services in the Demographically sensitive districts of Madhubani, Kishanganj, Katihar, Buxar and Paschim Champaran	5.00
Total		55.00

*[English]***Sugar Export**

5170. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have explored the possibility to export sugar to European Union countries;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government have exported sugar to other countries also; and
- if so, the names of the countries alongwith the quantum and foreign exchange earned during the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Export of sugar to European Union is made under the preferential quotas. At present India has an annual preferential quota of 10,000 M.Ts of white sugar and a raw sugar quota of 10,000 M.Ts (White sugar equivalent), for export to European Union. However, some exporters have also exported small quantities of sugar to the EU countries, outside the above preferential quotas, on payment of full import duties applicable on import of sugar in those countries.

(c) and (d) Government has not undertaken any export of sugar.

**Foodgrain Allocation**

5171. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have any proposal for change norms in foodgrain allocations to the States;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the State Governments are complaining about the restrictions placed in their allocation; and
- if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Requests for increasing the allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) have been received from some States.

The allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made uniformly to all the States

@ 35 kg per family per month for Antyodaya families, families below the poverty line (BPL) and families above the poverty line (APL) for the estimated no. of families in each category as per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission (1993-94) and population projections of the Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 or no. of ration cards issued, whichever is less. At present there is no proposal to enhance the scale of monthly allocation.

### **Bottled Mineral Water**

5172. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that bottle mineral business has reached to Rs.8,500 crore in India at the moment and number of companies are involved in this business and many more are coming into arena;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government on the purity of water, genuineness of the company quality and type of water, imitation of approved companies by bogus companies; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to provide quality water with moderate price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The quality and safety parameters for natural mineral water and packaged drinking water have been prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. Both these products have to be manufactured for sale or exhibited for sale only under Bureau of Indian Standards Certification Mark. Additionally, the quality of these products are also checked by the Prevention of Food Adulteration Enforcement Authorities of the State/UT Governments under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. Prices of the Bottled Water are fixed by the concerned company.

### **Consumer Forums**

5173. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Forums at a number of places are wrongly taking up complaints of non-payment of company deposits;

(b) if so, whether it is not stepping into the jurisdiction of the Company Law Board, which is the legitimate

and proper agency for dealing with grievances of company deposits;

(c) if so, whether the Government will issue instructions to the Consumer Forums not to take up disputes relating to company deposits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) The provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law for the time being in force. The Consumer Forums set up under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are empowered to adjudicate cases including the cases relating to deficiency in financial services as per the provisions of the said Act. It is for the aggrieved party to take recourse to make an appeal in the appropriate forums in cases one is not satisfied with the order. Therefore, the Government will not be in a position to intervene in the judicial process of the Consumer Forums.

### **Textile Exports**

5174. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite its comparative advantage, Indian textiles exports were adversely affected due to unfriendly attitudes of some countries;

(b) whether anti-dumping investigations were also conducted repeatedly on products like cotton fabrics and bed linen;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are ready to face the challenges emerging therefrom; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) to (c) Textile sector is one of the most important manufacturing sectors. The developed countries were very reluctant to sign Agreement on Textiles & Clothing as part of Uruguay Round discussions. It has been observed over the years that these countries are very protective about this sector. It is due to this reason that the textile exports from India have faced a number of trade defence actions by various countries. In recent times, Unbleached Cotton Fabrics (UCF), Cotton Type Bed-linen,

Polyester Textured Filament Yarn, Polyester Staple Fibre (PSF), etc. originating inter-alia, from India have been subjected to anti-dumping (AD)/anti-subsidy (AS) investigations/action by the European Union. The cotton yarn exports have suffered anti-dumping investigations from South Korea. The export of acrylic blankets to South Africa is presently subject to dumping duties.

(d) and (e) In order to effectively defend such actions of the importing countries, an appropriate strategy is evolved, on case to case basis in consultation with Department of Commerce/Department of Legal Affairs/Ministry of External Affairs/Export Promotion Councils/Trade/Indian Missions abroad etc. The cases are defended through legal expert, appointed by Govt. of India. India has been able to successfully contest some of the actions of the importing countries.

Besides, efforts are also being made by the Government to create capacities within the domestic industry for making them knowledgeable about the domestic as well as international laws on various trade defence measures like anti-dumping/anti-subsidy. Export Promotion Councils have been given grants under Market Development Assistance Scheme of the Department of Commerce for the purpose.

[Translation]

#### Marketing Facilities to the Textile Industry

5175. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has planned to provide state-of-art international marketing facilities for textile industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise number of places where state-of-art international marketing facilities are likely to be provided; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to boost the export and to provide more facilities to Indian exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) to

(c) Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme", with the following objectives:

- i) To give a focused thrust for setting up of modern apparel manufacturing units of international standards, which will work as one-stop-shop for reputed international buyers.
- ii) To give fillip to domestic production to meet competition from imports and to promote exports in this sector.

The central assistance under the scheme would be given to the extent of 75% of the capital expenditure incurred by the State Governments on the infrastructural facilities of the Apparel Park, subject to a maximum of Rs.10 crores, while the remaining 25% will be borne by the State Government/agency. The Central Government will also provide a sum upto Rs. 5 crores for setting up of an effluent treatment plant, creche(s), any multi purpose centre/ hall for marketing /display etc. Besides, the Central Government will provide grant upto 50% of the cost of any training facility created in the park upto a maximum of Rs.2 crores. The detailed guidelines of the Scheme are available on Ministry of Textiles' website <http://www.texmin.nic.in>.

The Project Approval Committee, constituted under the guidelines of the "Apparel Park for Exports" scheme, has accorded in-principle approval to the nine project proposals for setting up Apparel Parks at Tronica City & Kanpur (V.P.), Surat (Gujarat), Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Ludhiana (Punjab), Bangalore (Karnataka) and Tirupur and Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu).

Besides, the Government is also providing assistance to the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPCC) for setting up Apparel International Mart (AIM) at Gurgaon (Haryana), which would have an exhibition complex and also provide a world class permanent display facility to apparel exporters. The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts is also setting up India Exposition Mart at Greater Noida (U.P.).

(d) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to boost the textile export and to provide more facilities to Indian textile exporters. Some of the important initiatives are:

- i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores.
- ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

- iii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFs, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.
- iv) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms and other important textile machinery items has been brought down to 5%.
- v) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- vi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.
- vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.
- viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) has been launched.

[English]

#### **Starvation Death of Tribals**

5176. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the deaths of tribals due to starvation and malnutrition in several parts of the country especially in Nandurbar in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of deaths of tribals occurred during 2001, 2002 and the current year;

(c) whether the Union Government have sought a report in this regard from the State Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the occurrence of such deaths of tribals?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Revenue Deficit**

5177. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of revenue deficit in the total fiscal deficit is increasing alarmingly in the State;

(b) if so, the percentage of revenue deficit in the fiscal deficit, state-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have suggested any new steps to bring down the revenue deficit in the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is annexed.

(c) and (d) In order to supplement the effort of the State Governments towards fiscal consolidation, Government of India (GoI) has created "State Fiscal Reforms Facility (2000-01 to 2004-05)" for incentivising them to undertake fiscal reforms to improve their finances in the medium term. States are enjoined to draw up a Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programme, inter alia, aiming at reducing their Revenue Deficit and Gross Fiscal Deficit over the reform period. This is in accordance with the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. Besides, Government of India has also put forward a scheme for debt swap to enable the States to retire their high cost borrowings.

#### **Statement**

##### *Revenue Surplus/Deficit as % of Fiscal Deficit*

		(%)		
States		1997-98	2000-01	2001-02 (R.E.)
1		2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29.0	49.2	40.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-142.4	-24.7	-127.8

1		2	3	4
3.	Assam	-202.0	50.6	67.6
4.	Bihar	26.9	60.6	58.4
5.	Chhattisgarh		570.7	34.3
6.	Goa	11.3	54.7	35.0
7.	Gujarat	32.1	78.9	89.4
8.	Haryana	63.8	26.8	43.6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	44.0	72.1	56.6
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	-182.1	58.1	-98.3
11.	Jharkhand			-6.1
12.	Karnataka	17.2	44.1	58.4
13.	Kerala	46.5	81.2	67.1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	25.8	48.6	73.9
15.	Maharashtra	40.0	87.3	55.6
16.	Manipur	-34.8	36.8	2.6
17.	Meghalaya	-9.2	-21.1	-0.6
18.	Mizoram	-48.2	51.5	16.1
19.	Nagaland	5.3	0.1	-12.3
20.	Orissa	50.2	57.9	59.3
21.	Punjab	59.9	59.8	73.1
22.	Rajasthan	22.8	61.1	61.0
23.	Sikkim	-61.9	-196.6	-651.1
24.	Tamil Nadu	64.3	67.7	59.8
25.	Tripura	-11.1	21.6	-0.1
26.	Uttaranchal		-7.8	72.2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	61.0	61.8	62.4
28.	West Bengal	57.2	69.4	68.9
29.	NCT Delhi	-159.5	-108.6	-68.7

**Vacant Posts in SEBI**

5178. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of Executive Director in SEBI is vacant;

(b) if so, by when alongwith the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) At present, two posts of Executive Directors are vacant.

(b) and (c) The two posts of Executive Directors fell vacant after one Executive Director was repatriated to his present organization on the expiry of his period of deputation and the other retired on attaining superannuation. SEBI is in the process of filling up these vacancies.

**Licences of Cooperative Banks**

5179. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has cancelled licences of some Cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the State-wise names of such banks, licences of which has been cancelled during the last three years;

(c) the grounds for their cancellation during the last three years;

(d) the guidelines for opening and functioning of such banks; and

(e) the steps taken to follow up the above said guidelines strictly on such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State-wise details of the names of the co-operative banks whose licences were cancelled during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

Source: Report of RBI on State Finances - various issues.

Note: (-) indicate Revenue Surplus

(c) The licences granted to the Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) were cancelled/refused due to their failure in complying with the various conditions imposed upon them, conducting the affairs of the bank in a manner detrimental to the interest of the depositors as also due to the deteriorating financial condition and unsatisfactory operations. In the case of the District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs), their licences were rejected by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on account of the inability of these banks to comply with the provisions of Section 11(1) of the Banking Regulation Act in maintaining the required level of capital and reserves.

(d) As per the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, no co-operative society shall carry on banking business in the country unless it holds a licence issued by RBI. As per the latest norms for opening of a co-operative bank, the minimum requisite start-up capital varies between Rs.12.50 lakh and Rs. 4 crore. The operational aspects of co-operative banks are regulated by RBI in terms of the authority vested with it under the B.R. Act. With a view to ensure that they conduct their affairs on sound lines in the interest of the public, RBI has issued guidelines/directives/instructions to these banks governing different aspects of banking operations.

(e) In order to ensure that co-operative banks conduct their business in compliance with its guidelines and directives, RBI has in place a system of off-site monitoring and on-site inspection. Under the same, banks are required to submit periodical returns relating to their financial position and other affairs. Their statutory inspection are conducted by RBI and NABARD and the above system is also supplemented by the statutory audit by the respective State Governments.

#### Statement

*State-wise details of the names of the co-operative banks whose licences were cancelled during the last three years.*

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of Co-operative Bank
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh (15)	Aryan Co-operative Bank Ltd. Armour Co-operative Bank Ltd. Co-operative Bank Ltd., Chodavaram First City Co-operative Bank Ltd. Jawahar Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd. Krushi Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd.

1	2	3
		Megacity Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd. Mother Theresa Hyderabad Coop. Urban Bank Ltd. Praja Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd. Rajampeta TBL Sitara Coop. Urban Bank Ltd. Sravya Coop. Urban Bank Ltd. Sri Lakshmi Mahila Coop. Urban Bank Ltd. Pithapuram Coop. Urban Bank Ltd. Star Coop. Urban Bank Ltd.
2.	Bihar (1)	Daltonganj District Central Co-op Bank Ltd.
3.	Gujarat (10)	The Ahmedabad Mahila Nagrik Sahakari Bank Ltd. The Ahmedabad Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd. The Majoor Sahakari Bank Ltd. Patara Co-operative Bank Ltd. The Sahyog Co-operative Bank Ltd. Shree Veraval Vibhagiya Nagrik Sahakari Bank Ltd. Shree Laxmi Co-operative Bank Ltd. The Vikas Co-operative Bank Ltd. Shri Jamnagar Nagrik Sahkari Bank Ltd. Shree Bhagyalaxmi Co-operative Bank Ltd.
4.	Haryana (1)	Yamunanagar Urban Coop. Bank Ltd.
5.	Jharkhand (1)	Chapra District Central Coop. Bank Ltd.
6.	Karnataka (2)	Jyothirlinga Sahkari Bank Ltd. Gulbarga Urban Co-op Bank Ltd.
7.	Madhya Pradesh (3)	Datia Nagriki Sahakari Bank Ltd.

1	2	3
		Nagrik Coop. Commercial Bank Ltd.
		Mandsaur Commercial Coop. Bank Ltd.
8.	Maharashtra (15)	Khed Urban Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Mira Bhayandar Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Friends Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Western Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Shree Adinath Cooperative Bank Ltd.
		Shree Labh Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Kahva Belapur Sahkari Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Sevalai Urban Coop. Bank Ltd.
		Pratibha Mahila Sahkari Bank Ltd.
		Yeshwant Sahkari Bank Ltd.
		Indira Sahkari Bank Ltd.
		Latur Peoples Co-op Bank Ltd.
		Maa Sharda Mahila Nagarik Sahakari Bank Ltd.
		Janata Sahakari Bank Mydt.
		Maratha Market Peoples Co-op Bank Ltd.
9.	Manipur (1)	The Women's Co-op Bank Ltd.
10.	Tamil Nadu (3)	The Theni Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd.
		The Thiruvanaikoli Coop. Urban Bank Ltd.
		Manamadurai Cooperative Bank Ltd.
11.	Uttar Pradesh (4)	Federal Co-operative Bank Ltd.
		Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd.
		Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Tehri
		Gonda District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.
12.	West Bengal (1)	Prabananda Co-operative Bank Ltd.

*[Translation]***SC/ST Posts**

5180. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the various Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry some posts reserved for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe category are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether during the last three years promotions have been given to the employees working in these Departments and Undertakings and new recruitments have also been made;

(d) if so, the year-wise and category-wise details of the new recruitments made so far under the various categories during the said period and the current year;

(e) whether prescribed rules have been followed with respect to the recruitment and promotion of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people; and

(f) if not, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Notary Public**

5181. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Notary Public and Additional Counsels who have been appointed in various courts of the country during the last three years, State-wise and Union territories-wise.

(b) the number of them belongs to SC and ST;

(c) whether the policy of reservations is implemented during these appointments; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER

## OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) A statement indicating the number of Notaries Public and Additional Government Counsels who have been appointed in various courts of the country during the last three years, State-wise and Union territory-wise is enclosed herewith

(b) The known number of Notaries Public belonging to SC/ST appointed during the last three years is nine. This data is based on the information collected after necessary amendments were made in the formats of memorials for indicating caste status w.e.f. 12.3.2001. No separate account of Government Counsels belonging to SC/ST category is maintained.

(c) and (d) There are no posts of Notaries Public or Government Counsels created as such. Accordingly, question of reservation does not arise.

**Statement**

*Number of Notaries Public and Additional Government Counsels appointed State-wise and Union Territory-wise during the last three years:*

State/UT	Notaries Public	Additional Government Counsels
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	90
2. Assam	-	18
3. Bihar	-	71
4. Gujarat	44	20
5. Kerala	09	97
6. Madhya Pradesh	01	24
7. Tamil Nadu	03	141
8. Maharashtra	56	120
9. Karnataka	32	61
10. Orissa	01	22
11. Punjab	103	37
12. Rajasthan	59	45
13. Uttar Pradesh	140	183

	1	2	3
14. West Bengal		25	162
15. Jammu & Kashmir		-	41
16. Nagaland		-	-
17. Haryana		112	61
18. Himachal Pradesh		1	08
19. Manipur		-	-
20. Tripura		02	-
21. Meghalaya		-	-
22. Sikkim		-	-
23. Mizoram		-	-
24. Arunachal Pradesh		-	-
25. Goa		01	-
26. Uttaranchal		11	08
27. Chhattisgarh		-	02
28. Jharkhand		02	11
29. Delhi		82	356
30. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		-	01
31. Lakshadweep		-	-
32. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		-	-
33. Daman & Diu		-	-
34. Pondicherry		-	-
35. Chandigarh		06	47

**Visit of World Bank Team in MP**

5182. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank team have visited several villages in Madhya Pradesh during the month of December, 2002;



- (b) if so, the purpose of their visit;
- (c) whether the team visited any World Bank aided project; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the World Bank team on the implementation of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(b) To undertake the periodic supervision of World Bank aided Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project.

(d) As per standard procedure followed by World Bank, the supervision mission submits a report on the status of implementation of the Bank aided Projects. For the Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project, the said supervision report recorded an overall satisfactory progress.

[Translation]

#### Industrial Production

5183. YOGI ADITYA NATH:

COL. (RETD) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) the position of industrial production in the country during the last three years of Ninth Plan and first year of Tenth Plan, year-wise;
- (b) whether there is sharp decline in industrial growth during the Ninth Plan period;
- (c) if so, the comparative figures of industrial growth during Eighth and Ninth Plan period;
- (d) the year-wise fall in industrial growth during the last three years;
- (e) the main reasons leading to fall in industrial growth; and
- (f) the effective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to give boost to industrial growth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR

RAO): (a) to (e) There was a decline in industrial production during last two years of the Ninth Plan period. This decline was mainly due to poor monsoon, lack of demand and global economic slowdown. Industry, however, has shown recovery in the first year of the Tenth Plan registering a growth of 5.7 percent during April-February 2002-03 for which latest data is available. In the Eighth Plan industrial production was boosted by the delicensing of capacities and liberalization of the economy in 1991. Growth in the Ninth Plan was affected by the Asian financial crisis since July 1997 and the recessionary tendencies. The position of industrial production during Eighth, Ninth and first year of Tenth Plan period is given in the Table below:

Percent	
Plan Period	Growth in industrial production (IIP) (Base Year: 1993-94 = 100)
Eighth Plan (1992-97)	7.3
1992-93*	2.3
1993-94*	6.0
1994-95	9.1
1995-96	13.0
1996-97	6.1
Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	5.0
1997-98	6.7
1998-99	4.1
1999-00	6.7
2000-01	5.0
2001-02	2.7
Tenth Plan (2002-07)	
2002-03 (April-February)	5.7

\* Base Year: 1980-81=100

(f) The Government has taken the following measures to boost industrial growth:

#### Measures announced in Union Budget 2003-04:

- The Government has announced several measures for improving infrastructure. These measures are targeted

at modernizing and developing rail, road, airport, port and power sectors.

- The budget has sought to bolster the manufacturing sector by providing excise and customs duty reductions. This would strengthen recovery in the manufacturing sector.
- For the textile industry, the budget has proposed excise duty cuts to provide the industry an incentive to modernize while making garments cheaper for retail buyers.
- Customs duty on textile machinery and parts was reduced from 25% to 5% to encourage modernisation.
- Tax holiday extended for R&D efforts.
- Proposals relating to personal income tax such as removal of surcharge, rebates on education expenses and no levy of additional taxes would mean rise in personal disposable income of consumers, which may lead to further increase in demand.

#### **Other measures:**

- To improve the operating environment of the industry and to boost its competitiveness, the Government has enacted several laws, which include the Competition Act and amendments to SEBI Act.
- The RBI has cut Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to 4.75 per cent from 5.0 percent, a move that will ease the liquidity position further.
- The Electricity Bill has been introduced in Parliament for facilitating comprehensive power sector reforms.
- The EXIM policy 2003-04 seeks to consolidate on the areas of core competence. It lays special focus on potential high growth sectors, namely, textiles, auto components, gems & jewellery, drugs & pharmaceuticals and electronics hardware.

[English]

#### **Setting up of Plantation Industry Cell by NABARD**

5184. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal for setting up a plantation industry cell by NABARD; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that a "Plantation Industry Cell" has been constituted at its Head Office in Mumbai in order to give a focused attention to the credit related issues pertaining to the plantation industry. The cell will look after the policy and operational aspects of credit related issues of plantation industry viz., coffee, tea, rubber, cardamom, etc. The cell would co-ordinate with the banks and other agencies including farmers to address the issues/problems relating to plantation industry.

#### **Health Package Scheme for Handloom Weavers in Gujarat**

5185. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Health Package Scheme for handloom weavers is under implementation in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, the Government of India has been implementing the Health Package Scheme for the handloom weavers in the country including the State of Gujarat. Under the scheme, assistance is provided towards cost of reimbursement of medicines upto Rs.1500/- per weaver per annum for treatment of Tuberculosis, Asthma and inflammation of alimentary system; and cost of spectacles limited to Rs.150/- and eye-testing limited to Rs.40/- per weaver; maternity benefit in the form of lump sum grant to women weavers or women belonging to weavers' households @ Rs.500/- per woman per delivery, twice in her life-time; and monetary incentive at the rate of Rs.100/- per head to each handloom weaver/his or her spouse, who undertakes permanent measures for family planning. Besides this, in order to provide potable drinking water, assistance of Rs.35,000/- per bore well is provided for every 50 weaver households and up to Rs.1.00 lakh for providing infrastructure for each of the primary health care centers in areas having a concentration of weaver population. An amount of Rs.55.11 lakh was released to the State of Gujarat during the year 2000-01 for implementation of the Health Package Scheme. Thereafter, no further proposal has been received from the State Government under this scheme.

**Export of Gems and Jewellery**

5186. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI MASUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:

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

(a) the total quantum and value of diamonds and other gems and jewellery exported since 1998 till March, 2003, year-wise;

(b) the names of first countries to whom export of these items has been made;

(c) whether export of these items is on the decline for the past few years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items; and

(f) the details of policy of the Government to encourage the gems and jewellery sector including diamonds?

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

(a) As per the information provided by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai, a representative autonomous body of the trade sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the export of Gem and Jewellery in term of value including cut & polished diamonds in term of value and quantity from the year 1998-99 to the year 2002-03, year-wise are as follows:

Value in Million US\$

	Cut & polished Diamonds	Quantity in Lakh Carats	Total Value of Gem & Jewellery
1998-1999	5026.11	267.99	6211.66
1999-2000	6647.82	331.17	8145.02
2000-2001	6186.70	299.06	7779.49
2001-2002	5971.91	328.86	7556.10
2002-2003	7110.45	372.03	9106.11

Source: GJEPC

(b) First five major markets for cut & polished diamonds and total gem & Jewellery during the year 2002-2003 have been USA, Hongkong, Belgium, Israel and UAE.

(c) Exports of Gem & Jewellery in the last four years, when compared to the year 1998-99, have recorded a rise.

(d) Does not arise?

(e) The Government and the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), the representative body of the trade sponsored by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, have taken several steps to increase the exports of gem and jewellery and to enhance competitiveness in the world markets. Some of these are given below:-

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry have prepared a Medium Term Export Strategy for various sectors including Gem and Jewellery sector;
- The GJEPC and the Govt. constantly explore the possibility of direct procurement of rough diamonds from diamond mining countries;
- Government have provided funds to set up the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Centre of Jewellery Design and Manufacture at Surat to give a fillip to jewellery design and manufacture;
- The GJEPC promotes the image of Indian diamonds and jewellery abroad through advertisements, publicity and participation in international fairs, organising buyer-seller meets and direct approach to market retailers;

- The GJEPC identifies new markets by organising market study through consultants. It also deputed Indian designers to various international trade fairs and exhibitions to study the latest trend in designs; and
- The GJEPC promotes export of Hallmark jewellery from India so that customers abroad can be assured of quality and purity of Indian made jewellery

(f) The following policy initiatives taken for the Gem & Jewellery sector in the EXIM Policy effective from 1-4-2003, include:

- Diamond & Jewellery Dollar Account for exporters dealing in purchase/sale of diamonds and diamond studded Jewellery.
- Nominated agencies to accept payment in dollars for cost of import of precious metals from EEFC account of exporter.
- Gem & Jewellery units in SEZ and EOUs can receive precious metal i.e. Gold/Silver/Platinum prior to exports or post exports equivalent to value of Jewellery exported. This means that they can bring export proceeds in kind against the present provision of bringing in cash only.
- Gem and Jewellery EOUs are now being permitted sub-contracting in DTA.

#### Allocation of Essential Commodities

5187. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of essential commodities allocated to Tamil Nadu from the central pool during the last two years, month-wise;

(b) the basis of revising allocation of various essential commodities to States;

(c) whether it is a fact that well performing States in population control and poverty eradication are given less allocation based on the performance; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard along with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The details of month-wise allocation of rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene made to the Government of Tamil Nadu for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The allocations of rice and wheat under the Targeted Public Distribution System are being made as per the estimated number of families in each category (i.e., BPL, AAY and APL) as on 1.3.2000 or the number of the families actually identified/ration cards issued by the State Governments, whichever is less. Revision in the scale of issue w.e.f. 1.4.2002 and number of ration cards has resulted in the revision of allocation of foodgrains.

With effect from 1.2.2001 the supply of levy sugar to the States by the Government of India under the Public Distribution System has been restricted only to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families on the projected population as on 1.3.2000 except in the North Eastern States, Hill States and Island Territories.

Regarding the allocation of Kerosene, the annual allocation to various States/UTs is revised taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each of the State/UT.

(c) and (d) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System, allocation of foodgrains to all States/UT is being made as per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission (1993-94) updated on the population projections of the Registrar General as on 01.03.2000, without exception. This criteria is being uniformly followed for all the States/UT.

#### Statement

(Figures in Metric Tonnes)

Month	2001-2002				2002-2003			
	Rice	Wheat	Sugar*	Kerosene	Rice	Wheat	Sugar*	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
April	1,35,696	-	10,820	52,823	5,03,853		10,820	48,559

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
May	1,35,696	-	10,820	53,601**	5,03,853	-	10,820	48,559
June	1,35,696	-	10,820	52,823	4,93,853	10,000	10,820	48,559
July	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,559
August	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,559
September	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,559
October	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,559
November	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,559
December	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,823	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,560
January	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,825	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,560
February	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,824	4,75,863	10,000	10,820	48,560
March	1,60,010	-	10,820	52,824	475,863	10,000	10,820	48,560

\* Does not include festival quota released

\*\* Includes additional allocation made during the month

### **National Savings Organisations**

5188. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether small investors have been given incentives under various Centrally Sponsored National Savings Schemes by various State Governments;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of funds mobilised through these schemes during the last three years and funds spent on providing incentives;

(c) the percentage of fund permitted to be retained by each State out of the fund mobilised under this scheme; and

(d) the purpose for which the said funds are utilised by the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) There is no provision under the small savings schemes for any incentive to be paid by State Governments to the investors.

(b) State-wise details of funds mobilised under small savings schemes through post offices during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement. Central Government does not maintain any data on expenditure incurred by State Governments, if any, on providing incentives to small savings investors.

(c) and (d) Since 1.4.2002, the entire net small savings collections are being transferred to State Governments to finance their development projects/schemes. However, the State Governments are being enabled to pay back their past high cost loans by utilizing 20% of their share of net small savings collections released from September, 2002 to March, 2003 and 30% of their share of net small savings collections to be released in 2003-2004.

**Statement*****State-wise Gross and Net Small Savings Collections in Post Offices During the last three years****(In thousand of rupees)*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003	
				(Provisional)		(Upto January, 2003)	
		Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42632812	18096797	41540609	17970342	44323867	21863665
2.	Bihar	47260364	22102831	33789417	14477402	31356707	12331274
3.	Jharkhand	0	0	16345333	8889530	15328008	8399004
4.	Base	1300611	183897	1424476	284572	1410545	321168
5.	Delhi	32699101	16720562	32740597	15916255	35721326	20321015
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	6804375	3003379	6668125	2774573	7272619	3181451
7.	Karnataka	35102687	15709561	32765594	15017937	33089824	15295380
8.	Madhya Pradesh	20971636	9932875	24795076	11968536	24353108	10682511
9.	Chhattisgarh	7368264	3636728	7988710	3436196	8458477	4248355
10.	Orissa	15296614	5451808	15124209	5762383	14449037	5952462
11.	Rajasthan	47118569	26092192	56219177	31005764	46917396	22609429
12.	Uttar Pradesh	92919468	40429866	95239345	39897849	89928226	38596531
13.	Uttaranchal	10150108	4625970	10901538	4840733	10368874	4555010
14.	Haryana	21819540	9781874	25578123	11308287	24511215	9709593
15.	Tamil Nadu	39148242	16002224	39863101	16499387	40613177	16652028
16.	Pondicherry	842451	610733	1084198	807892	855799	566936
17.	Maharashtra	80432641	40595733	78115321	34592218	82415526	35916948
18.	Goa	2151692	1432619	7435404	2700153	2400959	1447135
19.	Gujarat	75474991	42855099	74824707	37441936	78587965	40892017
20.	Daman	0	0	111402	4203	72678	38102
21.	Diu	0	0	54478	20490	43090	1084
22.	Kerala	20487388	4922064	18986451	4798423	21677029	8238807
23.	Lakshadweep	0	0	5901	76	7889	1774

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Pondicherry (Mahe)	0	0	10782	930	16099	9361
25.	Punjab	40084900	21810585	40762703	18893745	41681289	18839697
26.	Chandigarh	1527129	33990	2244617	518511	3388785	1293580
27.	Himachal Pradesh	8957553	2357883	9259225	3035696	9688890	3142450
28.	West Bengal	112437205	61816745	12119850	66166968	110617501	60235161
29.	Sikkim	264486	127034	270600	94112	224603	66342
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	133968	43735	137688	11038	136891	10446
31.	Assam	15179187	5137415	15985585	6502568	14705862	5275946
32.	Manipur	587124	254753	550854	142530	542044	138316
33.	Meghalaya	825727	330740	818058	250033	841062	250680
34.	Tripura	2566164	1382618	2655832	1280442	2388365	1115500
35.	Mizoram	382733	154816	360044	99869	403683	142999
36.	Nagaland	200038	86627	280038	139757	207366	97716
37.	Arunachal Pradesh	307057	153175	314516	127263	268077	107912
Total		783434825	375789464	816381684	377678599	799273858	372547785

#### Benefit of Excise Duty Cut

5189. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that in many cases, the excise duty cuts announced in the Budget 2003-2004 have not been benefiting the consumers; and

(b) if so, the details and steps taken to see that the benefit of the excise duty cuts is transferred to the consumers by the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The prices charged to the consumers are determined by market forces of demand and supply and depend on various factors like cost of inputs, manufacturing cost, R&D costs, product quality, sales promotion cost, trade commission, freight charges and taxes. It is not thus possible to link the prices only to the excise duty component to the exclusion of all other factors which have a bearing on the prices.

(b) There is no specific provision in excise laws for passing on the reduction in duty to the consumers.

[Translation]

#### Trade Disputes with WTO Panel

5190. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) whether some cases of trade disputes of India with other countries are pending with the dispute settlement body of World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details of such disputes and negotiations made in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the decision of settlement body should be in favour of India; and

(d) the extent to which the Government achieved the success by these initiatives?

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

(a) There have been thirty cases of trade disputes under the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the World Trade Organization (WTO) involving India either as a complaining country or the country complained against. While some of these cases have been decided by the Dispute Settlement Body based on Panel and Appellate Body reports, certain others have been amicably settled.

(b) There are at present five cases of ongoing disputes in which India is the complaining country. Separate panels have been established in two of these cases for examining India's claims. There are four cases of ongoing disputes in which India is the country complained against.

(c) The Government has been pursuing WTO disputes in coordination with concerned administrative ministries, Department of Legal Affairs and the legal experts engaged for the disputes. For each dispute a lawyer, where necessary an experienced foreign lawyer, is appointed with the prior approval of Department of Legal Affairs.

(d) India has won eight cases at the WTO and has lost five cases. In certain other cases, negotiations with other countries has resulted in amicable settlement of the dispute.

[English]

#### **Value Added Tax**

5191. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "VAT puts Pharma Cos. In a tight spot" published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated March 13, 2003;

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

(c) whether the Government are considering to relax VAT rate to 4 percent for medicines and drugs as demanded by Indian Pharmaceuticals industry;

(d) if so, whether the Government are considering to dispel the confusion stems up from the fact that the trade is unsure as to how they will be compensated for the sales tax they pay on medicines and bought before changeover; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Prices of commodities will depend on the rate of VAT fixed by the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers.

(c) to (e) As per Entry 54, List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, tax on sale or purchase of goods is a State subject. On the recommendations of the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 22nd June, 2000, an Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers was constituted to deliberate on matters relating to implementation of VAT by the States/UTs. Any decision regarding representations of trade and industry and procedure to overcome shortcomings of State VAT, if any, or rescheduling of VAT has to be taken by this Empowered Committee which meets from time to time.

#### **Formation of Global Sugar Alliance**

5192. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation had recently visited China towards formation of global sugar alliance;

(b) whether the proposed sugar alliance will oppose the USA and European Community import duty on sugar now ruling around 250-300%;

(c) whether ISMA wants sugar factories be allowed to retain excise/additional excise/cess on sugar and excise duty on molasses for a period of two years; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) No official delegation of the Government of India has visited China towards formation of Global Sugar Alliance. However, a delegation sponsored by the Indian Sugar EXIM Corporation, a body corporate of the sugar industry, visited China to request China to join the Global Alliance for sugar trade reforms.

Global Alliance for sugar trade reforms is actively pursuing its objective of securing withdrawal or substantial reduction in domestic support and export subsidy given by developed countries.



(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of the huge financial implications, the proposal has not been agreed to.

### **Export of Mangoes**

5193. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA.

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU:

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

(a) whether India has tremendous potentiality to export mangoes to US, Japan and other Far East countries;

(b) if so, the names of countries to whom mangoes are being exported at present;

(c) the total quantum and value of mangoes exported to these countries during each of the last three years upto March, 2003;

(d) the projection made for 2003-2004;

(e) whether export of mangoes is likely to fall during 2002-03 due to heavy loss in yield in some States on account of drought and recent US-Iraq war;

(f) if so, upto what extent against the target, if any, fixed;

(g) whether some countries have imposed several non-tariff barriers on import of Indian mangoes;

(h) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to solve the problems; and

(i) the specific plans of the Government to boost the export of mangoes in the coming years?

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

(a) India has potential for export of mangoes to countries all over the world including US, Japan and other Far East countries.

(b) Mangoes are being exported mainly to Bangladesh, UK, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Bahrain; Netherlands, USA and UAE.

(c) The total quantum and value of mangoes exported to these countries during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (April- November) are as under:

Date for the entire year 2002-2003 are not yet available

### *Export of Mangoes (1999-2000 to 2001-02)*

Country Name	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03 (April-Nov.)	
	Qty. (Kgs.)	Value Rs.	Qty. Kgs.	Value Rs.	Qty. Kgs.	Value Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bangladesh	21426825	232356944	21033736	241040343	9209590	97550007
U.K.	842707	34026148	1372870	45418724	1139905	49738606
Kuwait	940486	30360437	984700	30981634	675527	32590753
Saudi Arabia	2111693	47022478	2942882	66198115	1790557	58311045
Singapore	302634	15218046	321928	11601997	268410	11469847
Bahrain	443202	14119916	596898	20066798	669683	15645369

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Netherlands	326284	14908681	301122	10779734	1089127	32639071
U.S.A.	716433	19832231	730689	16272953	467712	10448709
U.A.E.	6859385	187294615	12809549	281877115	12577148	330025465
Sub Total.	33969649	595139496	41094374	724237413	28793163	656747367
Others	3140022	90931238	2334956	85676048	2114876	64324753
Total	37109671	686070734	44429330	809913461	30908039	721072120

(Source: DGCI&S)

(d) No targets has been fixed on individual product basis.

(e) and (f) It is not possible to say anything definite at present.

(g) India is facing non-tariff barriers in some countries like Japan, USA and Australia on account of presence of fruit flies in Indian mangoes.

(h) Vapour Heat Treatment (VHT) plant has been set up to overcome the problems of exporting mangoes to Japan. Government has taken up these issues bilaterally through Indian Mission or in other bilateral and multilateral fora.

(i) Some of the major initiatives taken up for boosting the export of mangoes in the coming years are:

- Awareness programmes on orchard practices for farmers in various regions of export of varieties of mangoes undertaken/being organised by APEDA.
- Setting up of pack houses with multiple activities for maintaining the quality and increasing the shelf life during the storage and transport.
- Research on Controlled Atmosphere (CA)/Modified Atmosphere transportation of mangoes for developing the sea protocol in order to increase the shelf-life and to maintain the quality.
- Transport by reefer containers for export to Middle East and South East Asian countries.

#### **Restrictions on Indian Seafood**

5194. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the continued crisis being faced by the sea-food products industry consequent to stringent conditions imposed by the international community particularly by the European Union;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve the problem;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up an appropriate Committee to interact from time to time with the international community on problems arising from impositions of regulations made with respect to sea-food products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent on the detection of the antibiotic residues in a number of consignments exported from India, the European Commission (EC) proposed in September 2002 to put India on red alert i.e., 100% testing of consignments for the presence of the banned antibiotics. However, the Government took a series of measures through the Embassies in the European Union member states and the EC agreed to postpone the decision.

(c) Government have taken a number of steps to eliminate the incidence of rejection of consignments of fish and fishery products on account of microbiological and chemical contamination, which include, laying down the essential requirements for hygienic handling of seafood at all stages of production, storage and transport to ensure effective compliance of the quality standards; prescribing the maximum permissible level of chemicals and heavy metals; monitoring

by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) of the processing units to ensure that required standards are followed; campaign by MPEDA and other Government agencies in all seafood producing areas to bring quality awareness among the exporters, processors, farmers, feed manufacturers, hatchery owners, etc. and to dissuade them not to use the banned chemicals at any stage; setting up/upgradation of laboratories for the purpose of testing of seafood at major production centers and improvement/modernization of fish landing centres and fishing harbours.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) India has already taken up the issues with E.U. in the Joint Working Group meetings. The issues are also taken up bilaterally with member countries of E.U. through our Embassies.

#### Self-Reliance in Sugar Production

5195. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is self-reliant in sugar production;

(b) if so, the details of demand and supply of sugar during the last three years;

(c) whether the installed capacity with the sugar mills in the country is more than the requirement;

(d) whether there is adequate coordination between the growers and sugar factories; and

(e) if not, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

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

(b) Year-wise details are as follows:

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

	Sugar seasons		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Total availability	248.71	278.50	291.88
consumption in the country	159.77	162.45	173.04

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Procurement of Foodgrain by FCI

5196. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has requested Food Corporation of India to procure more foodgrains in West Bengal in view of very good crops production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government has taken to procure more foodgrain in FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) The State Government of West Bengal has taken up decentralized procurement of levy rice since the year 1977. In view of problems in the mobilization of funds for the procurement operations, the State Government of West Bengal requested the Central Government to direct the FCI to take up procurement operations during the current Kharif Marketing Season 2002-03.

(c) It has been decided that FCI would procure par-boiled rice upto 2 lakh tonnes of levy rice from rice mills in the five selected districts namely Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, South Dinajpur and Midnapore.

#### Promotion of Tribal Products

5197. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to promote tribal arts and handicrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the brand name of "Tribes" is being promoted to sell goods made by the tribals in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the number of outlets set up under the brand name of "Tribes", location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs have taken steps to promote tribal arts and handicrafts through the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED). An outlet, "TRIBES" has been opened for the display and sale of tribal crafts at 9, Mahadev Road, New Delhi, with a view to accelerate the economic development of tribals, through the sale of their products on a sustainable basis. "TRIBES" has been promoting tribal crafts by inviting the artisan to their premises to demonstrate their skills and sell their products. "TRIBES" also takes part in various exhibitions in the country.

(c) In order to promote their brand name in other parts of the country. "TRIBES" participates in craft exhibitions and State festivals at different places in the country like Delhi, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, etc.

(d) At present, the "TRIBES" shop is located at 9, Mahadev Road, New Delhi and no other outlet been opened by TRIFED.

#### **Exposure Norms for Irrigation and Water Project**

5198. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has represented to revise upwards the exposure norms for Irrigation and water supply projects to 40 percent for single borrower; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government and the time by which a final decision likely to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) According to information received from Ministry of Water Resources and the Government of Gujarat, No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Insurance of Trucks**

5199. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector general insurance companies have stopped underwriting insurance of trucks (comprehensive as well as third party risk) which are more than 7 years old;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for such a decision by the public sector general insurance companies when private general insurance companies are issuing insurance policies to these trucks;

(d) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to amalgamate all the four public sector general insurance companies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Public Sector general insurance companies have not been refusing any third party insurance coverage irrespective of the age of the vehicle as it is a statutory requirement. However, companies have been underwriting motor Own Damage business, which is not mandatory under law, based on their commercial judgement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Warehouse in A.P.**

5200. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that there is a warehouse rental problem in the State of Andhra Pradesh and FCI has rejected to take godowns on rent any more following the low production of food items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) The following decisions were taken by the Government of India to resolve the issue relating to takeover of godown by the FCI:

- (i) In case where godown has been completed in all respects, the FCI has been directed to take over the godowns. However, the guarantee period will stand reduced by the extend of delay in completing the godowns.
- (ii) In respect of godowns that were to be constructed along with Railway sidings, the full seven-year guarantee period will be offered, provided the Railway siding was completed within twelve months.
- (iii) Out of (ii) above, where godown construction has been completed but the Railway siding was not completed within twelve months, the FCI has been asked to take over the godown, provided that the rental payable by the FCI will be reduced to 60% of the normal charge, till such time as the Railway siding is completed.

#### **Loan from Foreign Financial Institutions**

5201. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement has been executed by the Government of Kerala with the Asian Development Bank for availing the recently secured loan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has also submitted any fresh application/project proposals for availing loan from foreign financial institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) A programme loan for the Modernizing Government and Fiscal Reforms in Kerala for an amount of US \$ 200 million was signed between Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 16th December, 2002.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government of Kerala has submitted Theerapatham Tourist Infrastructure Project for assistance from the Japan Bank of International Co-operation and the same has been included in the list of projects posed to Government of Japan for their consideration for Official Development Assistance under the FY 2003 loan package.

[Translation]

#### **Distribution of Wheat and Rice**

5202. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

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

- (a) the quantum of wheat and rice distributed among the people living below poverty line during the last three years;
- (b) whether these people have not been provided wheat and rice in effect; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The quantum of wheat and rice distributed among the people living below poverty line during the last three years is as follows:

(Figures in Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Rice	Wheat
2000-01	59.19	37.59
2001-02	67.40	49.91
2002-03 (Upto Feb.03)	80.18	66.65

(b) and (c) The distribution of essential commodities under the Public Distribution System (PDS) through the network of Fair Price Shops to the consumers is the responsibility of the State Governments. To ensure that the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population is enabled to fully utilize the benefits under the PDS, Government of India has been regularly advising the State Governments to improve offtake of foodgrains.

[English]

#### **National Foundation for Corporate Governance**

5203. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to set up a National Foundation for Corporate Governance in collaboration with national level industry associations and professional bodies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The proposal for setting up a National Foundation for Corporate Governance is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

### **Funds for Construction of Bridge**

5204. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Government has sent a proposal to the NABARD for approval for the construction of a bridge over Vayu river at Manganpur in Bhagwanpur block of Vaishali District of Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the Government of Bihar had submitted a proposal in November, 2002 to NABARD for the construction of a bridge over Baya river at Majholia Manganpur Ghat in Vaishali District of the State under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) - VIII. As the proposal did not contain the detailed project report and was not submitted through the nodal department i.e. Finance Department of the State, which is a necessary prerequisite, the implementing department was advised to submit the requisite project report through the nodal department. NABARD has further reported that the same is yet to be received from the State Government.

[English]

### **N.C.C.F.**

5205. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4897 on December 20, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the enquiry has since been completed and any final decision taken thereon; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with the action taken against guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The NCCF has informed that the Enquiry Report has been received and is being processed for placing before the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the NCCF at its next meeting, for their consideration and further necessary action. The NCCF is a Multi State Cooperative Society having its own Board of Directors to deal with its business and other administrative matters.

### **Ceiling of FDI**

5206. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

DR. V. SAROJA:

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

(a) whether the Group of Ministers (GoM) on Foreign Investment policy recommended an increase in the ceiling of Foreign Direct Investment in major sectors including telecom, civil aviation, petroleum refinery and non-newsprint media;

(b) if so, the percentage of FDI has been recommended in oil refineries, airport infrastructure telecom and airlines sectors;

(c) whether the Government has also recommended 100 per cent FDI in non-news, scientific and technical journals;

(d) if so, whether the Government has favoured e-mail and voice mail to be allowed up to 100 percent through automatic route for Internet-service providers without gateways; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) The Group of Ministers (GOM) on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has recommended relaxation of FDI caps in the sectors of telecommunications, civil aviation, oil and natural gas and publication of scientific and technical periodicals for the consideration of the Cabinet.

#### **Licences Cancelled by SEBI**

5207. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of stock brokers and sub-stock brokers whose licenses have been cancelled by the SEBI during the last three years and upto March 31, 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of stock brokers and sub-stock brokers whose cancelled licenses have been revoked by the SEBI within one to three months, after cancellation; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Scheme for Reimbursement of CENVAT on Hank Yarn**

5208. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved a new scheme for reimbursement to CENVAT on Hank yarn; and

(b) if so, the extent to which it will be helpful to assist the rural employment generating handloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOU DA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) With the implementation of this Scheme, the handloom weavers throughout the country will continue to get cotton and cellulosic spun yarn packed in plain reel hank form at the price net of CENVAT. This will assist in maintaining the employment in the handloom sector.

#### **Upliftment of STs**

5209. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various schemes meant for the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes, particularly construction of girls hostels and other works have not been taken in hand by some States, particularly J&K State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a few NGOs working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in J&K State have applied to the Union Government for grant of funds under prevalent schemes, for construction of hostels; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details of the schemes implemented by this Ministry for the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes in various States/UTs, including J&K, and the funds released to these States/UTs under these schemes, during 2002-03, are given in the enclosed statement. This Ministry had not received any proposal from the Government of J&K during 2002-03 for construction of Girls hostels.

(c) and (d) The project of hostel under the Scheme of Grant-in aid to NGOs does not provide for grants for construction purpose. The grants are sanctioned to NGOs to meet the recurring expenses in running the hostels.

**Statement***Funds Released to States during 2002-2003*

Sl. No.	States/Scheme	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan	Grant under Article 275(1) of the Constitution	Non Governmental Organisations	Coaching and Allied	Vocational Training Centre	Educational Complex	Grant-in-aid to State TDCCs	Village Grain Banks	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2732.80	2160.30	173.53	8.04	59.40	216.27	480.00	177.72	144.61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	300.00	237.78	-	4.80	9.04	-	-	-
3.	Assam	3058.99	1023.40	127.94	1.69	63.25	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	556.56	209.00	-	-	-	0.30	-	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	4626.18	2689.50	13.61		120.35	9.73	-	-	198.29
6.	Gujarat	3930.91	2250.00	73.44	8.64	34.59	26.35	-	-	20.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	643.53	80.00	53.08	2.90		-	-	-	-
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	971.94	318.00	84.01	-	47.72	-	-	-	-
9.	Jharkhand	5870.24	2808.00	386.18	-	-	-	-	-	345.00
10.	Karnataka	771.33	904.35	252.46	1.76	32.03	-	-	-	81.75
11.	Kerala	273.70	588.00	30.08	-			225.00	-	3.45
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7833.22	4052.32	68.44	-	44.16	92.46		712.16	185.02
13.	Maharashtra	3723.83	2925.00	67.59		-	11.13	-	-	127.00
14.	Manipur	761.96	424.55	130.87		4.80	-	-	-	11.41
15.	Meghalaya	-	555.00	295.77	-	2.40	-	100.00	-	-
16.	Mizoram		240.00	86.46	-	36.00	-	-	-	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	42.60	-	29.56	-	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	6495.30	3641.60	308.93	4.82	87.44	141.99	400.00	-	58.50
19.	Rajasthan	3649.56	2224.48	51.52		-	34.47	119.37	-	114.23
20.	Sikkim	108.02	83.00	15.26	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	Tamil Nadu	323.32	210.00	62.06	0.20	2.40	0.30	-	-	45.00
22.	Tripura	1041.03	665.50	15.72	-	54.00	-	122.00	-	15.74
23.	Uttaranchal	92.91	78.00	51.03	2.67	-	-	-	-	10.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	32.10	27.00	47.33	0.63	-	11.00	-	-	-
25.	West Bengal	2202.57	1543.00	242.67	-	6.13	42.10	53.63	28.93	15.00
26.	Delhi	-	-	82.58	8.79	-	3.78	-	-	-
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	200.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28.	Daman & Diu	99.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	2.93	-	2.40	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50000.00</b>	<b>30000.00</b>	<b>3003.87</b>	<b>40.14</b>	<b>631.43</b>	<b>598.92</b>	<b>1500.00</b>	<b>918.81</b>	<b>1375.00</b>



**Statement*****Funds Released to States during 2002-2003***

(Rs. in lakhs)

Post Metric Scholarship	Book Bank	Upgradation of Merit	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram Schools	Res. & Trg. (TRIs)	Exchange of Visits of Tribals	State Tribal Finance Development Corps.	Special Incentive to NGOs	Total
774.88	47.20	12.60	128.00	204.50	-	5.48	2.21	-	-	7327.54
-	-	6.45	20.00	38.00	-	0.44	-	-	-	616.51
1275.94	-	-	-	-	-	5.31	-	-	-	5556.52
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	765.86
32.07	8.21	21.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7718.94
-	10.25	-	-	-	-	6.00	1.95	-	-	6362.13
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.21	-	798.72
6.50	7.00	2.10	-	-	-	0.44	-	-	-	1437.71
-	-	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	-	-	9415.42
75.38	20.00	-	-	-	130.00	-	-	40.00	10.00	2319.06
-	-	-	-	-	-	2.50	1.94	-	5.00	1129.67
-	30.14	25.80	440.00	422.00	820.00	101.04	-	-	10.00	14836.76
165.02	-	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	100.00	-	7125.57
820.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.08	-	-	2155.78
805.98	-	-	13.75	13.75	-	-	-	-	5.00	1791.65
370.98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	733.44
697.19	-	-	32.50	32.50	-	-	-	-	-	834.35
-	5.02	10.20	-	-	-	3.64	-	-	-	11157.44
131.95	5.20	4.45	-	-	-	10.78	1.83	-	-	6347.84
-	-	0.75	-	-	-	-	-	13.79	-	220.82
-	2.64	-	-	-	-	6.97	-	-	-	652.89
-	1.49	2.40	-	-	-	5.00	1.95	27.00	-	1951.83
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	234.61
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	118.06
-	2.85	6.30	-	5.00	-	40.40	-	20.00	-	4208.58
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95.15
1.59	-	-	-	-	-	29.50	-	-	-	231.94
1.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.20
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.33
5158.64	140.00	92.05	715.75	634.25	950.00	229.50	11.96	200.00	50.00	96250.32

*[Translation]***Stapling of Currency Notes**

5210. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether RBI has directed all banks not to staple pack of currency notes;
- (b) if so, whether in spite of directions of RBI, the customers do not get unstapled pack of currency notes from any bank; and
- (c) if so, the action taken against the banks supplying stapled pack of notes to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) Banks are in the process of making alternate arrangements for securing the note packets and have been taking steps to issue notes in unstapled condition. Banks have been instructed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to start issuing unstapled notes at the earliest. The Banks violating the instructions are liable for action by RBI under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

*[English]***Restructuring of State Financial Corporation**

5211. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have initiated talks with State Governments for restructuring State Financial Corporations (SFCs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government for restructuring of SFCs;
- (c) whether a high-level Committee constituted for this purpose had recommended for financial packages to the SFCs;
- (d) if so, the details of action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether transferring of IDBI's stake in SFCs to SIDBI (Small Industrial Development Bank of India) has been allowed; and
- (f) if so, the details with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been holding discussions with State Financial Corporations (SFCs) with a view to finding a solution to make the SFCs viable in the long term.

(c) and (d) The report of the G.P. Gupta Committee has been sent to various SFCs for taking immediate action on recommendations that do not involve any financial support, such as operational and organizational restructuring, SFCs, being State entities, the State Governments are the principal stakeholders. They are thus expected to consider steps for improving the performance and recapitalisation of SFCs.

(e) and (f) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has been advised to take steps to transfer its shareholding in SFCs to SIDBI, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4H of State Financial Corporations (Amendment) Act, 2000. IDBI has been further advised to engage SBI Capital Markets Limited to determine the price of shares of SFCs to be transferred to the SIDBI.

**Monitoring of External Aid**

5212. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the loans taken by the State Governments from various foreign financial institutions during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Union Government are monitoring the loans taken by the State Governments from those foreign financial institutions; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the procedure adopted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Under the provisions of the Constitution, the powers of a State extend to borrowing only within the territory of India. Also, under the VII Schedule of the Constitution, 'Foreign Loans' come under the Union list. Thus, State Governments cannot receive financial assistance from foreign countries/institutions directly.

The external assistance in respect of projects implemented in various States are obtained by the Central Government and passed on to the States as Additional Central Assistance. The details of loans taken by the Central

Government from various foreign financial institutions during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The monitoring is done by the Administrative Ministries of the Central Government, concerned Credit Divisions and the Project Management Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA). DEA holds regular meetings with

executing agencies and donors. Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve aid utilization are ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided projects in the budgets of State and Central Govt., streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediation of flow of external aid to Central Public Sector Undertakings, strengthening of Project Monitoring Units in some States and Central Ministries, appointment of Nodal Officers for the States and regular review of projects with respect to quality at entry, etc.

### Statement

#### Loans Taken by Government from Foreign Financial Institutions

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

S.No.	Loan Title	Agreement Date	Donor	Amount	State(s)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	AP Economic Restructuring Project	4.2.99	IBRD	1266.71	Andhra Pradesh
2	AP Power Restructuring Project	5.3.99	IBRD	882.87	Andhra Pradesh
3	AP Economic Reform Programme	15.03.02	IBRD	595.65	Andhra Pradesh
4	PPF-AP Forestry Management Project	10.12.01	IDA	7.15	Andhra Pradesh
5	Delhi Water Supply & Sanitation Project	16.8.99	IBRD	10.82	Delhi
6	Gujarat Power Sector Development Program	14.12.00	ADB	683.84	Gujarat
7	Gujarat Power Sector Development Project	14.12.00	ADB	911.79	Gujarat
8	Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation & Reconstruction	26.4.01	ADB	2382.6	Gujarat
9	Gujarat State Highway Project	18.10.00	IBRD	1736.96	Gujarat
10	Karnataka Urban Dev. & Coastal Environment Mgmt.	19.5.00	ADB	797.81	Karnataka
11	Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project	26.7.01	IBRD	1715.47	Karnataka
12	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program	26.7.01	IBRD	357.39	Karnataka
13	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program-II	15.3.02	IBRD	238.26	Karnataka
14	Karnataka Water Supply Management & MS Project	23.12.99	IBRD	6.49	Karnataka
15	Modernizing Government & Fiscal Reform in Kerala	16.12.02	ADB	967.83	Kerala
16	Kerala Sate Transport Project	6.5.02	IBRD	1233.99	Kerala
17	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	5.8.02	IBRD	2240.54	Maharashtra
18	MP Public Resources Management Project	14.12.99	ADB	1081.83	Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3	4	5	6
19	MP Power Sector Development Project	21.03.02	ADB	953.04	Madhya Pradesh
20	MP State Roads Sector Development Program	5.12.02	ADB	145.17	Madhya Pradesh
21	MP State Roads Sector Development Project	5.12.02	ADB	725.88	Madhya Pradesh
22	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II) Project	14.7.99	IBRD	367.82	Multistates
23	Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Pjt.	1.12.99	ADB	1081.83	Rajasthan
24	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	27.2.01	IBRD	820.61	Rajasthan
25	Second Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project	14.7.99	IBRD	454.37	Tamil Nadu
26	UP Power Sector Restructuring Project	19.5.00	IBRD	683.84	Uttar Pradesh
27	UP Fiscal Reform and Public Sector Restructuring	16.5.00	IBRD	575.66	Uttar Pradesh
28	Uttar Pradesh State Road Project	19.2.03	IBRD	2361.52	Uttar Pradesh
29	Calcutta Environmental Improvement Project	18.12.01	ADB	1191.3	West Bengal
30	WB Corridor Development Project	10.12.02	ADB	1016.23	West Bengal
31	Calcutta Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Project	23.7.99	IBRD	10.82	West Bengal
32	AP Economic Restructring Project	4.2.99	IDA	1021.73	Andhra Pradesh
33	AP District Poverty Initiatives Project	12.5.00	IDA	493.47	Andhra Pradesh
34	AP Economic Program	15.3.02	IDA	608.01	Andhra Pradesh
35	AP Community Forest Management Project	8.10.02	IDA	548.12	Andhra Pradesh
36	Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Project	4.6.02	IDA	2282.24	Gujarat
37	Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake-Gujarat	18.2.02	IFAD	70.13	Gujarat
38	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program	26.7.01	IDA	354.57	Karnataka
39	Karnataka Watershed Development Project	26.7.01	IDA	475.57	Karnataka
40	Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	8.3.02	IDA	716.37	Karnataka
41	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Programme-II	15.3.02	IDA	243.81	Karnataka
42	Karnataka Community-Based Tank Management	4.6.02	IDA	512.86	Karnataka
43	Kerala Rural Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation	4.1.01	IDA	298.22	Kerala
44	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	5.08.02	IDA	400.67	Maharashtra

1	2	3	4	5	6
45	MP District Poverty Initiatives Project	5.12.00	IDA	501.2	Madhya Pradesh
46	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II) Project	14.7.99	IDA	217.83	Multistates
47	UP Health Systems Development Project	19.5.00	IDA	488.7	Multistates
48	Third Technical Education Project	18.10.00	IDA	291.08	Multistates
49	Technical/Engineering Edn. Quality Improvement	4.2.03	IDA	1211.64	Multistates
50	Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Prog.	25.6.99	IFAD	100.06	Multistates
51	Mizoram State Roads Project	6.5.02	IDA	304.51	Mizoram
52	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Part-H	18.12.00	IDA	208.34	Orissa
53	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project	12.5.00	IDA	446.44	Rajasthan
54	Rajasthan Second District Primary Education Project	27.7.01	IDA	352.17	Rajasthan
55	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	15.3.02	IDA	662.19	Rajasthan
56	Maharashtra Health Systems Development	14.1.99	IDA	557.57	Maharashtra
57	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Land Reclamation Project-II	4.2.99	IDA	807.02	Uttar Pradesh
58	UP Fiscal Reform and Public Sector Restructuring	16.5.00	IDA	555.37	Uttar Pradesh
59	UP Water Sector Restructuring Project	8.3.02	IDA	704.33	Uttar Pradesh

**Smuggling of Currency****Trade Relation with Britain**

5213. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of currency smuggling is on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the number of cases of currency smuggling came to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years;

(c) the action taken against each person held guilty for currency smuggling during the aforesaid period; and

(d) the steps being taken to curb currency smuggling in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

5214. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Indo-British trade has been established during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the results thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have a proposal to double the Indo-British trade in the coming five years;

(e) if so, the areas identified therefor; and

(f) the target set thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The areas in which Indo-British trade is presently concentrated include textiles/leather sector products,

engineering goods, marine products, tea, gems/jewellery, chemicals, machinery, transport equipments, project goods, professional equipments etc.

(b) and (c) Britain is an important trading partner of India and hence the Indo-British bilateral trade is kept under a constant review. The Indo-British and Indo-EU market access barriers are appropriately addressed in such reviews.

(d) to (f) The trade and industry from both the sides have inter-alia decided to work together for encouraging the doubling of Indo-British bilateral trade to Pound 10 billion per annum over the next five years. The new areas identified for such partnership include IT/enabled services, biotechnology, processed foods, non-GMO produce, health care/pharma/complementary medicine, media and infrastructure areas.

#### **I.T. Assesseees**

5215. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are maintaining the data on the Income-tax assesseees in country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on December 31, 2002, State-wise;

(c) the total value of Income tax collected from these assesseees for the years 2000-01, 2001-2002, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring every individual income-tax assessee under the one network like Centralized computerization network?

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

(b) The details of Income Tax Assesseees as on 31st December, 2002 is as per the statement-I enclosed.

(c) The total value of the Income Tax collected for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 State-wise is as per the statement-II enclosed.

(d) Income Tax Department has undertaken a comprehensive computerization programme identifying all taxpayers with a unique All-India Permanent Account Number (PAN). All Income Tax Offices are being brought on an All India network in phases. This work is complete in 60 cities. Remaining 418 cities will be brought on the network in phase-III of the computerization programme.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Details of Income Tax Assesseees - Chief Commissioner Region-wise*

(All figures in lakhs)

S.No.	Chief Commissioner of Income Tax	Total Number of Assesseees as on 31st December, 2002
1	2	3
1	Calcutta	23.02
2	Durgapur	3.88
3	Jalpaiguri	2.87
4	Chennai	12.16
5	Coimbatore	7.13
6	Trichy	5.85
7	Madurai	4.57
8	Delhi	20.38
9	Mumbai	22.48
10	Pune	11.99
11	Thane	5.17
12	Nasik	7.50
13	Nagpur	5.73
14	Ahmedabad	8.66
15	Surat	4.93
16	Rajkot	5.48
17	Vadodara	4.02
18	Lucknow	4.47
19	Bareilly	2.88
20	Allahabad	4.70
21	Bangalore	10.64
22	Hubli	3.97
23	Panaji	4.56

1	2	3	1	2	3
24	Jaipur	6.81	36	Shimla	2.36
25	Jodhpur	4.84	37	Kanpur	5.04
26	Udaipur	5.80	38	Meerut	5.39
27	Hyderabad	14.33	39	Dehradun	2.84
28	Visakhapatnam	4.07	40	Cochin	5.04
29	Bhopal	6.81	41	Trivandrum	3.55
30	Raipur	3.90	42	Bhubaneswar	5.71
31	Indore	5.01	43	Patna	7.59
32	Panchkula	7.56	44	Ranchi	5.44
33	Chandigarh	5.19	45	Guwahati	4.67
34	Amritsar	7.76	46	Shillong	2.78
35	Ludhiana	7.35	Total		316.88

**Statement-II***State-wise Break-up of Income Tax and Total Direct Taxes Collections*

(Figures in Crores)

S.No.	States	FY 2000-2001		FY 2001-2002	
		Income Tax	Total Direct Taxes	Income Tax	Total Direct Taxes
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1417.49	2481.07	1638.86	2584.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.01	5.01	2.84	2.84
3.	Assam	486.19	681.13	301.83	508.70
4.	Bihar	583.91	806.32	336.87	348.31
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	245.35	591.20
6.	Goa	137.78	208.72	141.31	180.27
7.	Gujarat	1944.88	2714.28	1710.43	2640.99
8.	Haryana	466.14	569.48	587.11	712.77
9.	Himachal Pradesh	131.88	203.99	130.48	160.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jharkhand	-	-	405.55	400.10
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	108.96	162.80	119.53	215.90
12.	Karnataka	2304.77	3564.97	2597.54	4027.53
13.	Kerala	646.89	1017.09	674.24	1101.92
14.	Madhya Pradesh	758.20	1630.29	713.44	1236.61
15.	Maharashtra	9657.20	26501.28	9255.17	25745.16
16.	Manipur	13.21	13.43	10.74	10.75
17.	Meghalaya	21.74	24.06	41.21	44.93
18.	Mizoram	0.31	0.31	0.21	0.21
19.	Nagaland	3.48	3.55	4.40	4.48
20.	New Delhi	4186.67	10165.74	4031.11	11141.27
21.	Orissa	246.01	807.88	343.03	801.54
22.	Punjab	708.75	1098.28	732.22	1051.73
23.	Rajasthan	640.71	766.15	658.63	847.79
24.	Sikkim	1.00	1.00	2.75	2.87
25.	Tamil Nadu	2603.26	4493.71	2750.36	4496.53
26.	Tripura	22.22	22.28	26.03	26.19
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1548.82	5894.51	1376.27	1569.56
28.	Uttaranchal	-	-	151.63	4000.49
29.	West Bengal	1819.23	3301.11	1818.30	3386.79
Total		30464.71	66938.44	30807.43	67841.57

**Tax Evasion by Private Sector Companies**

5216. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken cognizance of the cases of tax evasion being committed by private sector companies;

(b) if so, the names of companies against whom action has been taken during the last one year till date;

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute

a task force to take comprehensive action against the companies involved in tax evasion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Income Tax Department comes across cases of tax evasion by various categories of assesses, including private sector companies.



(b) Such information is not centrally maintained.

(c) to (e) The Government have already created appropriate field formations to look into the cases of Income Tax evasion including those by private sector companies. Necessary action is being taken in accordance with the provisions of law to tackle cases of evasion of Income Tax.

[Translation]

### Ashram Schools

5217. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of Ashram Schools sanctioned for the tribal people during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;

(b) whether any irregularities have been found in the functioning of these schools particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The relevant information is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The Central Govt. gives grants-in-aid to State Govt. on a cost-sharing (50-50) basis for construction of Ashram Schools. The day to day running of the Ashram Schools so constructed is the responsibility of the concerned State Govt. However, no instance of any irregularity in the functioning of the Ashram Schools, particularly in Maharashtra has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Statement

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of Ashram Schools Sanctioned in 2001-2002	Number of Ashram Schools Sanctioned in 2002-2003
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	0
2.	Gujarat	43	0
3.	Tripura	1	0
4.	Karnataka	9	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	46	0
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0	130
	Total	106	135

[English]

### Mechanism to Monitor NGO

5218. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAKIP: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the activities of the NGOs funded by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the nature of punishment meted out to the fraudulent and non-performing NGOs;

(d) whether the guidelines issued to the NGOs are being changed frequently;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the amount of money sanctioned for the NGOs working for tribal affairs in Manipur during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The monitoring of the activities of the NGOs funded by this Ministry is done as per the procedure laid down under various relevant provisions of the General Financial Rules. The inspection report of the District Collector and the recommendation of the State Govt. is required for the consideration of releases of grants every year. Officers from the Ministry and the State Departments are also deputed to inspect these organizations as and when considered necessary.

(c) Grant in aid to such organisations are stopped immediately. The State Govts. concerned are requested to recover the grants in aid already released, together with interest at the rate of 6% per annum from these NGOs. Criminal prosecution is also initiated through the State Government against such organizations, which are suspected to be involved in fraudulent activities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The funds sanctioned to the NGOs working in Manipur during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are:

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Grant in aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes	93.00	70.13	124.34
2.	Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas	-	-	4.80
3.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	-	-	6.25

#### **Backward Tribal Areas**

5219. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise tribal areas in the country which have been identified as most backward;

(b) the total population of these areas on the basis of the Census 2001, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken some steps to promote sericulture in some of these tribal areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total financial assistance provided by the Central Government to each state for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Government have not identified any specific tribal areas as most backward.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Starvation**

5220. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

COL. (RETD.) SONARAM CHOUDHARY:

SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU:

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether the failing monsoons in several States have led to widespread starvation in these States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of children are affected by hunger, starvation and are malnourished; and

(d) if so, the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken to end hunger and starvation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) No case of "starvation death" has been reported by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

In order to mitigate hardship in the drought affected areas, about 63.40 lakh tonnes of foodgrains, free of cost, were allocated to the drought affected States for the year 2002-03 under the Special Component of the Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana. A further quantity of 18.57 lakh tonnes has so far been allocated during 2003-04.

[Translation]

**Demand of Handicrafts**

5221. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government have assessed the increasing demand of Indian handicrafts items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the country-wise details regarding demand of Indian handicrafts during each of the last three years;
- (d) the names of the handicraft items included in the list of high-demand markets;
- (e) whether the demand for handicrafts had risen in domestic market; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The assessment of increase in demand of Indian handicrafts items including hand-knotted carpets are periodically made by the Government through Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), and Carpet Export Promotion Council on the basis of export order received by the exporters through participation in various fairs festivals within the country and abroad as well as on the basis of export data compiled from Foreign Trade Statistics (Principal Commodities of countries) published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata.

(c) The export of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpets during the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 has been to the tune of Rs.9270.50 crores, Rs.9205.63 crores and Rs.10933.67 crores respectively. The country-wise exports of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpets during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is as per statement attached. The country-wise export figures for the year 2002-03 is not available due to non-availability of printed data compiled by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata.

(d) The names of handicrafts items which are in the list of high demand markets are embroidered and crocheted goods, artmetal ware, shawls as artware, handprinted textiles and scarves, zari and zari goods and imitation jewellery etc.

(e) and (f) No hard data is available on domestic

consumption of handicrafts items. However the sub-group on handicrafts for 10th Five Year Plan has estimated that during the 9th Plan, the domestic market grew from Rs.4535.95 crores in the year 1997-98 to Rs.7069.94 crores in the year 2000-01 showing an increase of 14%.

**Statement***Country-wise exports of Handicrafts including hand-knotted carpets*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the Country	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Australia	141.37	127.55
2.	Canada	277.12	265.74
3.	France	388.62	369.94
4.	Germany	1309.05	1331.02
5.	Italy	285.91	274.39
6.	Japan	310.40	291.40
7.	Netherland	216.89	204.53
8.	Saudi Arabia	161.30	159.65
9.	Switzerland	126.97	165.12
10.	U.S.A.	3166.85	3189.87
11.	U.K.	875.86	877.34
12.	Other Countries	2010.17	1958.08
Total		9270.50	9205.63

[English]

**C&AG Report on Acceptance of Tenders**

5222. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the information had since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the government thereto;
- (d) whether the Kendriya Bhandar accepted

revised price whose prices were the highest in the bid earlier and the prices still being higher than the L-1;

- (e) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (f) is there any proposal to enquire into the matter; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Chennai Port Trust invited tenders for supply of 3 Tugs and 2 Pilot Crafts for operation at the newly constructed Ennore Port. These offers were to be valid for a period of 90 days (upto 20th April, 1998). However, the Consultant took time to submit the final evaluation report and order could not be placed to the firm even during the extended validity period. The lowest bidder did not extend the validity of their offer beyond 20th July, 1998. Chennai Port Trust then negotiated with the next lowest bidder and placed the order at a negotiated price. The C & A G's view is that the original offer of next lowest bidder included the element of Sales Tax at 5% and Turnover Sales Tax at 2.5 % and the basic price before negotiation would have come to Rupees 53.05 crores while the Port placed the order at a negotiated basic price of Rupees 55.14 crores which resulted in an additional expenditure of Rupees 2.09 crores in basic price and corresponding increase in tax of Rupees 0.23 crores. The Port's view is that the element of Sales Tax on works contract at 5% and Turnover Tax at 2.5 % included in the original offer was only for the components and not on the completed vessel, which should not be excluded to arrive at basic price. This matter is being examined in the Ministry of Shipping and a final view is yet to be taken.

(d) to (g) Since details of the specific tender are not mentioned, the concerned Department viz., Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions finds itself unable to answer the question in its present form.

#### Provision of Crop Loans by Banks

5223. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage contribution of the cooperative banks, commercial banks and regional rural banks in the crop loan in Madhya Pradesh during the year 2002-2003;
- (b) whether approximately 73 percent of the total crop loan (short term agriculture credit) are provided by the state; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Union Government to increase the credit availability of the agriculture credit through the commercial and regional rural banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the agency-wise achievements for crop loans for the year 2002-2003 (as on 30th September, 2002) in the State of Madhya Pradesh are as under:

Agency	Achievements 2002-2003 (As on 30 September, 2002)	
	Amount (Rs. Crore)	% of share to Total
Com. Banks	297.68	22.7
DCCBs	897.63	68.5
RRBs	114.65	8.8
Total	1,309.96	

(c) Public Sector Banks and regional rural banks have taken several steps to increase institutional finance to agriculture. These include formulation of Special Agricultural Credit Plans, Opening of Specialised Agricultural Finance Branches, introduction of Kisan Credit Card Schemes, introduction of Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana - RKBY, introduction of procedural modifications based on the Report of the High Level Committee on Agricultural Credit, setting up of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) with NABARD, introduction of the Scheme for financing Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres, introduction of scheme for financing farmers for purchase of land for Agricultural purposes, produce marketing loans under priority sector lending, etc.

#### Losses of JCI on MSP Operations

5224. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the Budget estimate and Revised estimate for re-imbursement of losses of the Jute Corporation of India for Minimum Support Price operations in jute during 1996-97 to 2002-03, year-wise
- (b) the year-wise losses incurred by JCI in Minimum Support Price operations and reimbursed by the Government during the above period, year-wise;

(c) whether the JCI could not undertake MSP operations for a considerable time during 2002-03, due to lack of funds particularly on account of non-reimbursement of losses by the Government in time;

(d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government for timely reimbursement of losses of the JCI for effective MSP operations in future;

(e) whether the Government would consider to create a revolving fund for timely reimbursement of losses incurred on MSP operations by the JCI; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) The Budget estimates and the Revised estimates in respect of the Jute Corporation of India Ltd. for Minimum Support Price operation in jute during 1996-97 to 2002-03 is given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Budget Estimate		Revised Estimate	
	Loan	Subsidy	Loan	Subsidy
1996-97	6.00	-	15.75	-
1997-98	6.00	-	26.00	-
1998-99	16.00	-	20.00	-
1999-00	16.00	-	16.00	-
2000-01	53.80	-	35.00	-
2001-02	35.00	-	35.00	-
2002-03	-	35.00	-	30.00

(b) The year-wise losses incurred by JCI in Minimum Support Price operation and reimbursement by the Government during the above period is given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Loss on MSP operation	Reimbursement by the Government.	
		Through Loan	Through Subsidy
1996-97	32.76	15.75	
1997-98	-	26.00	
1998-99	35.07	14.66	-
1999-00	26.59	21.34	-
2000-01	17.01	35.00	-
2001-02	24.43	35.00	-
2002-03 (Estimated)	23.00	-	30.00
Total	158.86	147.75	30.00

During 1996-97 the loss in MSP operation has been shown nil since there was no MSP operation on that year.

(c) and (d) No Sir, apart from Rupees 30.00 Crore provided as subsidy, Government provided guarantee of Rs. 33.00 Crores towards margin money for availing cash credit facility to the extent of Rs.99.00 crores for both price support and commercial operation by JCI.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration.

#### Nomadic Life

5225. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of tribes are still living nomadic life;

(b) if so, State-wise names of such tribals and their total population; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate them and settle them permanently?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The "nomadic tribes" have been categorized as Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes, etc. based on their socio-economic condition in their respective States/UTs. Though there is no specific scheme for "Nomadic tribes" but they are entitled to the benefits and concessions available under various schemes of the Government in accordance with their categorization as Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and Scheduled Tribes as the case may be.

#### **New Standard For Bottled Water**

5226. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce new standard for bottled water based on the basis of European norms;

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

(c) the time by which the new amendments are likely to be introduced for bottled water in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) Bureau of Indian Standards has already evolved amendments in the Indian Standards for Packaged Drinking Water and Natural Mineral Water in order to align them with the World's best norms for pesticide residues. They will be implemented as and when they are incorporated in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 which is administered by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

#### **Performance Statement of Small Savings Agents**

5227. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consolidated statement regarding performance of small savings agents for PPF and other schemes have not been submitted by NSO Division for the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the time by which such a statement is likely to be submitted by the NSO division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No consolidated statement regarding performance of small savings agents is required to be submitted by the National Savings Organisation.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Sericulture Projects in North-East**

5228. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether silk industry offers bright prospects of development for Assam and the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the steps being taken under the catalytic development progress to promote systematic cultivation of silk in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For promotion of silk industry Central Silk Board has been implementing various central and centrally sponsored plan schemes in collaboration with the State Governments including the States in the North Eastern Region, the major one being Catalytic Development Programme (CDP). CDP supports stakeholders in operations ranging from food plant cultivation to marketing of products in mulberry, tasar, eri and muga silk. Technology absorption, investment generation, productivity improvement and employment generation form the basic objective of the programme. A list of the schemes implemented under CDP during IX plan and details of its components during X plan are at statement-I and II.

The details of expenditure incurred under CDP in North Eastern Region during IX Plan and X Plan (2002-03) are as below:

(Rs. in crores)

	Total Expenditure	NE Region	Assam
IX Plan	Rs. 47.56	9.15	4.88
X Plan (2002-03) (P)	36.38	2.94	1.19

**Statement-I****List of Schemes under Catalytic Development Programme Implemented in the States during IX Plan**

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme
1	2
1	Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multiend reeling units.
2	Installation of Common Facility Centres for handloom silk processing.
3	Enterprise Development Programmes.
4	Creation of Growth Centres for production of quality silk.
5	Support for quality enhancement for the silk sector.
6	Support to Reeling Units.
7	Demonstration of backward integration in the reeling sector.
8	Promotion of Resource conservation Technology through Economic Ovens.
9	By-product use development projects.
10	Assistance to ISEPC for the project on Silk Fashion Garments
11	Creation of improved mulberry variety banks in States.
12	On farm training and supply of start up tools to new Mulberry sericulturists.
13	Support for equipment upgradation of existing State/Parastatal/Co-operative infrastructure in seed and reeling in non traditional States.
14	Promotion of resource conservation technologies through Drip Irrigation.
15	Master Reeler assistance to States.
16	Crop Insurance Support for Mulberry.
17	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure for tasar.
18	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-operative Societies) for upgradation and popularisation of improved reeling/spinning devices for tropical tasar.
19	Crop Insurance Support for Tasar.
20	Demonstration of systematic plantation in eri food plant with training and supply of start up tools.

1	2
21	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure for eri.
22	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-operative Societies) for upgradation and popularisation of improved Eri spinning devices.
23	Augmentation of Muga Food Plants.
24	Providing training and start up tools to farmers to practice muga culture.
25	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure for muga.
26	Pilot scheme for support to private graineurs for production of quality muga seed.
27	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-operative Societies) for popularisation of improved reeling / spinning devices for Muga.
28	Crop Insurance Support for Muga.
29	Support for institutionalising supply of quality disinfecting materials.
30	Support for installation of quality linked cocoon purchase systems in non traditional States.
31	Support for installation of quality linked yarn purchase systems.
32	Support for pre-reeling productivity improved measures of a demonstrative kind adopted by States.
33	Support for Studies, Consultancies and Surveys
34	Support for data base development
35	Support for preparation of extension & publicity material in local languages.
36	Support for product development, diversification and buyer awareness programmes.

**Statement-II****Catalytic Development Programme during X Plan (2002-07)**

Sl.No.	Sub-component/activities
1	2
1	Mulberry Sector/Component
1	Reimbursement of cost of saplings to DOS (for Bivoltine)
2	Supply of rearing appliances/farm equipments to farmers:-

1	2
	a) Onfarm training and supply of start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists (for general farmers)
	b) Supply of rearing appliances / farm equipments to farmers (for bivoltinefarmers)
3	Providing assistance for drip irrigation
4	Supply of quality disinfecting materials
5	Equipment upgradation of existing State/Parastatal/ Co-operative infrastructure in seed and reeling
6	Assistance to farmers for construction of rearing houses
7	Chawkie rearing centres - Assistance for construction of CRC building and procurement of chawkie rearing equipments
8	Crop Insurance support
<b>II</b>	<b>Tasar Sector/ Component</b>
1	Assistance for augmentation/maintenance of systematic tasar/oaktasar host plantation.
2	Assistance for maintenance of tasar/oak tasar seed multiplication infrastructure in the states.
3	Support to private tasar graineurs.
4.	Crop Insurance support for Tasar
<b>III</b>	<b>Eri Sector/ Component</b>
1	Augmentation of Eri food plants with training and startup tools
2	Assistance to states for the strengthening of eri farm-cum-grainages
<b>IV</b>	<b>Muga sector/ component</b>
1	Augmentation of Muga food plants.
2.	Strengthening of muga seed multiplication infrastructure
3	Support to muga private graineurs.
4.	Crop Insurance support for Muga
<b>V</b>	<b>Post cocoon Sector/Component</b>
1	Supply of multiend silk reeling machines
2	Support to Reeling Units:-
	(a) Interest subsidy on Working Capital loan sanctioned by Bank to reeling units

1	2
	(b) Incentive for production of bivoltine silk on multiend reeling machines
3	Quality Service Clubs:
i)	Procurement of cocoon quality grading equipments.
ii)	Procurement of raw silk testing equipments
4	Providing Master Reelers/Weavers/Dyers to States
5	Installation of Common Facility Centres
6	Quality linked price support scheme for cocoons and silk yarn:-
7	Support to agencies (NGOs/ Co-operative Societies) for upgradation and popularization of improved reeling/ spinning devices
VI	Enterprise Promotion and Training
VII	Extension & Publicity material in local languages.

[Translation]

#### **Industrial Development Centres**

5229. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) the number and location of Industrial development centres established in the country till date, State-wise;

(b) the funds provided to these centres during each of the last three years, centre-wise;

(c) the overall financial position of each centres as on 31st March, 2003;

(d) the centres which have become functional in each State as on March, 2003;

(e) the factors responsible for slow progress in respect of remaining centres;

(f) the time by which these centres are likely to become functional;

(g) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the impact of these centres in creating employment avenues in backward areas of the States; and



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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) With a view to promote Industrialization of the backward areas in the country, the Central Government in June, 1988 announced Growth Centre Scheme, under which 71 Industrial Growth Centres are proposed to be developed throughout the country. These would be endowed with basic infrastructure facilities like power, water, telecommunication, banking etc. to enable the States to attract industries. The Centre Government would be contributing an amount Rs.10 crore per Growth Centre by way of equity (Rs.15 crore in the case of Growth Centres in the North Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal). The State Government is responsible to source the balance fund and implement the project. Out of the 71 Industrial Growth Centres proposed to be developed, 68 have so far been sanctioned. Details of these centres are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) and (f) The factors responsible for slow progress of some of the Growth Centres are site selection, land acquisition which involves time consuming statutory proceedings/ litigation and physical possession of the land, development of infrastructure like power, water, roads etc. are of long gestation. These Growth Centres are implemented by the State Governments who are also responsible to raise bulk of the funds required for these projects. The scheme aims at the creation of industrial infrastructure that involves land acquisition and its development. It is a long gestation process governed by local conditions. Besides, much depends on the initiatives taken by the State Governments and also creation of investment friendly environment in the States. It is therefore, not possible to prescribe a fixed time frame for completion of all Growth Centres.

(g) No Sir.

(h) Does not arise, Sir.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of State, Growth Centre/ District	Central Assistance released during the last three years			Amount of Total Central Release	Funds provided by States & its Agencies	Total expenditure	Status of Development
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>								
1.	Hindpur	Nil	Nil	Nil	200.00	162.89	362.89	Functional
2.	Khammam (Khammam)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	-		
3.	Bobbili (Vizianagaram)	Nil	Nil	Nil	551.00	521.34	1072.34	Functional
4.	Ongole (Prakasam)	Nil	Nil	110	760.00	737.67	1387.67	Functional
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>								
	Nikklok-Ngorlung (East Siag )	Nil	Nil	320	468.00	137.50	242.90	
<b>Assam</b>								
6.	Matia (Goalpara)	100	Nil	450	700.00	152.11	402.03	
7.	Chariduar (Sonitpur)	100	Nil	450	750.00	192.05	491.93	
<b>Bihar</b>								
8.	Begusarai (Begusarai)	Nil	Nil	200	500.00	641.17	943.37	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9.	Bhagalpur (Bhagalpur)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	342.77	458.40	
10.	Chhapra (Chhapra)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	90.00	9.39	
11.	Darbhanga (Darbhanga )	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	-	-	
12.	Muzaffarpur (Muzaffarpur)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	90.00	9.68	
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>								
13.	Boral (Durg)	Nil	Nil	100	893.00	814.91	977.32	Functional
14.	Siltara (Raipur)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	1726.43	2726.43	Functional
<b>Goa</b>								
15.	Electronic City (Verna-Plateau)	150	Nil	Nil	824.00	1217.21	2041.21	Functional
<b>Gujarat</b>								
16.	Gandhidham	250	235	200	785.00	500.00	665.04	Functional
17.	Palanpur (Banaskantha)	150	Nil	100	350.00	500.00	473.00	Functional
18.	Vagra (Bharuch)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	3940.25	4940.25	Functional
<b>Haryana</b>								
19.	Bawal (Rewari)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	7722.62	8722.62	Functional
20.	Saha (Ambala)	150	100	450	850.00	953.02	1353.02	Functional
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>								
21.	Kangra (Kangra)	Nil	Nil	153	603.00	387.63	603.55	Functional
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>								
22.	Lassipora (Pulwama)	200	Nil	175	425.00	256.92	681.92	Functional
23.	Samba (Jammu)	Nil	50	100	1000.00	851.98	1851.98	Functional
<b>Jharkhand</b>								
24.	Hazaribagh (Hazaribagh)	Nil	Nil	Nil	200.00	241.19	57.10	
<b>Karnataka</b>								
25.	Dharwad (Dharwad)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	5165.00	6164.98	Functional
26.	Raichur (Raichur)	200	Nil	Nil	1000.00	1916.69	2716.69	Functional
27.	Hassan (Hassan)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	6319.52	7319.52	Functional
<b>Kerala</b>								
28.	(Kannur-Kozhikode)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	2558.37	3206.46	Functional

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
29.	(Alappuza-Malappuram)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	3004.37	3130.60	Functional
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>								
30.	Chainpura (Guna)	Nil	Nil	150	250.00	260.00	527.70	Functional
31.	Ghirongi (Bhind)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	3223.41	4223.41	Functional
32.	Kheda (Dhar)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	1161.63	2163.00	Functional
33.	Satlapur (Raisen)	100	Nil	100	635.00	636.87	1142.91	
<b>Maharashtra</b>								
34.	Akola (Akola)	50	Nil	Nil	1000.00	1188.37	2188.37	Functional
35.	Chandrapur (Chandrapur)	55	100	Nil	815.00	777.12	1461.28	Functional
36.	Dhule (Dhule)	50	80	Nil	580.00	746.69	1259.67	
37.	Nanded (Nanded)	100	60	Nil	910.00	976.03	1785.60	Functional
38.	Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri)	Nil	Nil	Nil	440.00	124.76	564.76	
<b>Manipur</b>								
39.	Lamlai-Napet (Imphal)	100	Nil	Nil	150.00	126.59	8.56	
<b>Meghalaya</b>								
40.	Mendhipattar (East Garo Hills)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00			
<b>Mizoram</b>								
41.	Luangmual	250	Nil	180	480.00	160.44	211.15	
<b>Nagaland</b>								
42.	Ganeshnagar (Kohima)	195	255	Nil	1500.00	460.25	1980.25	
<b>Orissa</b>								
43.	Chhatrapur (Ganjam)	Nil	Nil	Nil	50.00	90.84	58.57	
44.	Kalinganagar - Duburi Cuttack	Nil	450	240	840.00	1350.00	1950.00	
45.	Jharsuguda (Jharasuguda)	Nil	150	Nil	200.00	100.00	282.16	
46.	Kesinga (Kalahandi)	Nil	75	Nil	125.00	37.02	128.89	Functional
<b>Pondicherry</b>								
47.	Polagam-Karaikal (Karaikal)	Nil	100	250	650.00	685.00	1171.28	Functional

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Punjab</b>								
48.	Bathinda (Bathinda)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	982.74	1982.74	Functional
49.	Pathankot (Gurdaspur)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	500.00	1246.42	Functional
<b>Rajasthan</b>								
50.	Abu-Road (Sirohi)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	2152.68	3152.68	Functional
51.	Bhilwara (Bhilwara)	Nil	Nil	Nil	300.00	311.49	611.49	Functional
52.	Khara (Bikaner)	Nil	Nil	170	620.00	552.25	1102.25	Functional
53.	Dholpur (Dholpur)	Nil	Nil	680	1000.00	734.21	1061.91	Functional
54.	Jhalawar (Jhalawar)	Nil	Nil	Nil	300.00	166.23	466.23	Functional
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>								
55.	Erode (Periyar)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	9902.47	7902.47	Functional
56.	Oragadam (Kancheepuram)	150	600	Nil	800.00	296.74	1096.74	
57.	Tirunulveli-Gangai Kondan (Tirunelveli-Kattabomman)	Nil	Nil	Nil	930.00	1500.00	969.41	Functional
<b>Tripura</b>								
58.	Bodhjangnagar (West Tripura)	250	270	500	1070.00	58.49	725.19	Functional
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>								
59.	Bijauli (Jhansi)	200	243	Nil	593.00	365.12	958.12	Functional
60.	Jamaur (Shahjahanpur)	200	65	Nil	315.00	155.18	470.18	Functional
61.	Pakbara (Moradabad)	200	550	50	850.00	1108.14	1958.14	Functional
62.	Dibiapur (Auraiya)	50	50	Nil	150.00	75.00	223.64	
63.	Khurja (Bulandshahr)	Nil	Nil	Nil	420.00	285.00	587.28	
64.	Satharia (Jaunpur)	Nil	117	200	767.00	439.91	1006.91	Functional
65.	Shajanwa (Gorakhpur)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1000.00	1553.27	2553.27	Functional
<b>West Bengal</b>								
66.	Bolpur (Birbhum)	Nil	50	100	200.00	100.00	153.50	
67.	Jalpaiguri (Jalpaiguri)	Nil	50	100	200.00	100.00	157.50	
68.	Malda (Malda)	Nil	250	100	400.00	274.25	384.00	Functional
Total		3250	4000	5628	42699.00	74862.50	102849.92	43

Provisional Release to Shivrajpur-Padampur (Uttaranchal): Rs.50 lakh

Total Central Assistance released including Shivrajpur -Padampur (Uttaranchal) is Rs.42699 lakh + Rs.50 lakh = Rs.42749 lakh

*[English]***Insurance Premium**

5230. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ratio of insurance premium to the GDP in low at 1.2%;
- (b) whether the Government propose to increase it at least 18% of GDP;
- (c) if so, the action plan prepared by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether 40% of LIC's incremental business is coming from rural areas; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to popularise insurance in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The ratio of insurance premium as a percentage to GDP was 2.32% (1.77% for life insurance and 0.55% for non-life/general insurance) in 2000 compared with 1.93% (1.39% for life insurance and 0.54% for non-life/general insurance) in the previous year.

(b) and (c) One of the main objectives of opening up the insurance sector was to increase the insurance penetration specially in rural areas. It is expected that with a larger number of insurance companies in the field, the insurance penetration will increase substantially in the next few years. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is also laying great emphasis on its rural business.

(d) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) have informed that the rural new business was 16.92% by no. of policies, 13.12% by Sum Assured and 12.87% by First Premium Income out of the total New Business under Individual Assurances during 2001-2002 as per the definition of rural areas prescribed by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA).

(e) According to the IRDA (Obligations of Insurers to Rural Social Sectors) Regulations, 2002 all insurers are obliged to transact business in rural areas. In addition, the LIC has an adequate and strong field force in rural areas, Rural Career Agents' Scheme for rural sector, introduced the concept of Bima Gram and a separate individual life insurance plan namely, "New Jan Raksha" specially designed for rural people.

**Development of Silk Industry**

5231. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have set aside Rs.525 crores for the development of silk industry in the country and has a target of producing 30,000 tonnes silk by 2010;
- (b) if so, whether Karnataka State is the main producer of silk in the country;
- (c) if so, the amount earmarked and released to the State Government in improving the silk industry in the State;
- (d) the programmes being implemented by the State Government; and
- (e) the amount provided by the Union Government for implementing these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): (a) For development of sericulture and silk industry in the country the Government of India have approved an allocation of Rs.450 crores during X Plan with the following raw silk production targets:

Mulberry	-	24150 MT (includes 6700 MT of bivoltine raw silk.)
Tasar/Oak Tasar	-	450 MT
Eri	-	1700 MT
Muga	-	150 MT
Total	-	26450 MT

(b) Yes, Sir. In Karnataka a production of 14250 MT of Mulberry raw silk (including 4500 MT of bivoltine raw silk) is estimated during X Plan.

(c) to (e) There is no earmarking of funds for states. Each state submits proposals, and is released funds based on the appraisal and sanction of the proposals, progress and pace of utilization of earlier releases and the outlay of the schemes. The details of centrally sponsored programmes implemented by the State Government are given in the enclosed statement. On the basis of proposals received from the State, appraised by CSB as per parameters of the

Programme and progress indicated through utilization certificates, during 2002-03 Central Silk Board released an amount of Rs.14.56 crores towards implementation of centrally sponsored schemes to the Karnataka State.

### Statement

#### A Catalytic Development Programme

##### I Mulberry Sector/ Component

- 1 Reimbursement of cost of saplings to DOS (for Bivoltine)
  - 2 Supply of rearing appliances/farm equipments to farmers:
    - a) Onfarm training and supply of start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists
    - b) Supply of rearing appliances/farm equipments to farmers (for bivoltine farmers)
  - 3 Providing assistance for drip irrigation
  - 4 Supply of quality disinfecting materials
  - 5 Assistance to farmers for construction of rearing houses
  - 6 Chawkie rearing centres - Assistance for construction of CRC building and procurement of chawkie rearing equipments
  - 7 Crop insurance support
- Total for mulberry sector

##### II Post cocoon Sector/Component

- 1 Supply of multiend silk reeling machines
  - 2 Support to Reeling Units:-
    - (a) Interest subsidy on Working Capital loan sanctioned by Bank to reeling units
    - (b) Incentive for production of bivoltine silk on multiend reeling machines
  - 3 Installation of Common Facility Centres
    - (i) Mulberry
    - (ii) Non-mulberry
- Total for Post cocoon sector

##### III Enterprise Promotion and Training

##### IV Extension & Publicity material in local languages

Total I to IV

##### V Information Technology Initiatives

- i Data base development and Computerisation of market information

- ii Creation of portal for dissemination of market and technology support to farmers

Total for IT initiatives

#### B Price support to compensate fall in cocoon price in States

[Translation]

#### Hostel for Tribal Girls

5232. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether hostels have been set up to make good education available to tribal girls and boys in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of the names of the places where the said hostels are operating, the capacity of the hostels and the number of girls and boys who are availing the facility of hostels;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the number of such hostels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The information in respect of hostels sanctioned by this Ministry to the State Govt. is contained in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) An increase in the number of such hostels depends upon the requirements of the state governments, who have to provide 50% of the cost as their share, along with the land required for construction.

#### Statement

*Number of Boys and Girls Hostels Sanctioned to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir from 1992-93 to date, with the number of seats, which are generally all occupied and location of the hostels.*

#### Boys Hostel

Year of sanction	No. of hostels sanctioned	No. of seats	Location of Hostels
1	2	3	4
1993-94	1	50	1. Udhampur
1994-95	4	200	2. Bani Kathu
			3. Udhampur
			4 Doda

1	2	3	4
			5. Baramula
1995-96	1	48	6. Leh
1996-97	1	50	7. Rojouri
Total	7	348	
<b>Girls Hostels</b>			
1995-96	2	98	1. Leh
			2. Jammu

[English]

#### Manufacturing of Sub-Standard Cement

5233. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cement manufacturer companies are found manufacturing sub-standard cement and not adhere to the specification of BIS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against such companies;

(d) whether the Government have made BIS norms mandatory for cement industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No such cases have come to the notice of the Government of India.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir Under Cement (Quality Control) Order, BIS norms have been made mandatory for cement industry. The cement which does not conform to these norms is required to be destroyed immediately. These norms categorize cement into different varieties on the basis of its binding strength.

#### Premium Income of LIC

5234. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether premium income of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is likely to be adversely affected with the entry of private sector insurance players;

(b) if so, the names of the private sector insurance companies which have entered into this business;

(c) whether the Government have any information about the premium income of these companies during the last one year; and

(d) if so, how far the income of LIC from premium has been affected as a result thereof during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (d) With the entry of 12 new private life insurers, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) would not be having 100% market share. In the year 2001-2002 the LIC maintained their pre-dominant position with the total premium income of Rs. 49,821.91 crores (99.46%) compared with the total Premium Income of private life insurers which was Rs. 272.54 crores (0.54%).

(b) and (c) The names of the new private life insurers, granted licence by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), alongwith their total premium income during 2001-2002 are given below:

S. No.	Name of Private Life Insurance Company	Total Premium Income (Rs. in crore)
1.	Allianz Bajaj Life Insurance Company Limited	7.14
2.	Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited	28.26
3.	HDFC Standard Life Insurance Company Limited	33.46
4.	ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited	116.38
5.	ING Vysya Life Insurance Company Limited	4.19
6.	Max New York Life Insurance Company Limited	38.95
7.	Metlife India Insurance Company Limited	0.48
8.	Om Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited	7.58
9.	SBI Life Insurance Company Limited	14.69
10.	TATA AIG Life Insurance Company Limited	21.13
11.	AMP Sanmar Assurance Company Limited	0.28
12.	Dabur CGU Life Insurance Company Private Limited	* ..

\* Note:- The company commenced business during 2002-2003.

[Translation]

### Procurement of Crops in Bihar

5235. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of wheat, rice, sugarcane and other kharif crops procured in Bihar during the last one year till date;
- (b) the district-wise number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) A quantity of 0.41 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured in Bihar during the previous Rabi Marketing Season 2002-03 whereas the current RMS 2003-04 has started only from 1.4.2003 and wheat procurement is yet to take place. In the Kharif Marketing Season 2001-02, 0.89 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) was procured in Bihar against a quantity of 0.96 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) procured upto 23.4.2003 in the current KMS 2002-03. Kharif Coarse grains have not been procured in Bihar. Sugarcane is not procured by the Central Government.

- (b) Procurement of foodgrains at Minimum Support Price is being undertaken in all the districts of Bihar. Therefore, all farmers of Bihar are eligible to claim benefit under the scheme.

### Rajeshwari Mahila Kalyan Bima Yojana (WCD)

5236. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of "Rajeshwari Mahila Kalyan Bima Yojna";
- (b) the number of women covered under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Under the Rajrajeshwari Mahila Kalyan Bima Yojna, women in the age group of 10 to 75 years are provided insurance coverage not only for disablement but also for the death of their husband. The policy provides a cover of Rs. 25,000/- for permanent total disablement of the insured woman and a cover of Rs. 25,000/- for the death of her husband for an annual premium of Rs.15/-. For the death of an unmarried woman, the policy provides a cover of

Rs.25,000/- which is payable to her nominee/legal heir. The scheme is implemented by the public sector general insurance companies.

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

[English]

### Drinking Water

5237. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether I.S.I. mark has been made compulsory on the packaged drinking water packed by Small Scale Industries;
- (b) if so, whether this will result into closure of the SSIs giving freeway to the multinational companies; and
- (c) if so, the remedial steps taken to save domestic Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) ISI mark has been made compulsory for the Packaged Drinking Water Industry irrespective of being large scale/small scale.

- (b) No, Sir. In fact, approximately 90% of the licences granted so far belong to the Small Scale Sector.

- (c) To help small scale industries, Bureau of Indian Standards gives concession in the marking fee charged from the licensees. The marking fee for the bottled water has been fixed at Rs. 84,000/- for small scale industries and Rs. 96,000/- for large scale industries.

### Implementation of Scheduled Tribes Schemes

5238. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware-that some schemes for the welfare of those belonging to Scheduled Tribes are not being implemented effectively;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any complaints have been received by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes in this regard; and



(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure speedy and effective implementation of the scheme?

**THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM):** (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides due Central Assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administration for implementation of its Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Towards making the implementation of these schemes more effective, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs addresses the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in respect of specific schemes. Besides, the implementation aspects of the schemes are also discussed during the meetings With the concerned Secretaries of State Governments/U.T. Administrations. However, the specific representations when received from any quarter, are taken up with the concerned State Governments/U.T. Administrations for redressal.

(c) At present, there is no National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. However, The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes receives representations from individuals /organizations, which are taken up with the concerned authorities for appropriate action.

(d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs ensures speedy and effective implementation of the schemes by taking the following steps:

- (i) Sanction of grant to States/UTs is made on the basis of detailed examination of the proposals received.
- (ii) Utilization Certificates are insisted upon in respect of past releases, before fresh releases are made.
- (iii) Periodic progress reports are obtained from the States/UTs, showing the progress of implementation of schemes, the beneficiaries covered and other relevant information/data.
- (iv) Senior officers from the Ministry visit the States/UTs to assess the progress of as the implementation of the schemes.
- (v) Meeting with the State Secretaries in charge of the subject are convened to ascertain the implementation of the schemes.
- (vi) In the case of the schemes implemented through the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), funds are released after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance etc. Apart from the periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish annual accounts and audited

reports and utilization certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Governments/UT officials and other authorities, and also by the Central Government Officers.

#### **Women Reservation Bill**

5239. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the Women Reservation Bill in the current session of Parliament.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not reaching at a consensus by all the parties on the said Bill alongwith details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):**

(a) and (b) The Constitution (Eighty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1999, which provides that a nearly as one-third of the seats shall be reserved for women in the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of States, has already been introduced in Lok Sabha on 23.12.1999.

(c) In the all-party meeting held on 7.3.2003 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, again an effort was made by the Government to evolve consensus on the provisions of the said Bill.

[Translation]

#### **Loan from FFI**

5240. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI V. VETRISILVAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loans taken by the Government

from foreign financial institutions during the last three years, State-wise and Institution-wise;

(b) the rate of interest paid thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government monitors the loan taken by the State Government from these FFIs; and

(d) if so, the procedure adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The rate of interest is as under:

#### **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**

The rate of interest is variable every 6 months.

##### **(i) Currency Pooled Loans (VLR-1989)**

Interest rate is determined based on the cost of qualified borrowings plus a spread. The lending rate applicable for the period from 01-01-2002 to 30-06-2002 is as under:-

Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued prior to 31.07.1998

5.03% p.a. (includes a spread of 50 basis points.)

Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued after 31.07.1998

5.28% p.a. (includes a spread of 75 basis points.)

##### **(ii) US \$ Floating Rate Single Currency Loans**

Interest rate is determined based on 6 month LIBOR rate plus a variable spread. The rate applicable for interest payment date beginning 15-07-2002 to 14-1-2003 is as follows:-

Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued prior to 31-07-1998

1.95% p.a. (with a spread of 21 basis points)

Loans for which invitation for negotiation was issued on or after 31-07-1998

2.20% p.a. (with a spread of 46 basis points.)

#### **International Development Association (IDA)**

The rate of interest is 0.75%.

The interest is termed as Service Charge.

#### **International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)**

The rate of interest is 0.75%.

The interest is termed as Service Charge.

#### **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

The rate of interest is variable every six months.

The interest rate is determined based on average cost of preceding six months of the respective pools of outstanding borrowings established to fund such loans.

The lending rate for the period 1-7-2002 to 31-12-2002 is 6.34% on single currency US \$ loans and 3.91% on multi-currency loans.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The monitoring is done by the Administrative Ministries of the Central Government, concerned Credit Divisions and the Project Management Unit in the Department

of Economic Affairs (DEA). DEA holds regular meetings with executing agencies and donors. Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve and utilization are ensuring adequate provisioning of externally added projects in the budgets of State and Central Govt., streamlining of

procurement procedures, disintermediation of flow of external aid to Central Public Sector Undertakings, strengthening of Project Monitoring Units in some States and Central Ministries,

appointment of Nodal Officers for the States and regular review of projects with respect to quality at entry, etc.

### Statement

#### *Loans Taken by Government from Foreign Financial Institutions*

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

S.No.	Loan Title	Agreement Date	Donor	Amount	State(s)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	AP Economic Restructuring Project	4.2.99	IBRD	1266.71	Andhra Pradesh
2	AP Power Restructuring Project	5.3.99	IBRD	882.87	Andhra Pradesh
3	AP Economic Reform Programme	15.03.02	IBRD	595.65	Andhra Pradesh
4	PPF-AP Forestry Management Project	10.12.01	IDA	7.15	Andhra Pradesh
5	Delhi Water Supply & Sanitation Project	16.8.99	IBRD	10.82	Delhi
6	Gujarat Power Sector Development Program	14.12.00	ADB	683.84	Gujarat
7	Gujarat Power Sector Development Project	14.12.00	ADB	911.79	Gujarat
8	Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation & Reconstruction	26.4.01	ADB	2382.6	Gujarat
9	Gujarat State Highway Project	18.10.00	IBRD	1736.96	Gujarat
10	Karnataka Urban Dev. & Coastal Environment Mgmt.	19.5.00	ADB	797.81	Karnataka
11	Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project	26.7.01	IBRD	1715.47	Karnataka
12	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program	26.7.01	IBRD	357.39	Karnataka
13	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program-II	15.3.02	IBRD	238.26	Karnataka
14	Karnataka Water Supply Management & MS Project	23.12.99	IBRD	6.49	Karnataka
15	Modernizing Government & Fiscal Reform in Kerala	16.12.02	ADB	967.83	Kerala
16	Kerala State Transport Project	6.5.02	IBRD	1233.99	Kerala
17	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	5.8.02	IBRD	2240.54	Maharashtra
18	MP Public Resources Management Program	14.12.99	ADB	1081.83	Madhya Pradesh
19	MP Power Sector Development Project	21.03.02	ADB	953.04	Madhya Pradesh
20	MP State Roads Sector Development Program	5.12.02	ADB	145.17	Madhya Pradesh
21	MP State Roads Sector Development Project	5.12.02	ADB	725.88	Madhya Pradesh
22	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II) Project	14.7.99	IBRD	367.82	Multistates

1	2	3	4	5	6
23	Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project	1.12.99	ADB	1081.83	Rajasthan
24	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	27.2.01	IBRD	820.61	Rajasthan
25	Second Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project	14.7.99	IBRD	454.37	Tamil Nadu
26	UP Power Sector Restructuring Project	19.5.00	IBRD	683.84	Uttar Pradesh
27	UP Fiscal Reform and Public Sector Restructuring	16.5.00	IBRD	575.66	Uttar Pradesh
28	Uttar Pradesh State Road Project	19.2.03	IBRD	2361.52	Uttar Pradesh
29	Calcutta Environmental Improvement Project	18.12.01	ADB	1191.3	West Bengal
30	WB Corridor Development Project	10.12.02	ADB	1016.23	West Bengal
31	Calcutta Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Project	23.7.99	IBRD	10.82	West Bengal
32	AP Economic Restructuring Project	4.2.99	IDA	1021.73	Andhra Pradesh
33	AP District Poverty Initiatives Project	12.5.00	IDA	493.47	Andhra Pradesh
34	AP Economic Program	15.3.02	IDA	608.01	Andhra Pradesh
35	AP Community Forest Management Project	8.10.02	IDA	548.12	Andhra Pradesh
36	Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Project	4.6.02	IDA	2282.24	Gujarat
37	Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake-Gujarat	18.2.02	IFAD	70.13	Gujarat
38	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Program	26.7.01	IDA	354.57	Karnataka
39	Karnataka Watershed Development Project	26.7.01	IDA	475.57	Karnataka
40	Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	8.3.02	IDA	716.37	Karnataka
41	Karnataka Economic Restructuring Programme-II	15.3.02	IDA	243.81	Karnataka
42	Karnataka Community-Based Tank Management	4.6.02	IDA	512.86	Karnataka
43	Kerala Rural Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation	4.1.01	IDA	298.22	Kerala
44	Mumbai Urban Transport Project	5.08.02	IDA	400.67	Maharashtra
45	MP District Poverty Initiatives Project	5.12.00	IDA	501.2	Madhya Pradesh
46	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II) Project	14.7.99	IDA	217.83	Multistates
47	UP Health Systems Development Project	19.5.00	IDA	488.7	Multistates
48	Third Technical Education Project	18.10.00	IDA	291.08	Multistates
49	Technical/ Engineering Edn. Quality Improvement	4.2.03	IDA	1211.64	Multistates
50	Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Prog.	25.6.99	IFAD	100.06	Multistates

1	2	3	4	5	6
51	Mizoram State Roads Project	6.5.02	IDA	304.51	Mizoram
52	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Part-H	18.12.00	IDA	208.34	Orissa
53	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project	12.5.00	IDA	446.44	Rajasthan
54	Rajasthan Second District Primary Education Project	27.7.01	IDA	352.17	Rajasthan
55	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	15.3.02	IDA	662.19	Rajasthan
56	Maharashtra Health Systems Development	14.1.99	IDA	557.57	Maharashtra
57	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Land Reclamation Project-II	4.2.99	IDA	807.02	Uttar Pradesh
58	UP Fiscal Reform and Public Sector Restructuring	16.5.00	IDA	555.37	Uttar Pradesh
59	UP Water Sector Restructuring Project	8.3.02	IDA	704.33	Uttar Pradesh

[English]

#### **Mineral Water**

5241. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) laboratories have no facilities at present to test the bottled mineral water;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps being taken to upgrade the laboratories working under BIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Lab of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) at Sahibabad is equipped to test the Bottled Water excepting some tests required for Radio Active Residues which are tested at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai. BIS has also recognized 12 outside laboratories as per International norms for testing of samples of Bottled Water as per Indian Standards 14543:1998 and 13428:1998.

#### **Changes in Criminal Law**

5242. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has suggested far-reaching changes in criminal laws to maintain law and order;

(b) if so, the salient features of suggestions made by the Law Commission;

(c) the details of recommendations accepted by the Government; and

(d) the time by which all these suggestions are likely to be accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Law Commission's 156th Report titled "the Indian Penal Code" and 177th Report titled "Law Relating to Arrest" have already been laid on the table of the House on 08-06-1998 and 21.11.2002 respectively.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the State Governments and Union territory Administrations have been requested for their views/comments on the recommendations of the Law Commission, as 'criminal law' and "criminal procedure" are in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. It is not possible to indicate any time-frame.

12.00 hrs.

#### **PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Jaswant Singh, I

beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Public Companies (Terms of Issue of Debentures and Raising of Loans with Option to Convert such Debentures or Loans into Shares) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 275 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7424/03]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Supreme Court Judges (Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.110 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7425/03]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Jute Manufacturers Development Council (Procedural) Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 836(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 2002 under sub-section (3) of section 25 of the Jute Manufactures Development Council Act, 1983.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7426/03]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centres for Jute Diversification, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Jute Diversification, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7427/03]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and

English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufacturers 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. 7428/03]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Textiles Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Textiles Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (5) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7429/03]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Bhadohi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Bhadohi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7430/03]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7431/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Central Warehousing Corporation and the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7432/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Tea (Marketing) Control Second Amendment Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 430 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 2003 issued under section 30 of the Tea Act, 1953.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7433/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Industrial Development Bank of India (Issue and Management of Bonds) (Amendment) Regulations, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.No. LD 2897 in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 1997 under sub-section (4) of section 37 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7434/03]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-

- (i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign exchange derivative contracts) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2002

published in Notification No. G.S.R. 222 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2003.

- (ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 223 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2003.
- (iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 224 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2003.
- (iv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 225 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7435/03]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

- (i) G.S.R. 516 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd July, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (ii) G.S.R. 704 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in 20 notifications mentioned therein.
- (iii) G.S.R. 705 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (iv) G.S.R. 728 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in 4 Notifications mentioned therein.
- (v) G.S.R. 760 (E) published in Gazette of

India dated the 12th November, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in 14 Notifications mentioned therein.

- (vi) G.S.R. 783 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (vii) G.S.R. 46 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st January, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 28/97-Cus., dated the 1st April, 1997.
- (viii) G.S.R. 47 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st January, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (ix) G.S.R. 197 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 80/97-Cus., dated the 21st October, 1997.
- (x) G.S.R. 226 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 26/2000-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2000.
- (xi) G.S.R. 69 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 79/2002-Cus.(NT), dated the 10th December, 2002.
- (xii) SO. 218 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001 Cus. (NT), dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (xiii) S.O. 224 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of

certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of import.

- (xiv) S.O. 225 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of export.
- (xv) G.S.R. 126 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 12/99-Cus.(NT), dated the 5th February, 1999.
- (xvi) S.O. 324 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of import.
- (xvii) S.O. 325 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of export.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 284 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt all items of equipment including machinery and rolling stock imported by or on behalf of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited for the use in the Delhi MRTS Project from whole of the basic, additional and special additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (xix) G.S.R. 294 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 21/2003-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (xx) G.S.R. 306 (E) published in Gazette of India



dated the 4th April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.

- (5) Six statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i to vi) of (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7436/03]

- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

- (i) The CENVAT Credit (Third Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 234 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Central Excise (Third Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 242 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) The CENVAT Credit (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 243 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 2003, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) G.S.R. 244 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 36/2001-CE(NT), dated the 26th June, 2001.
- (v) G.S.R 245 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 214/86-CE dated the 25th March, 1986.
- (vi) G.S.R. 258 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 16/2001-CE, dated the 26th March, 2001.
- (vii) G.S.R. 182 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 2003 together with an

explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 6/2002-CE, dated the 1st March, 2002.

- (viii) G.S.R. 192 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 6/2002-CE, dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (ix) G S R 210 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt levy of duty of excise on parts of bicycle for the period from 1st March, 2002 to 26th April, 2002.
- (x) G S R 288 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 6/2002-CE, dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (xi) G.S.R. 289 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification Nos. 8/2003-CE, and 9/2003-CE dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (xii) G.S.R. 290 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification Nos. 7/2003-CE, and 9/2003-CE dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (xiii) The Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 291 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xiv) The CENVAT Credit (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 292 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xv) G.S.R. 304 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 32/99-CE (NT) dated the 8th July, 1999.

- (xvi) G.S.R. 213 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to softy Ice Cream and Non-alcoholic beverages dispensed through vending machines from the Central Excise duty during the period from 1st March, 1997 to 28th February, 2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7437/03]

- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:-
- (i) S.O. 258 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March 2003 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 104 (E) dated the 28th January, 2003 together with an explanatory note.
  - (ii) The Income-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 278 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 2003 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 367 (E) dated the 1st April, 2003 alongwith an explanatory memoranda.
  - (iii) The Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O 368 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory note.
  - (iv) S.O. 231 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2003 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 138 (E) dated the 6th February, 2003, together with an explanatory memorandum thereto.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7438/03]

- (8) A copy of the Central Sales Tax (Registration and Turnover) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 36 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 2003 under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, together with an explanatory memorandum thereto.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7439/03]

- (9) A copy of the Finance Commission (Salaries and Allowances) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 310 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 under sub-section (2) of section (7) of the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7440/03]

- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:-
- (i) G.S.R. 232 (E) published, in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Para cresol, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
  - (ii) G.S.R. 233 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Phenol, originating in, or exported from South Africa, Singapore and European Union, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
  - (iii) G.S.R. 247 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Sodium Hydroxide, originating in, or exported from European Union (excluding France), Indonesia and Chinese Taipei at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
  - (iv) G.S.R. 248 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Methylene Chloride, originating in, or exported from, European Union, South Africa and Singapore, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.
  - (v) G.S.R. 188 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Citric Acid, originating in, or exported from, Indonesia and Thailand, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.

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| <p>(vi) G.S.R. 205(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Vitamin A Palmitate, originating in, or exported from, European Union and Georgia, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>(vii) G.S.R. 218 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Vitamin E Acetate and Vitamin E feed grade, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>(viii) G.S.R. 219 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Hexa Methylene Tetramine, originating in, or exported from Iran, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>(ix) G.S.R. 231 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Polyester Staple Fibres of certain specification, originating in, or exported from, Korea RP, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>(x) G.S.R. 285 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt all items of equipment including machinery and rolling stock imported by or on behalf of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited for the use in the Delhi MRTS Project from whole of the basic, additional and special additional duties of customs leviable thereon.</p> <p>(xi) G.S.R. 286 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Sodium tripolyphosphate, originating in, or exported from, the People's Republic of China, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> | <p>(xii) G.S.R. 287 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Sodium hydrosulphite, originating in, or exported from, Germany and the Republic of Korea, at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>(xiii) G.S.R. 297 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on lead acid batteries imported from Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan.</p> <p>(xiv) G.S.R. 298 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 55/2002-Cus., dated the 22nd May, 2002.</p> <p>(xv) G.S.R. 305 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on steel and fibre glass measuring tapes and their parts and components, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China at the rates recommended by the Designated Authority.</p> <p>[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7441/03]</p> <p>(11) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:-</p> <p>(i) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 129 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2003, together with an explanatory memorandum.</p> <p>(ii) S.O. 239 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum declaring Anthranilic Acid as a controlled substance under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.</p> <p>[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7442/03]</p> |
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(12) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873:-

- (i) The Post Office Time Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 174 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (ii) The Post Office Recurring Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 175 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (iii) The Post Office (Monthly income Account) Amendment Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 176 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (iv) The National Savings Scheme (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 178 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7443/03]

(13) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificate Act, 1959:-

- (i) The National Savings Certificates (VIII Issue) Amendment Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 179 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (ii) The Kisan Vikas Patra (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G. S .R. 180 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7444/03]

(14) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 250 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 48 (E) dated the 15th January, 2000 issued under section 5 of the Public Provident Fund Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7445/03]

(15) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions):-

(i) Notification No. F.No. 5-1/2003-NS.II published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 2/14/89-NS.II, dated 7th June, 1989 so as to amend the Deposit Scheme for Retiring Government Employees, 1989.

(ii) Notification No. F.No. 5-1/2003-NS.II published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 2/19/89-NS.II, dated 12th December, 1990 so as to amend the Deposit Scheme for Retiring Employees of Public Sector Companies, 1991.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7446/03]

(16) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 177 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2003 notifying that the balances at the credit of the subscribers of the National Scheme, on or after the 1st day of March, 2003, shall bear interest at the rate of seven-and-a-half per cent per annum issued under sub-rule (1) of rule 6 of the National Savings Scheme Rules, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7447/03]

(17) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sections 18 and 19 of the Central Excise Rules, 2002:-

- (i) G.S.R. 235 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.40/2001-CE(NT), dated the 26th June, 2001.
- (ii) G.S.R. 236 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.41/2001-CE(NT), dated the 26th June, 2001.
- (iii) G.S.R. 237 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.41/2001-CE(NT), dated the 26th June, 2001.
- (iv) G.S.R. 238 (E) published in Gazette of

India dated the 24th March, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.43/2001-CE(NT), dated the 26th June, 2001.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7448/03]

- (18) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 293 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 35/2001-CE (NT) dated the 26th June 2001 issued under section 9 of the Central Excise Rules, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7449/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY):  
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7450/03]

- (3) A copy of the Tea (Marketing) Control (Amendment) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 247 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2003 issued under section 30 of the Tea Act, 1953.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7450A/03]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the India Trade Promotion Organisation and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7451/03]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 7452/03]

12.02 hrs.

## ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

### Fifteenth Report

[English]

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI): Sir, I beg to present the Fifteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (Department of Tourism) - 'Development of Infrastructure for Growth of Tourism - Development of Ajmer City.'

12.02½ hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

### Study Tour Reports

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following Study Tour Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings:-

- (1) Forty-fourth Study Tour Report pertaining to Bharat Dynamics Limited.
- (2) Forty-fifth Study Tour Report pertaining to Sponge Iron India Limited.

12.03 hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

### Fortieth to Forty-fourth Reports

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): Sir, I beg

to present the following Reports (Hindi and English Versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture:-

- (1) Fortieth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation).
- (2) Forty-first Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
- (3) Forty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
- (4) Forty-third Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- (5) Forty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Water Resources.

12.03½ hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE

##### Sixty-eighth to Seventieth Reports

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture:

- (1) Sixty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of Department of Culture.
- (2) Sixty-ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- (3) Seventieth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of Ministry of Shipping.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week

commencing Monday, the 28th April, 2003 will consist of:-

1. Consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, 2003
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha:
  - (i) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2003
  - (ii) The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and distribution) Bill, 2003
  - (iii) The Representation of People (Amendment) Bill, 2003
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:
  - (i) The Indian Council of World Affairs (Amendment) Bill, 2003
  - (ii) The Delhi High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2003
  - (iii) The Election and other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- (i) There is a need to pass the Women Reservation Bill without further delay.
- (ii) Need for withdrawal of Central Excise Notification No. 7/2003, S.No.95 & 105 6/2002 & 5.000.1 of 14/2002 on Yarn Dyeing winding, wrapping, weaving & complete exemption of CENVAT.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (GIRIDIH): Sir, following items may be included in the next weeks agenda:-

1. Need to install additional power generation capacity of 2 units of proposed 210 mw in CTPS and one unit of 210 mw in BTPS in Jharkhand State in view of the proposal of the Government to increase power generation capacity of Damodar Valley Corporation in the Ninth Five Year Plan.
2. Need for conducting a high level inquiry into non completion of Damodar River Rail Diversion project executed in 1982 under Central Coal

Fields Limited and aimed at mining coal beneath the rail lines of Damodar Valley and also from beneath the river even after spending about Rs. 150 crore on it and also for completing the project within a prescribed time limit.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Sir, following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. There is heavy traffic on Kishangarh-Rupangarh road near the railway station in Ajmer Parliamentary Constituency. People have to wait for a long time near railway crossing. On the one side of the crossing there is the largest marble market of Asia and on its other side is the urban and business area of Mandanganj Kishangarh. Therefore, there is a need for constructing an overbridge near Kishangarh railway station.
2. Need for covering entire stretch of platform no. 3 and 4 of Ajmer railways station by tinsheds.

PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL (JALESAR): Sir, following items may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Need for discussing the problem of drinking water and irrigation water arising out of the falling water level and taking measures to solve the problem.
2. Suicide by potato growers on account of its falling prices and no change in situation even after the statement of hon'ble Agriculture Minister. Inadequate arrangement for export of potato by the Union Government.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA) Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

- (i) Need to operate more international flights from Trivandrum, Cochin and Calicut International Airports and also for optimum utilisation of such airports.
- (ii) Need to allocate adequate forest land and also financial assistance for providing facilities to pilgrims, visiting Sabarimala, whose number is increasing every year.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we go to 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (AKOLA): Sir, it has appeared in the Press. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Yerrannaidu's name. Let him speak first.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I would permit you alter.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of wheat procurement is very serious and Government agencies are not doing this work. First it was the turn of sugarcane farmers, then of potato farmers and now wheat farmers are distressed. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Ramdas ji, please sit down.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Sir, this is a serious issue. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will also permit you to speak.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: After Shri Yerrannaidu!

MR. SPEAKER: After Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, yesterday, after Question Hour, I was not present when during 'Zero Hour' the issue of disinvestment was taken up by some hon. Members. In today's newspapers, it has been reported that Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi and, Shri Somnath Chatterjee have taken the names of some allies, including TDP, that they are also opposing disinvestment of HPCL and BPCL. Sir, on the floor of this House or even outside, as the Parliamentary Leader of my Party, we have never said that we oppose disinvestment. Neither my Chief Minister nor any other hon. Member of our Party has said that we are opposing disinvestment of HPCL or BPCL. The TDP is for disinvestment. This is what I want to clarify. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, what do you want to say?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the List of Business we have to take up the Budget (General) at 12 noon. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, you can take only one minute.  
We have to take up the Budget (General) now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Speaker. Sir, I will finish in just two minutes. This is not party matter. I would like to draw the attention of the House and say that all the MPs from Jharkhand are aware that a racket involved in the trade of organs like eyes and kidneys of hapless people is operating in the Bokaro General Hospital. On 16th of this month, Shri Shailendra Prasad Sinha of Giridih was admitted to the hospital. He had a 12 year old son and 10 year old daughter. On 19th April his family members were told that the patient has died and they could claim the body by paying Rs. 1700. But the family paid the money and went to claim the body, it had disappeared. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue regarding the city of Delhi. Delhi will not receive water from 28th April to 2nd May even for a single hour. This is a very serious issue. ...(Interruptions) People of Delhi are suffering. ...(Interruptions) Various newspapers carried this news and said as to which areas have not received water even for a single hour. ...(Interruptions) Therefore, I request the Government to make a statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All these issues can be raised on Monday and not today. In the meantime, the Government will take notice of Members' submissions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a very serious matter. The condition of farmers has worsened. The minimum support price of wheat is Rs. 630 per quintal but he is compelled to sell his wheat at Rs. 560 and Rs. 570 per quintal because Government have made no arrangement to procure wheat. My request is that Union Government instruct the State Government to make arrangements for procuring wheat. ...(Interruptions) After potato farmers, wheat farmers are getting ruined. Farmers are having trouble from all quarters. ...(Interruptions)

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

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, what is this. Why are you standing in the middle. Please sit down. I will permit you on Monday.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I go to item No. 14 - The Budget (General).

...(Interruptions)

12.13 hrs.

## DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) - 2003-04

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Outstanding Demands for Grants relating to the Ministries/Departments to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof, against:

- (1) Demand Nos. 1 to 3 relating to Ministry of Agriculture;
- (2) Demand No. 4 relating to Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries;
- (3) Demand Nos. 5 and 6 relating to Department of Atomic Energy;
- (4) Demand Nos. 7 and 8 relating to Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers;
- (5) Demand No. 9 relating to Ministry of Civil Aviation;
- (6) Demand No. 10 relating to Ministry of Coal;
- (7) Demand No. 11 relating to Ministry of Mines;
- (8) Demand Nos. 12 and 13 relating to Ministry of Commerce and Industry;
- (9) Demand Nos. 14 to 16 relating to Ministry of Communications and Information Technology;



- |                                                                                                     |                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (10) Demand Nos. 17 and 18 relating to Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution;  | (27) Demand No. 68 relating to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;                         |
| (11) Demand Nos. 19 to 26 relating to Ministry of Defence;                                          | (28) Demand No. 69 relating to Ministry of Planning;                                          |
| (12) Demand No. 27 relating to the Department of Development of North Eastern Region;               | (29) Demand No. 70 relating to Ministry of Power;                                             |
| (13) Demand No. 28 relating to Ministry of Disinvestment;                                           | (30) Demand No. 72 relating to Lok Sabha;                                                     |
| (14) Demand No. 29 relating to Ministry of Environment and Forests;                                 | (31) Demand No. 73 relating to Rajya Sabha;                                                   |
| (15) Demand Nos. 31 to 33, 35, 36 and 38 to 44 relating to Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs; | (32) Demand No. 75 relating to Secretariat of the Vice-President;                             |
| (16) Demand No. 45 relating to Ministry of Food Processing Industries;                              | (33) Demand No. 76 relating to Ministry of Road Transport and Highways;                       |
| (17) Demand Nos. 46 to 48 relating to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;                        | (34) Demand Nos. 77 to 79 relating to Ministry of Rural Development;                          |
| (18) Demand Nos. 49 and 50 relating to Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises;         | (35) Demand Nos. 80 to 82 relating to Ministry of Science and Technology;                     |
| (19) Demand Nos. 51 to 55 and 93 to 97 relating to Ministry of Home Affairs;                        | (36) Demand No. 83 relating to Ministry of Shipping;                                          |
| (20) Demand Nos. 56 to 58 relating to Ministry of Human Resource Development;                       | (37) Demand No. 84 relating to Ministry of Small Scale Industries;                            |
| (21) Demand No. 59 relating to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;                            | (38) Demand No. 85 relating to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;                    |
| (22) Demand Nos. 61 and 62 relating to Ministry of Law and Justice;                                 | (39) Demand No. 86 relating to Department of Space;                                           |
| (23) Demand No. 64 relating to Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources;                         | (40) Demand No. 87 relating to Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation;           |
| (24) Demand No. 65 relating to Department of Ocean Development;                                     | (41) Demand No. 88 relating to Ministry of Steel;                                             |
| (25) Demand No. 66 relating to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs;                                   | (42) Demand No. 89 relating to Ministry of Textiles;                                          |
| (26) Demand No. 67 relating to Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;               | (43) Demands Nos. 90 and 91 relating to Ministry of Tourism and Culture;                      |
|                                                                                                     | (44) Demand No. 92 relating to Ministry of Tribal Affairs;                                    |
|                                                                                                     | (45) Demand Nos. 98 to 101 relating to Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation; |
|                                                                                                     | (46) Demand Nos. 102 relating to Ministry of Water Resources;                                 |
|                                                                                                     | (47) Demand No. 103 relating to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.                         |

**Lok Sabha***Demands for Grants Budget (General) for 2003-2004 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. & Name of Demand		Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on March 11, 2003		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of House	
1		2		3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
<b>Ministry of Agriculture</b>					
1	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	614,64,00,000	22,15,00,000	1714,85,00,000	104,50,00,000
2	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	251,82,00,000		1259,10,00,000	
3	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	86,27,00,000	4,06,00,000	431,33,00,000	20,29,00,000
<b>Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries</b>					
4	Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries	111,17,00,000	10,00,000	555,85,00,000	51,00,000
<b>Department of Atomic Energy</b>					
5	Atomic Energy	270,76,00,000	190,15,00,000	1353,81,00,000	950,76,00,000
6	Nuclear Power Schemes	244,43,00,000	333,33,00,000	1222,15,00,000	1666,67,00,000
<b>Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers</b>					
7	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	9,73,00,000	210,98,00,000	48,62,00,000	39,87,00,000
8	Department of Fertilisers	3851,66,00,000	64,70,00,000	9604,31,00,000	323,52,00,000
<b>Ministry of Civil Aviation</b>					
9	Ministry of Civil Aviation	207,05,00,000	7,85,00,000	35,22,00,000	39,26,00,000
<b>Ministry of Coal</b>					
10	Ministry of Coal	72,98,00,000	4,17,00,000	364,92,00,000	20,83,00,000
<b>Ministry of Mines</b>					
11	Ministry of Mines	185,21,00,000	3,42,00,000	427,96,00,000	17,07,00,000
<b>Ministry of Commerce and Industry</b>					
12	Department of Commerce	278,23,00,000	25,50,00,000	1391,12,00,000	127,50,00,000

1	2	3
13	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	63,89,00,000      319,42,00,000
<b>Ministry of Communications and Information Technology</b>		
14	Department of Posts	932,56,00,000      21,53,00,000      4662,77,00,000      107,64,00,000
15	Department of Telecommunications	227,94,00,000      17,00,000      1139,71,00,000      83,00,000
16	Department of Information Technology	75,88,00,000      6,48,00,000      387,88,00,000      32,42,00,000
<b>Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</b>		
17	Department of Consumer Affairs	6,18,00,000      39,00,000      30,90,00,000      1,96,00,000
18	Department of Food and Public Distribution	4704,51,00,000      58,39,00,000      23672,56,00,000      303.94,00,000
<b>Ministry of Defence</b>		
19	Ministry of Defence	779,00,00,000      64,30,00,000      3895,02,00,000
20	Defence Pensions	1833,29,00,000      9166,45,00,000
21	Defence Services ... Army	4940,11,00,000      24700,54,00,000
22	Defence Services ... Navy	842,34,00,000      4211,68,00,000
23	Defence Services ... Air Force	1419,85,00,000      7099,25,00,000
24	Defence Ordnance Factories	693,50,00,000
25	Defence Services ... Research and Development	457,32,00,000      2286,60,00,000
26	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	3490,41,00,000      17452.05,00,000
<b>Department of Development of North Eastern Region</b>		
27	Department of Development of North Eastern Region	153,33,00,000      11,70,00,000      76,6,8,500,000      58,50,00,000
<b>Ministry of Disinvestment</b>		
28	Ministry of Disinvestment	4,73,00,000      23,64,00,000
<b>Ministry of Environment and Forests</b>		
29	Ministry of Environment and Forests	183,19,00,000      4,24,00,000      915,95,00,000      21,21,00,000
<b>Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs</b>		
31	Department of Economic Affairs	730,19,00,000      42,84,00,000      3650,83,00,000      214,18,00,000

1	2	3			
32	Currency, Coinage and Stamps	145,39,00,000	90,70,00,000	726.95.00,000	453,51,00,000
33	Payments to Financial Institutions	1259,96,00,000	531,98,00,000	6299,79,00,000	2659,88,00,000
35	Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	4364,11,00,000		21820,53,00,000	
36	Loans to Government Servants, etc.		112,50,00,000		562,50,00,000
38	Department of Expenditure	4,00,00,000		20,01,00,000	
39	Pensions	747,88,00,000		3739,38,00,000	
40	Indian Audit and Accounts Department	160,71,00,000	2,58,00,000	803,57,00,000	12,92,00,000
41	Department of Revenue	161,43,00,000	2.27,00,000	236,70,00,000	11,32,00,000
42	Direct Taxes	201,80,00,000	19,25,00,000	1009,02,00,000	96,25,00,000
43	Indirect Taxes	189,25,00,000	44,18,00,000	946,25,00,000	220,92,00,000
44	Department of Company Affairs	8,62,00,000	50,00,000	43,10,00,000	2,50,00,000
Ministry of Food Processing Industries					
45	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	13,47,00,000		67,37,00,000	
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare					
46	Department of Health	426,16,00,000	52,84,00,000	2130,77,00,000	264,21,00,000
47	Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy	32,41,00,000	33,00,000	162,06,00,000	1,67,00,000
48	Department of Family Welfare	997,69,00,000		4988,43,00,000	
Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises					
49	Department of Heavy Industry	22,15,00,000	286,29,00,000	110,75,00,000	181,46,00,000
50	Department of Public Enterprises	2,10,00,000		10,51,00,000	
Ministry of Home Affairs					
51	Ministry of Home Affairs	116,22,00,000	3,42,00,000	581,08,00,000	17,08,00,000
52	Cabinet	42,70,00,000	35,00,000	213,48,00,000	1,75,00,000
53	Police	1560,03,00,000	182,33,00,000	7488,33,00,000	911,65,000
54	Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	125,69,00,000	...	628,42,00,000	...

1	2	3
55	Transfers to Union Territory Governments	102,23,00,000      71,60,00,000      511,17,00,000      35 8,00,00,000
<b>Ministry of Human Resource Development</b>		
56	Department of Elementary Education and Literacy	917,44,00,000      3987,19,00,000
57	Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education	826,09,00,000      1,00,000      4130,45,00,000
58	Department of Women and Child Development	707,48,00,000      1946,43,00,000
<b>Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</b>		
59	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	214,93,00,000      38,60,00,000      1074,63,00,000      192,99,00,000
<b>Ministry of Law and Justice</b>		
61	Election Commission	1,83,00,000      9,17,00,000
62	Law and Justice	98,36,00,000      9,00,000      491,81,00,000      46,00,000
<b>Ministry of Non...Conventional Energy Sources</b>		
64	Ministry of Non...Conventional Energy Sources	84,19,00,000      20,84,00,000      420,92,00,000      104,20,00,000
<b>Department of Ocean Development</b>		
65	Department of Ocean Development	33,22,00,000      166,11,00,000
<b>Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs</b>		
66	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	67,00,000      3,37,00,000
<b>Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions</b>		
67	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	19,34,00,000      96,67,00,000
<b>Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas</b>		
68	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	1354,71,00,000      6773,57,00,000
<b>Ministry of Planning</b>		
69	Ministry of Planning	13,13,00,000      65,64,00,000
<b>Ministry of Power</b>		
70	Ministry of Power	311,46,00,000      470,51,00,000      1557,30,00,000      2352,57,00,000

1	2	3
<b>The President, Parliament, Union Public Service Commission and the Secretariat of the Vice-President</b>		
72 Lok Sabha	30,18,00,000	150,87,00,000
73 Rajya Sabha	14,06,00,000	70,28,00,000
75 Secretariat of the Vice-President	18,00,000	90,00,000
<b>Ministry of Road Transport and Highways</b>		
76 Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	935,20,00,000	1079,74,00,000
		4675,99,00,000
		5398,72,00,000
<b>Ministry of Rural Development</b>		
77 Department of Rural Development	4316,54,00,000	5,00,00,000
		8287,74,00,000
		5,00,00,000
78 Department of Land Resources	175,61,00,000	878,05,00,000
79 Department of Drinking Water Supply	1100,23,00,000	1651,15,00,000
<b>Ministry of Science and Technology</b>		
80 Department of Science and Technology	161,81,00,000	8,35,00,000
		972,07,00,000
		41,75,00,000
81 Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	188,05,00,000	1,35,00,000
		940,26,00,000
		6,75,00,000
82 Department of Biotechnology	45,56,00,000	227,79,00,000
<b>Ministry of Shipping</b>		
83 Ministry of Shipping	89,35,00,00	58,33,00,000
		446,75,00,000
		291,62,00,000
<b>Ministry of Small Scale Industries</b>		
84 Ministry of Small Scale Industries	62,93,00,000	3,33,00,000
		314,63,00,000
		16,67,00,000
<b>Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment</b>		
85 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	221,18,00,000	21,25,00,000
		1120,88,00,000
		106,25,00,000
<b>Department of Space</b>		
86 Department of Space	314,71,00,000	80,01,00,000
		1573,52,00,000
		400,07,00,000
<b>Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation</b>		
87 Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	631,54,00,000	4,19,00,000
		1137,66,00,000
		20,94,00,000

1	2		3		
Ministry of Steel					
88	Ministry of Steel	11,39,00,000	2,17,00,000	56,92,00,00	10,83,00,000
Ministry of Textiles					
89	Ministry of Textiles	203,52,00,000	81,46,00,000	1017,59,00,000	407,28,00,000
Ministry of Tourism and Culture					
90	Department of Culture	90,62,00,000		453,10,00,000	
91	Ministry of Tourism	26,80,00,000	34,25,00,000	134,00,00,000	171,25,00,000
Ministry of Tribal Affairs					
92	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	21,34,00,000	6,88,00,000	106,67,00,000	34,38,00,000
Union Territories (Without Legislature)					
93	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	145,14,00,000	35,23,00,000	725,68,00,000	176,17,00,000
94	Chandigarh	143,07,00,000	25,74,00,000	715,35,00,000	128,72,00,000
95	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	56,76,00,000	6,05,00,000	283,81,00,000	30,25,00,000
96	Daman and Diu	44,69,00,000	5,06,00,000	223,47,00,000	25,31,00,000
97	Lakshadweep	3,87,00,000	5,99,00,000	189,32,00,000	29,96,00,000
Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation					
98	Department of Urban Development	117,00,00,000	215,41,00,000	584,97,00,000	1077,03,00,000
99	Public Works	111,99,00,000	46,54,00,000	559,96,00,000	232,68,00,000
100	Stationery and Printing	27,14,00,000	3,00,000	135,71,00,000	17,00,000
101	Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	59,18,00,000	47,82,00,000	295,92,00,000	239,07,00,000
Ministry of Water Resources					
102	Ministry of Water Resources	122,11,00,000	9,50,00,000	610,54,00,000	47,51,00,000
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports					
103	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	71,84,00,000	1,54,00,000	359,20,00,000	7,72,00,000
Total Revenue/Capital		49076,20,00,000	8283,25,00,000	207500,87,00,000	39136,97,00,000

*The motion was adopted.*

12.18 hrs.

# APPROPRIATION (NO.3) BILL\* 2003

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up the Supplementary List of Business.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I gave a notice under rule 218 because the Supplementary List of Business was circulated just now without prior intimation. So, I gave the notice just now. It is subject to your discretion.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): This is a contingent notice.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a contingent notice. I think I can give you a chance at this stage and not afterwards.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, since the Demands of most of the Ministries could not be discussed, as usual for paucity of time, I thought of bringing a few points to your notice and to the notice of the Government.

The first relates to pricing of sugarcane and the condition of sugarcane growers. In spite of the hon. Prime Minister's intervention, it appears from the latest reply given here on the 25th April, that is, today, that out of Rs.5,096.07 crore only Rs.3,030.62 crore have been paid and Rs.2,065.45 crore are still unpaid. Therefore, their condition is further deteriorating. I urge upon the Government, through you, to respond to this matter very quickly.

In regard to the Ministry of Urban Development, we could not discuss the Demands but widespread reports have been published about the DDA scam. In that regard, we hope, in the next, Session, the Government would come out with a full report on the progress of the inquiry and the final outcome.

The condition of the Ex-servicemen and their problems are gaining momentum every day but since we could not discuss the Demands of the Ministry of Defence, we could not bring them to the notice of the House. I appeal to the Government and especially the hon Minister of Finance, through you, to look into the matter.

Also, since we could not discuss the Demands of the Ministry of Defence, we could not take up the issue related to the progress of the Commission of Inquiry on the Tehelka.com matter. So, we would also like to know whether the interim Report is prepared and would be tabled in the next Session.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I would respond to each of these. I will start from the last one and proceed upwards.

So far as the inquiry is concerned, as the hon. Member would understand, the inquiry is a judicial inquiry under Justice Phukan, a Retired Justice of the Supreme Court. The Government is fully committed to complete it at the earliest; and as soon as the inquiry is completed and the Government has examined the report, of course, it, would come to the House. Let there be no ambiguity at all on that.

The hon. Member mentioned about the condition of Ex-servicemen. I am sure, he appreciates particularly three things really. So far as the Ex-servicemen are concerned, on the pension anomalies that remain, the Ministry of Finance has taken the initiative and appointed a committee to inquire and look into those anomalies so that those are eliminated.

I am sure, the hon. Member has also observed that of the 227 medical polyclinics meant only for Ex-servicemen,

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dt. 25.4.2003

\*\* Introduced with the Recommendation of the President



announced by the hon. Prime Minister to be established, the last information I have is about 114 of them, since it was mentioned in February, have already become functional. In fact, I had the honour of inaugurating the first one of them with the hon. the Minister of Defence. I do wish to take this opportunity to say that 227 medical polyclinics only for Ex-servicemen at one stroke in a country the size of India has not been done anywhere else in the world. I think, this is a really true outstanding achievement of the Government.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I would like to just bring to your notice, without interrupting you, in this regard that the dependant of an Ex-serviceman, who was a martyr in Kargil, gave me a paper yesterday and I handed it over to you. He is being harassed from pillar to post to get sanction for a petrol pump.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I appreciate that. I take that on board because I do not want to personalise the whole thing but this is correct.

It is entirely correct that between the announcement of a benefit - not only to dependants of Ex-servicemen or dependants of security personnel - and the benefit actually being received and enjoyed by such dependants, it is an inexcusably long and an inexcusably complex procedure that is followed. I do not wish to assign the blame to anybody but I am sure the hon. Member would recognise that if, for example, a petrol pump were to be allotted, the land belongs to the State Government and then the State Government and the city administration would come in. We have no shortcut to it. The only answer to this is a greater awareness all across the country and greater co-ordination. I take this on board and I accept this.

On the question of Delhi Development Authority, I am sure the Government will, at the appropriate time, share all information with the House.

The final query that the hon. Member had to say was about sugar. If the hon. Members would recollect, I had, in my Budget speech, mentioned that the hon. Prime Minister had specifically directed that just as for plantation industry, sugar being one of the oldest agro industries of the country, as old indeed as plantation, if not older, it is vital that all issues relating to the problems of sugar industry are addressed urgently. Here, you would appreciate that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.): Even now, sugarcane farmers are not being given MSP rates, Hon'ble Prime Minister is present here. He had, in this very

House, increased the MSP by Rs. 5 and it should be paid to sugarcane farmers within 15 days. If the sugar mill owners do not pay that amount within 15 days, they will have to pay interest on arrears. But I would say that Government of India is protecting sugar mill owners and making problems for sugarcane farmers.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that I don't want to make the sugar bitter. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Farmers are dying, State Governments are giving orders to shoot at the farmers and so sugar is already getting bitter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not talk about sugar, speak on something else.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I submitted, the order had come from the hon'ble Prime Minister. In the Budget I had announced the constitution of Inter-ministerial Group. I had informed about this during discussion on Finance Bill. The inter-Ministerial group has almost completed its work. I think that it would submit its report within 10-15 days. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not that the sugar related problem in Maharashtra is different from that in Uttar Pradesh or that problem does not exist in eastern Uttar Pradesh. There ought to be a comprehensive mechanism for the whole sugar industry, since it is an important agro industry and Government are aware of its importance. I believe that if the sugarcane farmer does not get his due in time it may cause severe problems for him. Government recognise this problem and are making all efforts to arrive at a solution at the earliest.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Minister of Finance desires, the House can take up the Finance Bill right now. Otherwise, we can take it up at 2 o' clock, as he wishes.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would, of course, be guided by the wish of the House and by your direction. Bin, as it has been slated for 2 o' clock, subject of course to the desire of the House, can we take it up at 2 o' clock?

MR. SPEAKER: We do not mind. We can take it up at 2 o' clock.

The hon. Members will have an opportunity to go through the 'Zero hour'. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to speak now.

...(Interruptions)

12.30 hrs.

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

**Re: Reported Racket of Sale of Human Organs in Bokaro General Hospital, Jharkhand**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please maintain order in the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you Notice of Adjournment Motion in regard to the Bokaro General Hospital in Jharkhand. The hospital regarding which I am raising the matter here does not come under the purview of the State Government but Union

Government and comes under Steel Authority of India Ltd. A racket of sale and purchase of human organs is operating in the Bokaro General Hospital. Either the kidney or the eye of a patient is removed. Such incidents have been published in the newspapers many times. On account of it there is an acute resentment among the people and Bokaro is closed for ten days. All the parties there are unhappy over it. The President of the Women Cell of our Party Savitri Lal has been imprisoned. Besides all other agitating women like Nayonjhari Devi, Anees Singh, Sona Devi, Rajkumari Devi, Asha Devi, Bindu Singh, Umeshwari Devi, Sharda Devi etc. have been put into jail. Their only fault is that they have been waging in battle against these racketeers.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an incident and would like the Government to hold inquiry into it and submit its report on it. This incident has taken place with a person named Shailesh Kumar Sinha aged 35 years old. Shailesh Kumar Sinha was admitted to Vishvanath Nursing Home and was transferred to Bokaro General Hospital on 16th and he was kept in ICU there. At 11 o'clock on 19th his family was intimated about his death stating that he died at 55 minutes past eight. His family members were asked to carry his dead body after depositing an amount of Rs. 1700. When his family Members reached there to get his dead body it was found missing from there. Later on they came to know that his deadbody was cremated after removing his kidneys and eyes. The entire Bokaro is closed for the last two days over this incident. This matter is not confined to any party alone. The Government of India should pay attention to it and order an inquiry into it to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Shri Advani, he has raised a very serious matter of wrongful removal of kidneys and eyes. Please intervene in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: When this incident was reported in newspaper, every party started to launch agitation and the Bokaro was closed for two days. We have the people of Congress as well as Bhartiya Janta Party alongwith us in this matter. In total all parties are agitating over it. The Police is taking repressive action against the agitators. The President of the women wing of our party Shrimati Savitri Lal is in jail alongwith a dozen other women. This kind of work is not

justified even from the humanitarian point of view and no racket of such kind should be allowed to operate. I would be very grateful, if you could conduct an inquiry into the matter.

[English]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, I will ascertain the facts from the State Government on this issue.

[Translation]

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (JALESAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all might have in the newspapers of 24th read the news of the suicide of Shri Ram Vilas Pal along with his wife Sarla Pal and three daughters namely Seema, Sonu, Renu and his son named Sunil resident of Sanjay Gandhi Nagar under Naubasta police station of Kanpur due to abject poverty. The photograph of all the six dead-bodies have been published on the front page of 'Amar Ujala'. The entire family committed suicide due to poverty. Ram Vilas was working at the post of driver in Swadeshi Cotton Mill. Once upon a time Kanpur was known as Manchester of India. A resident of Uttar Pradesh used to migrate to Kanpur with the firm conviction of getting job in any cotton mill over there. Similarly the persons from all across the country used to visit Mumbai as they easily found work in some cotton mill or the other. All the mills in Kanpur be it National Textiles Corporation Mill, Elgin Mill, Lal India Mill or Swadeshi Cotton Mill are lying sick and have closed down. The thousands of workers have rendered jobless. The issue of the bad condition of the mill workers and their committing suicide has been discussed in the House even prior to it. Through you, I would like to say to the hon. Minister that Anil Kumar the son of Shri Ram Vilas Pal had taken a loan of Rs. Ten thousand from a money lender named Kamlesh Dube at the 10 percent rate of interest. Kamlesh made Anil suddenly disappear due to the failure of the lates to repay the loan. After Anil tried to run a tempo by hiring a driver it was impounded by RTO. I demand that proper action be taken in this regard. This is not the first incident. A women consumed poison on 14th along with her three children in Mirzapur distressed with poverty. Similarly a women set herself on fire alongwith her three children in Bamoheta village in Gazhiabad distressed with poverty.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Ramdas Athawale will go on record now.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Baghelji, newspaper can not be read in the House. You resume your seat, you are not being recorded. Shri Ramdas Athawaleji, you express your view point.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, atrocities are committed every day against dalits even after the passage of 55 years of independence. My state Maharashtra is pro-reforms and one adopting the ideology of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Still, a person named Ramesh Grare was burnt to death in the village Borala of district Nandubar in Maharashtra in the 5th April. I demand from the Government of India to take stringent measures to check the atrocities being committed against the poors and provide an assistance of Rs. five lakhs to the family of Ramesh Gerore. It is all I demand. All the parties should direct their partymakers in this regard keeping in view this incident. I would like to urge upon the Government of India to check the atrocities being committed against the dalits and also to provide an compensation of Rs. Five lakhs to family members of the deceased. This is what I demand.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, in Kerala, yesterday, two suspect cases of SARS have been reported. The first suspect case is of a person coming from Singapore. He is admitted in Trivendrum Medical College for treatment. The second suspect case has been reported in Cochin, which is also of a person coming from abroad. He is admitted at a Hospital in Cochin.

Sir, they are being treated. Their blood samples have been taken for analysis in the hospitals.

In this regard, I request the Central Government to provide all assistance to the Government of Kerala in dealing with this grave situation of these suspect cases of SARS.

SHRI A. C. JOS (TRICHUR): Sir, I also want to associate myself with him.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MALEVIKARA): Sir, I also want to associate myself with what Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan has said.

MR. SPEAKER: Your names will be associated.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have ruined the sugarcane farmers. Their paddy and potato crops have also damaged. Today the situation is such that their potato are getting rotten in the fields and there is possibility of spreading diseases. Their potato was not purchased. At some places there is drought and somewhere there is food in the country. However in spite of that the farmer grew wheat. Presently the situation is such that their wheat is ready but procurement centres have not been set up at the designated places by the Government. As a result of this the farmers are not getting the support price of their wheat at the rate of Rs. 630 per quintal in which Rs. 10 per quintal was to be given in the name of drought. Today they are forced to sell their wheat in the market at the rate of Rs. 560-570 per quintal. This is the time when they have to discharge their responsibilities like marriage etc. But they are forced to sell their produce at much lower price. They are not getting support price of their wheat. It is a very serious matter. I need your protection in this matter. I would like that the Central Government should give instruction to the State Governments to activate wheat purchasing agencies for procuring wheat so that farmers are not forced to sell their wheat in the markets. The farmers are already in trouble. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. MAHINDRA SINGH PAL (NAINITAL): Sir, I want to associate myself with the views expressed by Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, your name will be associated.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a Navodaya Vidyalaya in my parliamentary constituency which shifted to Hingoli after the bifurcation of my district. When you were the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, at that time, Hingoli district was separated from my area and as a result of which Navodaya Vidyalaya shifted to Hingoli. The population of my constituency is 20-22 lakh. 10-12 lakh voters are there in the constituency. My district is educationally backward. No Navodaya Vidyalaya has been set up there. The Krishi Vidyapith has given 30 acre of land to the Central Government in writing. But no steps have been taken so far in this regard. I would like to request that in view of the backwardness in terms of education a Navodaya Vidyalaya should be set up there at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI): For some time,

a proposal for inter-linking of national rivers at a cost of nearly Rs.5,50,000 crore is under study of the Government and also of a task force set up for this purpose. Expert bodies including International Water Forum have expressed serious reservations on the viability of this mega project and suggested that we should go for small, localised solutions, closer to user community by attempting regional river water grids.

The proposal for an ideal and workable regional river water grid inter-linking of rivers in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district was examined and forwarded to the Government of Karnataka for posing it to the Centre for assistance. The project outlay is a mere Rs.5,000 crore, which was reckoned a decade back. But the benefits accruing from the project in terms of generation of hydel power, irrigation potential, drinking water supply and flood control have been assessed to exceed the investment within a span of five years after commissioning of the project.

I urge the Centre to revive this proposal for inter-linking rivers of the district.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the august House to a very important and a sensitive issue.

A news-item appeared in The Pioneer on 22nd October 2000 captioned "Fake notes worth Rs.5789.9 crore afloat". It said that Meghalaya, Assam and Manipur are the major centres of transaction with ISI militants. It further said:

"A classified report of the Cabinet Secretariat sent to the Prime Minister's Office reveals that counterfeit Indian currency estimated at Rs.5789.96 crore is in circulation in the country. While Nepal and North-Eastern States are the major transaction points, the *hawala* operators in Mumbai, Calcutta and New Delhi are the big players involved in the racket originating from Pakistan."

It further said:

"At present, nearly 70,000 cases relating to circulation and seizure of counterfeit currency are pending in courts all over India."

I would again like to draw the attention of this House to another news-item appeared in The Economic Times on 10th July 2002. It said:

"In the latest report that the Intelligence Bureau, (1B) has submitted to the Home Minister, details of several Mumbai banks have been provided that have been instrumental in the circulation of fake currency worth over Rs.250 crore."

There are many more such items. But I will come to the final point and would like to draw the attention of the House to the statement made by Shri K.C. Pant, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission while delivering the Keynote Address on 'Combating Terrorism', during the International Parliamentary Conference to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Parliament of India from 22-24, January 2003. I would like to quote him.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Saroja, you cannot take such a long time. You should conclude in two minutes' time. You have to just mention it; you cannot deliver a speech. There are other hon. Members to put, forth their views. I am sorry; I cannot permit you any more. You may conclude now Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat may make a submission.

DR. V. SAROJA: I urge upon the Government to immediately set up a Committee, a high-powered Committee to go into the details of it and curb the menace. The Finance Ministry, the RBI and the IB should chalk out a strategy to stop printing, smuggling and circulation of fake currency notes in the country. I request that the report in that regard should be submitted to the House.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is famine like situation in Rajasthan. At this time this kind of situation in Rajasthan is the severest among the states in the country where such situation has come up. Through you, I would like to submit to the Government of India that only two months May and June are remaining. It is a climax period with a view to the drinking water, arranging fodder for cattles and providing employment to the people. The employment has to be provided to lakhs of people. I would like that Central Government should provide financial assistance at the earliest to Rajasthan for relief works. Sir, I would like to draw the attention to one more thing. Though the Central Government liberally have provided assistance to Rajasthan in the form of cash amount, wheat and fodder to tackle the severe drought situation by way of providing employment to lakhs of people in relief work, solving drinking water problem and protecting livestock. For all this assistance I would like to express my gratitude, however, unless there is rain in May-June, there is need to continue these relief work. The Rajasthan High Court has given verdict that one member of a poor family should be provided job for at least 25 days. However presently only 10 days' employment is being provided. Efforts should be made to provide employment to lakhs of people for at least 25 days. It is due the severe famine condition there is no difference between APL and BPL. So there is need to provide jobs to the people belonging to the both these categories. They should be employed not only in road construction and soil works but they should also be

employed in other construction activities. I would like to request you to instruct the Government that additional assistance should be provided to Rajasthan especially in coming two to two and half months.

SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM (PALAMU): Sir, through you, I would like to give an important information to the House. Presently it is first phase of summer, however, the shortage of drinking water is being felt in most parts of the country and there is water crisis. It is becoming headlines in the newspapers. In this situation water riots take place in several parts of the country. It is on account of the fall in water table and the obstruction in power supply, the problem of drinking water has come up. I am talking especially about Jharkhand state. There is acute shortage of drinking water there. In this situation drinking water should be arranged not only for people but also for cattles. There is no drinking water even for cattles and people are in difficulties there.

The water level of that area has gone down to 400 feet and it is on account of this that handpumps and borings etc. have become defunct. The people in Urban area are not getting even a single drop of water. Water is not available. The power supply in entire Jharkhand is erratic. ... (Interruptions) After the computerisation of existing meter system a new problem has arisen. It is on account of the cadre division between Bihar and Jharkhand government. Functioning are not being carried and a problem has cropped up. Through you, I would like to request the Government to make arrangements for drinking water and to ensure power supply in Jharkhand at the earliest.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have appointed all the Members of Parliament, the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the District monitoring Committees to monitor schemes under the rural development department. All the political parties commended this step. However while on the one hand all the MPs were appointed Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Committees, on the other hand there is reduction of Rs. 800 crore in Indira Awas Yojana, Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana and Swarn Jayanti Swarojgar Yojana and the scheme for drinking water. Ram Vilas Paswan ji has gone out. He is the Chairman of Vaishali district. A sum of Rs. 7 crore under Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana has been reduced there. Similarly the Government claim that emphasis is being laid on rural development and provision of Budget has been made for this purpose but on the other hand there is reduction in allocation. If you see, there is a reduction of Rs. 300 crore in Bihar. In West Bengal there is reduction of Rs. 85 crore. In Uttar Pradesh the amount of reduction is Rs. 69 crore.

Sir, it means that barring five-six states allocation of each state has been reduced. One hon'ble Member of Jharkhand was speaking. He might not be aware that Rs. 41 crore under Indira Awas Yojana, Rs. 33 crore under Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana and there after Rs. 38 crore, then Rs. 9 crore and then Rs. 11 crore have been reduced.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: The funds were not utilized in Bihar hence the reduction has been made.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I am telling you how it was not utilized.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ji you please tell your own thing. You please address the Chair not him.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell my friend that funds for Maharashtra have also been reduced. Rs. 9.68 crore of the 'Jawahar Rozgar Yojana' and Rs. 3.83 crore of the 'Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana' have been deducted. In this way, there is no state left, funds of which have not been deducted.

Sir, I have information with regard to two areas—Muzaffarpur and Vaishali falling in my constituency. All formalities had been completed there before 31st of March, 2003 and all Papers had been submitted but funds were deducted on some pretext or other. This fund is not sent to the State Government directly but it is sent to the block under DRDA, but that fund was not given. That is other thing that if the performance of a DRDA is not satisfactory then the funds be provided to some other DRDA of the same State but it should not be given to any other State in any case. Suppose if the performance of one DRDA is not satisfactory, it does not mean that the performance of all DRDAs in that State is bad. It is not so and this should not happen. I, therefore, request that funds earmarked for one State should not be deducted and given to the other State.

Sir, if funds of one State are given to other State, it would lead to regional imbalance and regional disparity. This would also be harmful for the poor people of that state as funds for constructing houses to the poors under the Indira Awas Yojana are also provided thereunder. I request that this matter should be inquired into so that funds of a State may not be diverted to other State and each state may get its due share.

Sir, even bribe is given in the Secretariat while allocating funds. Allocation is made on that basis only. Government should reply all these questions. Schemes are helpful to eliminate poverty. If funds are deducted like this, it would be

gross injustice to the poor. Therefore, I would bring 'Calling Attention Motion'. This would be shameful for all the hon. MPs of Lok Sabha as funds allocated under the schemes for upliftment of the poor are being cut despite their presence. All are to be included in this. Some of Hon. MPs have been made Chairman, or Deputy Chairman, but what would they reply to the question of common people. Why the Union Government are deducting the funds given for the development of the poors. That is why this is a very serious question and is related to all Members, all districts and all areas. Government are not providing due funds to the state. State's function should be monitored properly and deductions being made in funds of rural development Schemes should be stopped.

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (JADAVPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am trying to raise a very important point regarding Indian Army, the film world, and the freedom movement. I am very sorry that I have to say this to an empty Chamber. There is nobody in the Treasury Benches. But you are here and I find some distinguished Members of the Opposition are still here. I would like them to listen to this carefully.

Sir, the Indian Army usually helps the film world in shooting war scenes. This is a custom and a convention also. They take part in mock fights, i.e., if you are shooting India-China war, some of the Indian soldiers would put on Chinese uniform and be on the other side. If it is Indo-Pakistan war which you are doing, they would put on Pakistani uniform. We do find in many films some of them wearing Pakistan Army uniform and they take part in the mock fights.

It has been brought to my notice very recently that while shooting a film on India's freedom movement, they have been told that the Indian Army will not put on the uniform of our Liberation Army, the Indian National Army, popularly known as Azad Hind Fauj because this is banned. I was shocked to hear this. After 57 years of Independence, you can put on a uniform of an enemy country but you cannot put on uniform of the Army which fought for our freedom and for whose sacrifice today we are standing here and taking part in India's future. This is extremely shameful and ridiculous to say the least.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Defence Ministry to look into this matter. Such a thing is remnant of the colonial rule and it should be done away with forthwith. I am ashamed to learn that such a feeling still persists in this country. I have come to know about this from a well-known film director who had found that he could not have shot for this film because

the soldiers refused to put on the uniform of the Indian National Army.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we fully associate ourselves with the feelings expressed by her.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE: It is good that you have associated yourself with this cause.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to request the Government to bring this matter to the notice of the Defence Minister.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Sir, certainly this would be brought to his notice.

SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Sir, today the farmers are facing problems in regard to procurement of rice and wheat. Drought conditions are being faced by fifteen States in the country. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices for rice and wheat.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture, to find a way out to this problem. The FCI and other designated agencies of the Government should purchase rice and wheat from the farmers and they should be given proper price for that.

MR. SPEAKER: All the notices of 'Zero Hour' are over now. The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 P.M.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch  
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes  
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

FINANCE BILL, 2003

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singh to move that the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2003-04, be taken into consideration.

Hon. Members, as you are aware, the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 22nd April 2003 had recommended that the discussion on the Finance Bill be held on 25th, 28th and 29th April 2003. The Finance Minister may

reply on Wednesday, the 30th April 2003. If the House agrees, twelve hours may be allotted for: all the three stages of the Finance Bill 2003; that is, ten hours thirty minutes for the general discussion, one hour for clause by clause consideration, half-an-hour for the third reading.

Now we can go ahead with the Finance Bill. Shri Jaswant Singh.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): I beg to move\*:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

Sir, as you know and as all the hon. Members know, the consideration of the Finance Bill is really in the last phase of the entire chain and cycle of various steps that are undertaken by the Legislature in its financial responsibility. It is not the lot of Finance Ministers to win the approval or applause of his peers or his colleagues but that is, unfortunately, the lot of all Finance Ministers.

I am really quite stuck by what Edmund Burke had said in a speech on American taxation in 1774. It is astonishing how many years it takes back to. It is almost two centuries now. Edmund Burke, an Anglo-Irish political theorist, commenting on the American taxation system said:

"To tax and to please no more than to love and be wise is not given to manhood."

Unfortunately, it is the duty of all the Finance Ministers to tax and having taxed, to be able to win encomiums of everybody is an extremely difficult task. But despite that, I am quite gratified that in the ensuing period since 28th February, really speaking, by and large, the broad theme of the Budget has met with national approval. There are, of course, certain areas that have been voiced, certain areas that have been given expression to and certain areas, that we ourselves have recognized require further attention. It is entirely possible that in matters of detail, certain aspects need to be modified, refined and altered which is, in any case, always undertaken at about this time of the entire passage of the budgetary process.

In the current year, three or four issues broadly emerged which cause concern to a variety of citizens and I will address those issues to start with.

I will be very brief because I recognise that the time allotted is limited. I would benefit by the comments of other

\* Moved with recommendation of the President.

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

**Members.** The first issue is the Value Added Tax. This matter came up earlier during the Question Hour in the House and I had then also said that VAT is really to add value to taxation and not to add vexation to taxation. So, it is not a Vexation Addition Tax, it is Value Added Tax. Therefore, we must recognise that it is a modern and progressive tax and in this context, I am convinced that whenever it is implemented, it shall benefit not only the States but also the total revenue structure of the country. But let me highlight what has now come forward in the manner of controversy in the context of the Value Added Tax.

In the Budget speech, I have said that, in the current year, the States will be switching over to Value Added Tax and the Central Government in the highest traditions of co-operative federalism will facilitate this path-breaking reform. I must again repeat what I said during the Question Hour. The Central Government is a facilitator. This is a State tax. It replaces sales tax and various other taxes, merges them and prevents overlapping of taxation. And it has to be a State tax.

That is why the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, after its meeting on April 8 which is the last one, has informed that sixteen States are ready for the introduction of Value Added Tax from June 1. The VAT legislation for Madhya Pradesh, as passed by the Madhya Pradesh Assembly, has already received Presidential assent in November 2002. In late March and early April, 2003, we had received VAT legislations passed by legislatures of seven more States for Presidential assent. Of these sixteen States which the Empowered Committee has said are willing and ready to implement VAT, in fact, only eight States have actually legislated. This is one aspect of it.

Then, in respect of some of the important provisions of the Value Added Tax legislations which have been presented for Presidential assent by the States, they did not conform to what has been prescribed by the Empowered Committee itself. I could see conformation is not there. That is why during the Question Hour I had said that we will be preparing a detailed check list for the States to go through because this needs to be adhered to. This is an important aspect.

It is very important that a uniform framework be followed both in terms of the basic structure of law as also the rates across the States for ease of tax administration. If the structures will be different, if the tax rates will be fragmented and differential, tax administration, you will recognise, will be so much more difficult. This is also to avoid distortions and most importantly to unify the country's market. It is also true that a number of trade bodies, particularly the *vyapari sanghs*, are agitated over it. We have witnessed that recently, the civil

society also has pointed out scope for further improvement in the VAT Bills passed by the States.

In the meeting that the Empowered committee had on the 23rd April, they addressed these issues. They considered the divergences as also the suggestions. The Committee has now proposed and decided to meet again on the 29th April when it proposes to address some of these issues. I believe and I expect that the VAT Bills to be presented for Presidential assent, must not only be uniform and in accordance with the yardsticks or the guidelines that we have recommended but they must also incorporate the latest set of recommendations of the Empowered Committee itself in this regard. The stand of the Government of India is clear. VAT is an important initiative. But an important initiative must not and cannot be defeated through faulty implementation. The Government of India is also clear that all major States from all the regions of India should introduce VAT simultaneously so that the benefits of this progressive taxation system reach all our citizens and States and not in a patch work fashion. That is where we stand in this regard.

I might share a very interesting quotation which one of my officers shared with me. It is:

"VAT may be thought of as the Mata Hari of the tax world. Many attempted, many succumbed. Some trembled and blink while others leave but only to return. Eventually, the attraction of Mata Hari appears to be irresistible."

We will wait for the eventual. That, I think, is the best I can say so far as the VAT is concerned.

The other issue which excited a great deal of anxiety, also some comments, is about the total textile industry. Now, let me here share that in my Budget Speech itself, I had emphasized how vitally important the textile industry is to the country. I do not wish to repeat what I have said in the Budget Speech. But it was in recognition of the vital importance of the textile industry that I emphasise that the textile industry is amongst the oldest of our agro-industry. We must also recognise that after all textile is a part of the agricultural chain. The more efficient the textile industry is, the greater the benefit to the cotton farmers. It is this chain that I mentioned. In the context of sugar, earlier I said in the morning that sugar is an agro-industry. In a similar fashion, we must accept that textile is actually an agro-industry though we now have the input in that industry of the plastics and some of the hydro-carbon based products. But notwithstanding that, the fact remains that as the largest employer in the country after agriculture, I am committed to both supporting and modernising this



industry. It is only in this context that I wish to quote very briefly what I have said during the Budget Speech. I have said that all the other steps that we are taking. I wish to emphasise that in textile industry, just as in the context of steel, we have also undertaken to provide a major economic revamp package of the entire textile industry, but particularly for the power-loom which is most anxious. Let me read out what I have already said. This is so with the other measures, simultaneously with the financial package for the textile industry. I quote:

"Simultaneously, it is necessary to give a helping hand to the power-looms. For this decentralised sector, it is proposed to strengthen the existing programme for Induction of Technology in the Weaving Sector further by offering a 'Power-loom Package for Modernisation'. This package will have the following three features.

First, the Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme will be enlarged to cover the modernisation of power-looms also.

Second, to create a better working environment and obtain higher productivity, a new Power-loom Workshed Scheme will be introduced by the Ministry of Textiles together with the State Governments. Improvement of other infrastructure of existing power-loom clusters will be taken up under the revised Textile Sector infrastructure Development Scheme.

Third, as a welfare measure, all power-loom workers will be covered under the Special Insurance Scheme, which will provide them insurance cover against death, accident and disability."

Now, this is in addition to the financial package that I have said. Here, the main thrust of the proposal that we had is this.

Before I come to the proposal proper, let me again state very clearly and unambiguously that so far as handloom sector is concerned, handloom remains totally unaffected by this. Handloom is not covered under this. Some queries were raised about handloom. Handloom remains totally unaffected. I might share with you that it is interesting to note how the debate has shifted because in the late 1960s and the early 1970s, the debate really focused then on the replacement of handloom by power-looms.

And exactly the same voices that I hear today were then raised. The handloom has survived, the powerloom has also come up, but powerloom has to now upgrade itself and move forward. Therefore, I wish to say quite cleanly and unambiguously that handlooms unaffected, it will remain

unaffected and whether it is Banarasi silk sarees or Kanchipuram or Maheshwar or Chanderi, none of these are going to be affected.

What is the main thrust of the proposals? We must have a moderate rate structure and you will note that the entire rate structure in the whole textile industry chain have all been brought down. We must complete the CENVAT chain. The lack of CENVAT chain and a broken chain there has not served the country's interests. It has served the purpose for which it was intended, but it will not serve the purpose of tomorrow and eliminate the deemed credit which is, no longer, necessary now. Thus, we have to promote a regime that is tax-compliant and to encourage modernisation including also to eliminate evasion.

Sir, I want to make quite clear that we must take on board the reality of the Multi Fibre Agreement which we have inherited. The Multi Fibre Agreement comes to an end towards the end of 2004. In real terms, therefore, we have about 18 months to address the situation and to prepare ourselves thoroughly. India was really the home, along with Egypt, of cotton and it is a matter both of some regret and concern to me that from the number one cotton producer in the world, we have now slipped to number four in the global textile competition. It is a matter of great concern and some sorrow to me that we are behind even Bangladesh today. Bangladesh and Pakistan are born from the same boon. They have outstripped us now. China is ahead of us, Thailand is ahead of us and so there is need for us to reflect as to what we need to do so as to really be abreast of the rest of the world, if not to regain our position.

With this background, let me emphasise that the handloom and the producers of the fabrics are totally outside the ambit of any tax structure and they will remain so. They need not register for excise purposes. Similarly, the interests of the self-employed and the small powerloom weavers will be protected by me through a suitable amendment regarding excise requirements at the time of the passage of the Finance Bill. The Ministry has already clarified that the same principle will apply and that they need not register for the sake of zooming production. I am happy to note that great many centres have already resumed production, including - I am informed - in Malegaon, Bhiwandi, Tiruppur and other areas. This is very reassuring to us and I wish to take this opportunity to inform all those who have resumed production that I stand by what I said. We will take care of and we will protect the interests of the self-employed and the small weavers. There is no ambiguity in this regard, there shall be no ambiguity.

I wish to say exactly the same thing in respect of

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

readymade garment producers and with regard to readymade garment producers, I will flesh out the whole scheme of things that had come out as the debate progresses and when it comes to the voting on the Finance Bill proper. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (GHOSI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all small people having one or two powerlooms in Poorvanchal, have gone on strike. They are on the verge of starvation for the last 20 days. Government should pay consideration towards them.

MR. SPEAKER: The same thing is being discussed.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: You ask them to join work. There is no need to get worried about. They may start work without registration. We would safeguard the interests of self employed people.

[English]

Similarly, on the garment industry, I wish to say that the same principle applies to the garment industry. I will take care of the garment industry, manufacture of readymade garments too. Here the factor that will apply is that in the context of readymade garments, because readymade garments are after the chain of production of textile, necessarily it will have some more value addition when it comes to the garment manufacture stage. We will take full care in that regard. I wish to assure here again that those that are self-employed, those that are small operators or those who do not employ somebody else's trade market but have their own trade mark, I will thrash out all the details that they will be fully catered for.

I will attend finally to the third sector, which is hand-processing sector. The hand-processing sector is actually largely confined to certain parts of India. I do not wish to parochialise the servicing but the hand-processing industry has some concerns in regard to this. The hand-processing industry concerns shall also be fully addressed.

I wish to now take the third point, which is regarding Unit Trust. I am happy to announce that the assurances given by the Government at the time of introduction of Unit Trust (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill 2002 in the Parliament have been fulfilled, that the bifurcation has taken place. All that is in the knowledge of the hon. Members.

But in order to safeguard the interest of public investors of Unit 64, the Government had offered tax free, Government guaranteed 6.75 per cent bonds. The response to these bonds has been overwhelming. The secondary market quotes of units

of US 64 at a premium of the prices assured in May 2003, and the high volumes of transactions are testimony to the success of the restructuring scheme. The last figures available on quotes for US-12 and US-10 are Rs. 12.34 and Rs. 10.25 respectively. Dividends earned by the scheme will be passed on to certificate holders tax free and the transactions of Unit 64 will be exempt from the Capital Gains Tax.

The Government is, therefore, considering foreclosure of the same Assured Return Schemes as the guaranteed dividend/principal are not sustainable in the current interest rate scenario. Further, the Government will reset the dividend on some of the schemes in line with the earnings of these schemes themselves.

I wish to take a little time on edible oil. In the Budget, I had proposed a CENVAT of eight per cent on branded refined edible oil, but branded only, and *vanaspati* packed in sealed containers for retail sale. I have observed certain distortions in the operation of the scheme. This is not acceptable to me. These will be rectified and I will inform the House at the time of the passage of the Finance Bill of the details in this regard.

I wish to inform the House also in regard to infrastructure. In the Budget I have singled out infrastructure as one of the *panch* priorities. This was in view of the criticality of its efficiency and development for our growth as also for other objectives. I am happy to inform the House that substantial progress has already been made on the infrastructure front.

Firstly, I come to Railways. The National Rail Vikas Nigam, a Special Purpose Vehicle, has already been incorporated. The projects under the National Rail Vikas Yojana to be implemented by this SPV have already been identified. And of these, four projects worth \$153 million, with external funding from the Asian Development Bank, are ready for bidding.

I wish also to share with this House that in respect of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, to reduce the capital cost of the project and thereby moderate the fare structure, the Government has waived all duties - excise and customs - on all equipment, including machinery, and rolling stock, procured domestically or from abroad for these projects.

I wish to share a few thoughts on the India Development Initiative in the half century of our Independent existence. India has now emerged as an economic power in the region and a systematically important voice to be heard in international fora. To reflect our strong economic fundamentals, I had in my Budget proposals announced an 'initiative' to promote India, both as a production centre and as an investment destination, establishing a Fund called 'India Development Initiative', which,

I am happy to announce has formally been established in the Ministry of Finance with a proposed outlay of Rs. 200 crore for 2003-2004 to leverage and to promote our strategic economic interests abroad. The administrative responsibility for ensuring the smooth functioning of the Fund is with the Department of Economic Affairs.

This Fund would basically aim at promoting investment and trade to and from India, also to act as a common pool of resources to ensure synergy by putting together all assistance extended by India to other developing countries. This would enable us to promote India's image overseas through technical assistance and other promotional activities while providing grants for projects including those in the social sector. The Fund would also be utilized for promoting India abroad through suitable publicity measures, for which we have already initiated steps and hope to be able to take decisions soon.

Next I wish to share my thought on two important aspects of the agriculture sector. I had assured the House about the PLR plus or minus two rate of interest that is now operational. And I am committed to improving the system in such a fashion that credit to the agriculture sector is more easily and more readily available. Very briefly I wish to share one thing what I had come up as a query from the hon. Members earlier during the day. There are two very important initiatives of the Government in the agriculture sector, one relating to the plantation industry in the South, and the other relating to another very important agro industry, sugar.

For the plantation industry, Rs. 500 crore Fund was to be established. That has got operationalised, and Rs. 100 crore have already been allocated for it in this period.

For sugar, another very important agro industry, I have already shared with the House that under the Prime Minister's direction, the Inter-Ministerial Group that has been set up, has almost completed its work and I hope to be able to come out with a comprehensive scheme for the entire sugar industry covering both UP, parts of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and certainly the southern States, including very importantly, Maharashtra.

I wish to also share some other implementation that has already taken place of the measures announced during the Budget. I am happy to report about the cash management.

If the hon. Members would recollect, I had said that for the management of the allocation of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry, we would be introducing the cash management system. I am happy that this has already been introduced in the Ministries of Food, Fertiliser, Human Resource Development, Rural Development, Health and Family Welfare

and Agriculture. This cash management system is to avoid mis-matches between receipts and expenditure and to avoid a rush of expenditure; as we ordinarily witness, at the end of the fiscal year.

Secondly, on the domestic debt of the Central Government, I had announced that the Government proposes to offer a buy-back of high cost debt from banks that are in need of liquidity. I am happy to mention that the debt buy-back scheme has been finalised in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India. It is expected that after the deliberations with the banks, the buy-back will be effected before the end of June.

Regarding the State Government's debt, which is the next objective, we had introduced a Debt Swap Scheme enabling the States to pre-pay high cost debt and substitute them by current, low coupon bearing small savings and open market loans. Already its first tranche of pre-payment of high cost debt of Rs. 14,000 crore has been effected last month. We hope to substitute high cost debt of States of, at least, another Rs.30,000 crore or so during the current year, which, in sum, will reduce the overall interest burdens on the States of the Union.

I wish to finally also inform the House that a new pension scheme based on defined contribution has also been finalised. We are in the process of establishing a Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority. The scheme will be applicable to new entrants to the Government service and to others in the unorganised sector on a voluntary basis.

I have briefly covered only the essential points. I will now have the benefit of hearing the views of all the hon. Members. But, in conclusion, I wish to reemphasise that the anxiety that has been voiced in regard to textiles, both power-loom and also for garments must now be still. I reiterate that handloom is not going to be affected at all. We will stand by the handloom industry and we will fully support it.

So far as power-loom is concerned, now the CENVAT chain having been implemented and the deemed credit having been removed now, we will ensure that the self-employed weavers and the small manufacturers in the power-loom sector are fully safeguarded all along, of course, with the entire power-loom sector modernisation scheme. In similar term, exactly the same principle will apply to the readymade garments industry, for which the same priorities will be established. Also, we will take care of the processing industry. I urge upon all the hon. Members to recognise the vital importance of all the steps that have been taken and to lend their support to the Government in its initiatives.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2003-2004, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have just heard the hon. Finance Minister. The tax to run the Government, both to meet the revenue and capital expenditure as well as the Plan and Non-Plan expenditure of the Government of the day, is reflected by its resource mobilisation plan in the Finance Bill. We have been in this office of the Government of India for a long, long period. We understand the pains of the Government, specially the Finance Minister in dealing with the Finance Bill matters. But ultimately, the political objective of a Government and its priority are mostly tuned, addressed and reflected through its Finance Bill, excepting in exceptional circumstances like war, natural calamities and drought.

Sir, in this Finance Bill, comprising of 161 clauses and 13 Schedules, it would be difficult for any hon. Member of the House to deal clause by clause or interpret the schedules. I would like to be brief in this matter and would like to go to the main thrust of the Bill.

The NDA Government declared an agenda and I quote from their agenda their whole objective:

".....will bring GDP growth rate to the seven to eight per cent bracket

After three and a half years with all their experiments of tax realisation and expenditure, the position is so bleak it has been well reflected in the Economic Survey. They say, they would control the deficits of fiscal and revenue:

"We will take all such steps as will expedite the implementation of policies and programmes in accord with our national interests and give to the entire national development a human face with total eradication of poverty as the ultimate goal. *Garibi hatao* (eradicate unemployment) is our goal."

This is not a discussion on the General Budget but the hon. Minister should not misunderstand me that I am trying to refer to these things or dragging the debate to a General Budget discussion excluding the Finance Bill. I am just referring to these things because revenue mobilisation both for revenue and capital expenditure through the Finance Bill has to ultimately aim to fight poverty, protect the weakest and also to promote and flourish economic activities in the country to a greater height, where I feel the Government has completely failed.

If we look at the three replies of the hon. Ministers of Finance to discussions on the Finance Bill - the present Minister would reply today but his predecessor has replied on two occasions - we would find every time that what they plan, what they assure us and what they propose get totally derailed, totally misleading the nation. I will produce a few facts now. The receipt budget for 2003-04 gives us the understanding that the Centre's proposed main tax revenue, which was Rs. 1,72,965 crore in the budgetary projections and Rs. 1,64,177 crore in the Revised Estimates, is Rs. 1,84,169 crore. This indicates the increase in the tax collection effort. I must say that in our party we have the highest respect and faith towards the integrity of the tax administration of the Government of India. Excepting one or two black sheep, overall, the tax administration of this country, with highest integrity, has been doing an excellent job over the decades. We have no personal grudge against them.

The Value Added Tax, which you have created, is a recommendation of the task force. Do you consider that it has simplified the tax realisation method? If so, why is the trading community agitating? Why is it that in your own party there is a serious threat and pressure? I am not talking politics; I am talking reality. The taxation departments, both in the Centre and in the States, have failed to understand the infrastructural deficiency of the trading community, from the bottom to the top. I was giving an example the other day that we cannot expect from a small bakery in Rajasthan whose turnover is Rs. 10 lakh a year what we expect from Modern Bakery with a turnover of Rs. 100 crore. The small bakery depends on a small family to carry loaves of bread every morning to all the houses on a bicycle. If VAT regulates that he would be brought under the provisions of VAT from 1st June if he has a turnover of above Rs.5 lakh, how would he calculate what he has to pay? His wife might be an illiterate and he might not be sufficiently educated. In the morning if his son goes on his bicycle and returns in the evening with the day's proceeds, how will he calculate and plan what he has to pay you?

14.45 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Therefore, we have been urging this matter. I agree that your wisdom prevailed to bell the cat by putting the responsibility on the Left Front Government's Finance Minister Shri Asim Dasgupta who felt himself highly inflated being the Chairman of this Committee and to think that it was a great job to deal with all the Finance Ministers of the country including of our Party. But I am not opposed to the State Governments' demand of their own requirement. I am not

opposed to the very concept of VAT per se. But what we are opposing from our Party is that you have got to rationalise the whole thing. A cold drink seller in Connaught Place and a cold drink seller in Mumbai city and a cold drink seller in a village near Pune or in a village of Kerala - they are all not the same, having the same kind of infrastructure to respond to your queries. This is what I have not been able to convince anybody.

Therefore, my whole approach was that you keep the entire collection of VAT and regulations and not abolish it but stay it for a year; you understand its slabs and the rationalisation and find out the mechanism or a system and find out what kind of people, what kind of trading community do trade above Rs. Five lakh and below Rs. 50 lakh and see what is their infrastructural support and then do it. We do not mind. But if you do it arbitrarily or deliberately because the States have failed and because the Centre did not give the due share to them in time and because the Centre-States relations on the financial management is at a jolt and, therefore, they should be penalised and taxed - this is not a correct position. I talked to many of the Members from the BJP and they also shared the same concept. Possibly they told you in your Party meetings.

I tell you, Mr. Finance Minister, that I do not say that it is your scheme. But it is your task force's recommendation and you cannot deny that you have no responsibility into it. You have a responsibility and, therefore, my first appeal today in the discussion on the Finance Bill is that the operation of VAT regime be stayed for a year; you rationalise it slab-wise and give the input support of the infrastructure and plan the mechanism taking all into confidence now. You stay it at least for a year. This is my first submission.

The second point which I am submitting is that the NDA Government and the hon. Minister of Finance also rode on the top pertaining to their concern for the defence. The hon. Minister of Finance had a very brief opportunity to serve in the Ministry of Defence as the Defence Minister and he was an outstanding army person in his career for whom we have the highest admiration and respect. He knows better than any one of us in the House about the burden of the Army, their commitment and their economy.

Last year, your predecessor in the Government imposed a surcharge on the tax to the tune of five per cent and you increased it to the tune of 10 per cent this year which is called the National Security Requirement Tax. It sounds well. The people came forward saying 'why should we not pay a little more for the national security'. Mr. Finance Minister, you know better that the whole object of this was that this particular

collection should be utilised for defence requirement, to update them, to modernise them and you said it also in your Budget speech for this year. I can quote from the relevant paragraph of your speech; but I do not want to take the time of the House.

But, what has happened on this very surcharge provision for which I spoke the other day? Paragraph 44 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Defence says and I quote:

"On being enquired by the Committee about the fund generated as a result of five per cent surcharge levied by the Government on taxpayers in the name of national security during the year 2002-2003, the Ministry of Defence have furnished a rough estimate of the collection of Rs. 4,253 crore in this account. Similarly a sum of Rs. 2,800 crore is likely to be collected during the financial year 2003-2004 as a result of the 10 per cent surcharge levied by the Government on the taxpayers earning more than Rs. 8.5 lakh per annum. The Ministry of Defence further informed that 'the amount generated through surcharge as levied by the Government is a part of general revenue of the Central Government and expenditure provisions are made to the Demands for Grants of the Ministries/Departments approved by the Parliament'".

I agree that it must go to the General Revenue, but the Standing Committee on Defence found that it was not realised exactly for Defence. Do you not think that it is a kind of betrayal of the sentiments of the people who paid this particular surcharge tax to further update and modernise the Indian Army and the Armed Forces. I do not want to take advantage of this Finance Bill to discuss Defence matters, but the common slogan in this country right from the day one of attaining freedom has been that whatever tax is required for the Defence of the nation, the people are prepared to pay. Parliament said it cutting across party lines and yet today, we had to hear through a Report that Defence allocations for the capital expenditure could not be utilised to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crore. The recommendations of your Cabinet, the DPB, for purchase of Defence items worth more than Rs. 50,000 crore have not been materialised. Therefore, we raised the issue day before yesterday that if the tax-payers money, to which we give mandate through the Finance Bill, does not reach to the cause of the Armed Forces, who defend our country, it is not good. What a shocking news item in the newspaper appeared today that the highly equipped nation like India couldn't arrange the bullet-proof jackets for its Army at the border! You have seen Subrahmanyam Committee Report on Kargil and you also had a committee of group of ministers on that. You got the recommendation; yet, defence is being highly compromised.

Who prevented this Government from buying advanced

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

jet trainers? We do not know this because the Government never took us into confidence. Only through media, we are hearing that the Government is confused or still to decide whether to buy them from the Czech or the British. Which is this Czech firm? Which is this British firm? I would not like to make such kind of allegations or insinuations without any substance, but whether such kind of news comes in the print media, without being contradicted, the tax-payers feel the pain and feel that we pay whatever the Parliament demands and at the end of the day, we find a net result like this. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to read the 19th Report of the Standing Committee on Defence. He himself, as an ex-Army man, understands the pain and agony in these Services - the Air Force, the Navy and the Armed Forces - on this issue.

You have said today during intervention on Appropriation Bill that the issues related to ex-Army men have been taken care of. You did not inform the House when I raised this issue. On grievances, the Report says one-rank-one-pension policy, which has been a demand and which was recommended by the Fourth and Fifth Pay Commissions, is still not considered by the Cabinet. Therefore, you cannot say that the main agony of the ex-servicemen has been resolved. I am saying all these things because the tax-payers money is involved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the revised estimate of 2003-2004, in the Budget Estimates, the total expenditure is estimated at Rs. 4,38,795 crore, of which Rs. 1,20,974 crore is for Plan and the balance is for Non-Plan. The proposals of total revenue receipt of the Centre are of Rs. 2,53,935 crore and the fiscal deficit, according to the Finance Minister, is Rs. 1,53,637 crore. It is a terrible and miserable scenario of the country, where you failed.

I know that in your initial remarks, you have tried to take the House into confidence as to which are the sectors that came in your mind to consider for exemption, concession without moving any amendment, of course. Possibly, you want to take our views for the next three days and at the end of the day, the views of the BJP, very strongly as to what will serve the purpose and what will not serve the purpose in terms of election, will prevail. That is different. I know it. That is your political exercise. When you came to the office, you claimed good governance. Good governance is your basic slogan.

Then why are you imposing increase in taxes? It is because you cannot govern in a manner that we desire. I give you an example. Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, only yesterday, that is on 24 April in my Unstarred Question 4817 I asked as to which are the delayed - I am talking only of one project, and I am not talking about other projects - ongoing hydro electric power projects, - Shri Geete is here - and what is the cost of

their installation? I give the example of good governance. Sir, the figure is horrifying. In this, a project which was conceived in 1999 with Rs. 601 crore stood now at Rs. 1,578 crore; a project which was conceived in 1994 at Rs. 1,200 crore is now at Rs. 3,560 crore; a project which was conceived in December 2001 - remember December 2001 - which was revised in March 2002 at Rs. 15,780 crore is now at Rs. 70,666 crore; a project which was conceived in 1996 with Rs. 1,551 crore is now at Rs. 3,267 crore; and the total additional project cost is now reaching an amount of Rs. 16,000 crore. What are the reasons for exertion of additional cost for a project? It could be because of law and order problem, delay in tying of funding, withdrawal of the money by the world bank, no comprehensive group being ready, fund constraints, delay in land acquisition, etc. I do not say that there cannot be reasons. Then, what is good governance? If in one project, in one sector, out of the 100 projects of India, the escalation is Rs. 20,000 crore, how do you take the Parliament into confidence that NDA's proclaimed agenda of good governance is taking steps? I am talking of one step, and I can tell you about similar other projects besides Hydrel. My estimate is that the escalation of the official project cost till this date is now Rs. 1 lakh crore. Government may come and Government may go, but who will pay? It is the tax payers of the country. Is it because of lack of our monitoring; lack of Cabinet appraisal; and lack of guts?

Now, I will give you another example. We know the country's judiciary, and we respect it. We also know that the Parliament is supreme. The Finance Minister bear with me, I do not blame the Finance Minister. If a small trader cannot pay the VAT in time, he will be booked by a police inspector; if a small tax payer cannot file the return in time - he has no lawyer, and he cannot afford - then he will be penalised. But a company called ITC has cheated the nation to the tune of Rs. 20,000 crore of excise duty and are paying their Counsel in whatever manner they like to kill the time, and still the matter is pending in the court regarding Rs. 20,000 crore of excise evasion by a house like ITC. Why is it so? You cannot say what I can do, and still that matter is not disposed of. Is it because of lack of our monitoring; is it because of lack of our counseling; is it because of lack of our improper affidavits? These days, people say that there are connivance. Why would the Government be deprived of such realisations up to the tune of Rs. 20,000 crore? I hope the Minister will give a full status note on the ITC, as to what is happening on this front.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, to accommodate Shri Rupchand Pal I will be too brief now because he is also going back to Panchayat elections against us, and I am also going back for Panchayat elections against him. Therefore, I must accommodate him.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the Minister has just now mentioned about some exemption on Metro. I congratulate you for your concern for the Delhiites for the beautiful Metro that has come up. But, please convince the House as to who will gain from this exemption of customs, and, all those duties. Who will be the beneficiaries in this? The beneficiaries are the contractors. It is because the contractors have already entered into an agreement with you in Delhi regarding the Metro Rail, of which our distinguished friend Shri Madan Lal Khurana is the Chairman.

**15.00 hrs.**

If you withdraw the customs duty and other things now, who is going to be benefited - the Government, the people in terms of reduction in ticket rates, or the contractors? While you reply to the debate, you must explain this. On the one hand, I am feeling happy, but on the other hand, I do not know what is happening inside. Therefore, you may kindly explain this matter pertaining to this sudden exemption.

Eight per cent excise duty has been re-imposed on agro-based products, in the Union Budget proposals for 2003-04. We have received requests saying that this excise duty exemption under sub-heading 4407 should be continued. You may consider this because this was a commitment made in your manifesto, which I can quote, that you would take care of the agro-based industries and their products.

On excise duty exemption on readymade garments, he gave an idea, though it is not very specific. I agree with you, Shri Jaswant Singh, so far as brand-names are concerned. Please do not spare them because I fully agree with you. However, in India, if you take the statistics, 85 per cent of the readymade garments used by the Indians is stitched by small tailors and small groups in the hearts and suburbs of the country. They buy the cloth and stitch them. What kind of mechanism you will have to see that they are totally exempted from the tax? When you say 'Trademark', it becomes a dangerous term because in a city like Howrah, which I represented twice, people make readymade garments under household names - sometimes, they put the tailor's name, for example, 'Moulana', on the collar and, sometimes, they register it in the name of 'ALO'.

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH:** If it is his or her own brand-name, they are out of it, but not if it is somebody else's brand-name.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:** That is fine. If you give these clarifications, it will be quite convincing to us as to what is the intention of the Government. My appeal to you is that you may ask your Tax Department, who are most

competent, sincere, and I have no doubt about their integrity, to give you the figures before the 30th as to what percentage of the readymade garments manufactured throughout the country is under the brand-name or the trademark and what percentage of readymade garments is manufactured by the common people. If my facts are wrong, I will correct myself. As per my study, I have been very closely serving these people in Metiaburuz and other places, 85 per cent of the people are engaged in this work. Even in Uttar Pradesh, I am told, only nine per cent wear readymade garments of brand-names, and the rest wear the local-made readymade garments. The only way to protect these people is by giving exemption to the whole thing.

So far as the North-Eastern States are concerned, I fully agree with the contention of the Government—the Deve Gowda Government gave excise exemption to that area for industrial development and other things, which continued for some time — that a few black sheep went there and exploited it. They did not do the justice as desired; they manufactured things in Calcutta and Delhi, dumped it there as if they were manufactured there, and took the exemption. I fully share your views. You should punish them. However, for one, two, or three black sheep, do not try to put the entire North-East in the basket and withdraw all exemption facilities.

After the settlement of the insurgency problem in many places — I hope, your accord will provide a fruitful solution — the young people there want to engage themselves in some creative activities and in generation of employment. Maybe, some industries may have to go, in Assam alone. I am opposed to the use of *gutka*, all kinds of *pan masalas*, tobacco and chewing tobacco products. I thoroughly oppose it. You can impose whatever tax you want to impose on these products because it is the only way of keeping the people free from these habits.

I am told, in these sectors, the North-Eastern people are working in such large numbers that if they feel that they will be out of jobs, then they may go back and take up guns again. This is a serious psychological issue. You may kindly look into it. My colleague, Shri Sangtam, will elaborate it a little later.

I now come to the issue of taxing the income of Kashmiri Pandits. The Finance Minister knows that no exemption can be given to any specific group of employees under the Income Tax Act. However, some of their representatives met me yesterday evening and told me that the salaries of Kashmiris engaged in Government service and staying away from their State have been exempted from income tax from the days of Dr. Manmohan Singh. I was told that this was done year after

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

year by an executive order but that order was withdrawn this year. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly look into this issue and extend this facility to those people. It is a very sentimental issue. The Prime Minister, the country, and everyone — irrespective of the party line — is committed to this. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly look into this issue and do the needful.

I would now like to make a few suggestions, which I would request the Finance Minister to consider. One of my suggestions relates to the people engaged in sports. While Pandit Bhimsen Joshi can sing good classical music at the age of 80, Sunil Gavaskar cannot play in the field post-30. The appeal I am going to make now is an appeal being made by the sports fraternity representing all disciplines of sports. The prime time of their lives is spent in playing for the country. They cannot earn their living out of their talents when they grow older. Therefore, they all make an appeal through me for tax exemption on their earnings up to the age of 30 years. Could you specially consider this proposal of not taxing the earnings of active sportspersons up to the age of 30?

I can tell you about many sportsmen who are now in such a situation in which they are not even able to pay for their medical bills. Mahavir Prasad, a great Olympian, died without any money. Chandrasekhar of Bihar, who is retired now, is not able to buy his daily bread. There is the case of Mohammed Habib in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* After 30, either Sachin Tendulkar will be able to show excellence for Prakash Padukone. I, therefore, urge upon the Minister to exempt the earnings of sportspersons, actively in the field of sports, up to the age of 30 years.

Indira Awas Yojana is one of the key components in the rural development schemes which are meant for the poorest of the poor in the villages. It is budgeted from the Rural Development Fund. The funds made available by the Government for this scheme are limited. The Government cannot come to the rescue of more than two-three people in a block. Therefore, I request the Minister to find a mechanism by which the contributions made by individuals and organisations to the housing schemes meant for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and landless labourers in any part of India through Panchayati Raj can be exempt from tax. This would give a tremendous boost to housing activity in the villages and it would help in fighting poverty and providing protection to the landless labourers. It would not be a big problem for a rich man or an industrial house to pay Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh for the purpose of a rural housing scheme. He can get thirty houses constructed if he is given tax exemption for this purpose.

I now refer to the unemployment problem. Of course, the Prime Minister's assurance of creation of one crore jobs a year gave rise to a sharp debate in the country, and we will take it up later on. I would like to make a request to the hon. Minister in regard to the self-employment schemes. In cases where an unemployed young man, or a group of them, certified so by the Employment Exchange, take a bank loan and start an industry with a maximum limit of Rs.50 lakh, for five years they should not be charged any tax. If this is done, it would boost the morale of the unemployed youth in the country. Earlier I asked for exemption up to a maximum limit of Rs.5 lakh only. Now I say that the maximum limit should be Rs.50 lakh because the machinery itself is costing about Rs. 15 lakh to Rs. 18. Irrespective of the type of industry the unemployed youths start, they should be given exemption. A number of unemployed youths have been writing to me in this regard. They start paying out from the day they take the loan from the bank. First they pay the interest on loan to the bank, then they start paying for various facilities like electricity connection etc. Then if they have to start paying tax, they would be fed up with all this. So, I would request the hon. Minister to please consider giving them exemption for five years. Computer industry is given this exemption. I would request that it should be given in the case of these unemployed young people of the country.

My next suggestion is related to tea industry. Tea industry in India is languishing. Tea industry is divided in two parts. I am not talking about those companies which process, package, and sell branded tea. I am not asking for any exemption to be given to them. I am talking about the tea estates, the tea-growers who actually produce tea in their own factories. In order to ensure that this industry gains enough strength to meet the challenges posed by foreign competitors in the wake of liberalisation and other things, I would request the hon. Minister to give them exemption of excise upto two years?

Sir, about the jute mills, the hon. Minister gives excise exemption on a condition that the remunerative price of the jute growers would be increased.

Then, about the infrastructure, he has been doing enough. I have a personal request as a Member of my Constituency, about the Indo-Bangladesh Food Export Project, which I mentioned, in Radhikapur. Radhikapur, in my district, requires only Rs. 20 crore. If this amount is provided, it would give employment opportunities — believe me or not — to 15,000 to 20,000 persons there straightway. They cannot go because of lack of bridge and infrastructure. Shri Arun Jaitley has replied to me that he is considering the matter being the Commerce Minister. In this regard, I am requesting the hon. Finance



Minister also to help. From the MPLAD also we are contributing for this project.

Sir, I hope that at the end of the day, the hon. Minister would come out with positive announcements on 30th April. I will miss him

I have told him privately and I am telling it again that he should give support to sports. If an industry contributes to the sports which is recognised by the Government of India and the apex body of Olympic, and if it submits the annual accounts to the Ministry of Sports regularly, it should be given the support. Those who will contribute their money over training, infrastructure and promotion should be given tax exemptions.

Lastly, Sir, I would say about the MPLAD fund. At the requests of all the hon. Members, the hon. Speaker referred the matter to the hon. Prime Minister. Please do not misunderstand us for one or two incidents of Uttar Pradesh. I can say with authority that by and large, in the 13th Lok Sabha, the hon. Members of Parliament are utilising the maximum amount 'for the welfare of their areas from the MPLAD fund. Therefore, Sir, if the hon. Minister can increase the MPLAD fund, at least by Rs. 1 crore, it would be an additional strength for the development.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity and I also thank Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi for delivering a very nice speech. I shall be as brief as possible.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Shri Rupchand Pal you have got 20 minutes. Then, at 15.30 hours, we will take up the Private Members Business.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, by that time I would finish my speech.

Sir, the problem with our taxation system is that in spite of the very valid recommendations made by the eminent persons, experts from Dr. Raja Chelliah to Shri Kelkar, and even before that, the basic distortion in the taxation system continues to be there. That basic distortion is that those who can afford to pay do not pay; and those who cannot afford to pay, have to bear the burden.

I am just giving an example in relation to the direct taxes. When the Government is expressing concerns regarding the low tax-GDP ratio in the country, we do find that the number of rich people under the high tax bracket with more than Rs. 10 lakh per year is coming down over the years. In this year,

for the first time in the last seven years, the number of people declaring their yearly income over Rs. 10 lakh has dipped. It has come down to 71,000 individuals/Hindu Undivided families. It was 76,140 last year, during 2001-02.

Sir, in a country of 110 crore people, only 71,000 individuals are declaring that their income is more than Rs. 10 lakh a year. I am giving one example. How many luxury cars have been sold in this country during this period? According to a very reliable estimate done by the Government, more than one lakh luxury cars have been sold during this period.

More than one lakh luxury cars had been sold and the total number of people declaring their income of more than Rs. 10 lakh is only 71,000. The tax rates have come down, but there is lesser and lesser compliance. So, I am saying that those who can afford to pay, those who are supposed to pay, those who are rich, those who are in the highest income group, are not paying and the salaried class who cannot escape, the pensioners who are dependent on the earning from the interests on the small savings are hit hard. This is the anomaly in the system. We want to know this from the Government. What does the Government propose to do?

I am told that only the owners of farmhouses in the surroundings of the southern part of Delhi own unaccounted money which is fabulous compared to any international standards. What is the amount paid by them as income tax? This is the question.

Many things have been said about black money, parallel economy, unaccounted money, many committees, announcements, pronouncements, etc. But today we have forgotten that money from India is going outside and from there, towards several schemes, they are coming back to India. I am not mentioning about any particular resurgent schemes where cost of service is still very high. In the Indian situation, the Government is ignoring this factor that the people in the highest income group, both individuals/Hindu Undivided Family and also the corporate sector are not being taxed; the number of such individuals is 71,000.

Then, I would talk about both Central excise and customs. The customs rates are being brought down as per the stipulation, as per the WTO provisions. What is happening to our indigenous industry? It is being asked, what can be done. You can look at what is being done in other countries which have also joined the WTO, how they are protecting their domestic industry, how they are protecting their small industries, medium industries, etc. But this Government is not looking into the interests of the small-scale sector, indigenous sector. Rather, whatever reservations had been there to protect

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

the small-scale sector are being withdrawn. Dereservation is being done one after the other. The hon. Minister has said at the very beginning that the ready-made garments sector, powerloom sector, handloom sector and all these sectors, can join work, that they have nothing to worry about, etc. But he has not stated that the withdrawal of excise duty exemption is being again withdrawn by the Government. He has not said anything specific about it. What we want to know is what is going to happen actually to the small-scale sector, if such dereservation continues, withdrawal of protection and withdrawal of exemption in respect of central excise continues, particularly in a situation when the customs duties are being slashed down sharply.

I have a point to make. I shall be brief as I told you. I will talk about service sector taxes. It is being proposed that Rs.8,000 crore would come from service sector. Is it possible? I candidly ask : is it possible? There are also definitions about new categories. Many experts have expressed confusion about categories. I am now taking one category, 'business auxiliary services'.

What does it mean? He has defined, rather tried to define it as:

"Promotion, marketing or sale of goods produced or provided by or belonging to the client any incidental or auxiliary support service such as billing, collection or recovery of cheques, accounts and remittances.

He again says that the IT service is out of the purview of the service sector. What will happen to the BPO companies, the call centres which are being paid in foreign exchange? There are call centres that are working not full-fledged IT base; a part of it is under labour and a part of it is under IT service. What will happen to them who are working inside the country but again being paid through foreign exchange? What will happen to the medical transcription which was out of the purview of the service sector? The call centres, in a country like India, have the future. Who can deny that IT-enable service is an area which will provide employment if proper planning, proper encouragement is given? I would like to know this more particularly after the competition emerging from Philippines, East Asian countries, as also from our neighbourhood. On the top of it, the New Jersey Bill is coming. They say that the outsourcing of the activity, as is being done right now through the call centres in India and other places, should be done within the country itself. On the one hand, the competition is emerging and, on the other, such threats are there. On 61 new items service tax is being imposed. In such a situation, I

would like to say that the areas that are to be taxed should be very clearly defined, otherwise a host of litigation through the whole period will continue and I do not think the goal of utilising Rs. 8,000 crores from the service sector will be achieved.

My colleague Shri Dasmunsi had said that in the North-East, to encourage industrialisation, certain exemptions had been given which were misused. A reference was made by him about the cigarette major who actually had been manufacturing cigarettes elsewhere. They say that the job work is done and since it is a job work, no taxation is imposed. The situation is worsening since 1987. Hundreds and thousands of crores of Rupees are evaded by the cigarette major and nothing is being done. I have asked a question. Can the internationally accepted definition of manufacturing not be applied to this particular area? They are using the loophole by saying that it has nothing to do with the activity of manufacturing as they are doing the job work. Can this loophole not be plugged? One may conclude and say 'withdraw all the exemptions'. I am not in favour of *pan masala* or *gutka* but it is true that a large number of young people and women are engaged there. I think the Government should consider the whole situation.

I now come to the Gratuity Act, 1972. In the year 1997, Shri P. Chidambaram, when he was the Finance Minister, had stated that the ceiling of Rs. 2.5 lakh in respect of the Central Government employees at that time would be extended to all other employees. The Fourth Pay Commission had suggested that there should not be any such ceiling. It is happening, for example in the jute mills in Bengal. In the Eastern part, the income of any ordinary worker is such that it is beyond the ceiling.

What is happening is that they do not enjoy anything in terms of gratuity.

I would like to submit that due to historical reasons, good quality jute was grown in the Bangladesh part but the jute mills were situated in this part of Bengal. The jute industry has to face competition from the plastic sector. There are many other new problems coming up for this sector everyday. Therefore, I would submit that necessary concessions need to be given to this sector. In spite of powerful plastic and synthetic lobby prevailing on important quarters, jute has a future. We know that there is lobbying. But still I would like to earnestly appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to re-consider the jute sector for giving it some concessions. Tea industry should also be given some concessions. There is sickness in

the tea industry. Many problems are being faced in Eastern India as far as tea sector is concerned.

Sir, it was assured that PAN will be provided within a specified time, but even now we find that there are many complaints. I have received many complaints regarding non-receipt of PAN for a long time. Could it not be assured that those who want to have a PAN, they will get it immediately? On the other hand, misuse of PAN is taking place. Sometimes father's name is common and sometimes mother's name is common. Sometimes the address may also be common. I had made a suggestion to increase the number of fields. As in the case of credit cards, to ensure privacy, the date of birth is taken, mother's maiden name is taken, etc. so, the number of fields can be increased in this manner. I had made a suggestion to the concerned people and they had agreed that the existing software need to be improved in such a manner that PAN cannot be misused as it is being done today.

Lastly, this Government has promised so many things. I had repeatedly raised one thing and the hon. Finance Minister has stated that this is not his concern. It is being said that interest rates are being slashed down taking into account the inflation rate which has come down. It is being stated that the administered interest rates will not be bench marked to the average annual gains of the Government securities of equivalent maturity in the secondary market. Accordingly, it is being reduced. Dr. Rangarajan in his report of the Statistical Commission has specifically mentioned that the measurement of inflation in Indian situation is incorrect. I am not quoting part II regarding the language. When I raised this issue at the appropriate level, I was told that a Task Force has been set up and an interaction is taking place about wrong basket. It is because on many occasions we find that there is no relation between the Wholesale Price Index and the Consumer Price Index.

The rate of inflation is wrongly calculated. The service sector accounts for more than 50 per cent of the GDP, but the service sector is still not accounted for in the WPI. This is the anomaly. This is not what I am saying. What I have repeatedly been saying has been corroborated by Dr. C. Rangarajan.

Sir, I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister—though he has stated that all these matters, such as measurement of inflation rates, reduction of interest rates and tax in the service sector, would be taken care of by either Departments—to look into these issues.

15.32 hrs.

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

### Re: Implementation of Policies and Programmes for SCs/STs etc.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will not take up the Resolution regarding implementation of policies and programmes for SC/ST etc. by Shri Ramdas Athawale.

Before we take up the Resolution for discussion, we have to fix the time for discussion of this Resolution. Usually, two hours are allotted in the first instance. If the House agrees, two hours may be allotted for discussion.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): More time would be required for this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. Let us now hear Shri Ramdas Athawale.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House recommends that a positive steps should be taken for implementation of policies and programmes for the social, economic and political upliftment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society by strengthening the administration and introducing appropriate legislation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. Dalits, tribals and people belonging to the weaker sections of the society are in high numbers in our country and they should get justice. We have been making demand for this for a long time but they have not got the desired justice.

Sir, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, who was the Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee and the constitution was framed under his guidance had said certain things and efforts are being made to give justice to our society as per the constitution, but these people are not getting justice. This is not good for us. That is why I have moved this motion in the House. Today 55 years have passed since we achieved independence and we have entered the 56th year. This matter has been discussed many a times in the House but the weaker sections have not got justice till date. I do not want that this matter be discussed in the House again and again and then they would get justice only. This is not right. All facilities provided to these people in the constitution, should be given without any hindrance.

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

Sir, mighty people should give their power to the weaker ones. Every person should adopt the principles of social and economic equality. There is a need to implement the basic spirit of the constitution and work according to its provisions but this is not being done. And that is why, we have to repeatedly hold discussion on this subject. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had told:

"I am amongst those citizens who truly love the democratic set up and would like to do away with the situation of monopoly prevailing in the society in any form.

My main objective is to establish the principle of one man for one value in all the aspects. —Political, Social and Economic, of life."

Baba Saheb Ambedkar ji said that collective feeling of social unity is 'Nationality', in which people develop the feeling of real relationship with one another. People from all sides have the same feelings as told by Babasaheb Ambedkar ji, but that section of the Society is not getting justice as yet. He said with regard to education that it should reach every person. It should be so inexpensive that even poor people could have access to it. Education is essential to bring change in life. Had they not given us freedom to education in the constitution, the people like me would have not come to Parliament. Constitution of India has given us freedom to speech and we have full right to express our opinion. Here whosoever is in the power, we have the right to play important role here. We will have to think seriously in this regard if we genuinely want to give justice to this section. Law is required to be made for this purpose. There is total 22½ percent reservation for the SCs and STs, that is, 15 percent and 7.5 percent respectively, but it is not being implemented properly.

Sir, the Government as also our hon. Minister are making efforts, but the bureaucracy are not taking it seriously. That is why I wish to tell the Parliament that the Dalits should get Justice as per the laws made for them. As per the provision made on 1.1.1998 SCs in class one Group 'A' services of the Government of India have provided with 10.80 percent reservation, STs have 3.44 percent reservations, that is total 14.24 percent, reservation has been given to SCs and STs which means they should get 22½ per cent reservations, but it is only 14.24 percent. The population of SCs, STs have gone upto 26-27 percent. Hence I urge upon the Government that the reservation for them should be increased from 22 to 27 percent. SCs should have 18 per cent reservation while the STs should have 9 percent reservation. Sir, I want to ask one question which relates to Lakshadweep. The Government has passed an order that if a person belonging to ST leaves

Lakshadweep and starts living in Delhi or any other state, then he will not be given the status of ST.

Sir, I appeal the Government that it is not appropriate to refuse the status of ST to a person if he starts living in Delhi or shifts to another state. My demand is that if a person belonging to SC/ST community shifts to another state, he should be given reservation there also. The Government should enact a law to this effect. The Government should also consider in this regard. There is a need to give 22% reservation to them in Supreme Court, High Court and class-I category and not giving reservation to them at these places is not a right thing. If we want to uplift this class then it is necessary to give reservation to them at these places. Reservation should be incorporated in the 10th schedule so that these people could get full protection. Similarly, the Government had issued 5 Office Memoranda, out of which three have been withdrawn but implementation to this effect has not taken so far. We also demand that the withdrawal of 3 office memoranda, need to be made effective. The Government should also consider withdrawal of the remaining two office Memoranda. Besides, there is a need to enact Reservation Act. If Reservation Act is enacted then Dalits can get justice and the officer who does not implement reservation can be punished under the law. Hence there is a need to enact reservation Act.

Alongwith this, there is also a need to make amendment in the constitution for providing reservation to them in private sector. Therefore a law should be enacted in the Parliament regarding providing reservation to SCs, STs in private sector. We further demand that there is a need to give reservation in land allotment also according to their population.

We also demand that there should be reservation in Rajya Sabha, Legislative Council and the Union and the state Cabinet. The Union Government have approved the proposal of giving reservation facility to SCs which was withdrawn there in Maharashtra earlier. The existing 18 Assembly and 3 Lok Sabha reserved seats in Maharashtra should also be increased.

Fizi-anti society should also get reservation. They should be enlisted in a separate category and provided reservation. Alongwith this, the Muslim society should also get 15% reservation.

Atrocities on 27944 Dalits and 4644 STs were committed in 1997; on 25638 SCs and 4276 STs in 1998, on 25093 SCs and 4450 STs in 1999, on 25455 SCs and 4190 STs in 2000 and on 25562 SCs and 4121 STs in 2001. Thus, the atrocities on dalits have been increasing. There is a need to enact a strict law in this regard also. The Government should make

every endeavour to provide social, economical and political equality to this section in the society. We want that an extensive discussion should be held in the Parliament and the Government should consider the proposed legislation in this regard.

I feel that we should express our views in the House in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity.

The issue which has been highlighted by Shri Ramdas Athawale is really a very important issue.

In our Constitution we have provided for positive discrimination. That means those who are weak, those who need help, should be given more help than what is given to other ordinary citizens. This is one of the most important aspects of our Constitution which was drafted by Dr. Ambedkar and approved by the Constituent Assembly.

As far as education is concerned, we have provided that the students coming from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes should have the benefit of reservation. So, as far as education is concerned, I think, 100 per cent benefit is secured by the students coming from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Sometimes it is more. It is because the reserved seats are available to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. But if any student comes on merit, he can get admitted in the schools, colleges and technical institutions on that basis. So, the percentage of benefit going to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, as far as education is concerned, is 100 per cent. But that is not the case with the services. At the top, in group 'A' and 'B' services, the percentage of reservation which is available to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not really filled. Shri Ramdas Athawale did make, a reference to that. In groups 'B' and 'C' the position is different.

At the lower levels, all the vacancies which are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are filled, but at the middle level, there is scope for improvement. At the higher level, the reservation is very poor. When this issue was taken up, it was said that there are not enough persons who are qualified to occupy these positions. I think in the period of fifty years, it should be possible for us to find out whether this statement made by some of us is correct or not. It is exactly here that something has to be done. It is exactly here that the Government has to be very particular. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister, he said that he would like to see that

these vacancies are filled properly. Then, there was an effort made at that time and many vacancies were filled. But it is exactly here that something has to be done.

This kind of reservation is available only in Government services and public sector undertakings. Unfortunately, the policy of the present Government and other Governments in the States also, is to privatise the public sector units. When the public sector units are privatised, the law of reservation is not applicable to them. So, the vacancies which are reserved for them may not be filled. I had an occasion to examine as to what is happening in this matter sitting in one of the Standing Committees. I was told that when the public sector units are privatised an agreement is made with those who are taking over the public sector units, under which, they say that protection can be given to the people of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I had the occasion to examine those agreements. What do the agreements say? They say that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given the same benefit. If the same benefit is not given, what is the remedy available to the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe? The remedy available to him is to go to the court of law. When he goes to a court of law, he has to fight his case in the court of law not for one year but for ten or fifteen years. So, this kind of provision in the agreement, which is entered into between the Government and the person taking over the public sector undertaking does not really give any benefit to the people who come from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. What has to be done in this respect? This is the most important thing. This has been highlighted. Some time back this matter was discussed. Some ten or fifteen years back this matter was discussed. Those who are sitting on the ruling benches today were speaking from this side. For hours together, they were saying that that was the difficulty, that was the lacuna and that lacuna and difficulty had to be overcome. Now, they are sitting there. They are taking pride in saying that they are privatising the public sector units and disinvesting the public sector shares. For disinvestment and privatisation, no intelligence is required. No efforts are required. What is required is just signing on a piece of paper. If you have to establish any public sector unit or any industry for that matter or any enterprise for that matter, you shall have to put in a lot of efforts. You shall have to see it for years together. You shall have to sweat it out. You will be putting in all your efforts to build that institution. Those institutions have been built and they have gone. But that is not the issue today before us. The issue today before us is that the small facility which has been made available to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people is getting lost because of this policy of the Government. Let the hon. Minister, on behalf of the

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

Government explain as to how they are going to overcome this difficulty.

Reservation is available in Government service. Reservation is available in public sector units. The services which are available in the Government sector and the public sector are nothing compared to the private sector. The private sector is very much bigger. It is only 2.5 per cent of the services which would be available in Government sector and the public sector. Nearly 95 per cent of the activities are in private sector. In that private sector, the question of reservation does not arise at all. You do not have any reservation in private sector. If we really want to do some social justice, if we want to do economic justice, we must do something. Unfortunately, these days sometimes we are talking about social justice but we are not talking about economic justice. We have forgotten the words "economic justice." We are emphasising on social justice. Economic justice is forgotten. If we really want to do some economic justice, then, should we not think of some device and method, some instrument of helping the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people to be employed in the private sector also? I say this because the services available in the private sector are numerous whereas the services available in Government sector are very much limited. So, something has to be done by the Government in this respect.

The third most important point which was made by Shri Ramdas Athawale was relating to agricultural land. Fortunately, for us, we have the Tenancy Laws and the Land Ceiling Law. It is a different issue that the Tenancy Laws are not properly implemented in some case in some States. The Land Ceiling Law is also not properly implemented in some other States. But the law is there. The Land Ceiling Law is also there. Earlier, the Government had taken the land which was available with the land-lords and the big land-owning sections of the society. That land has to be distributed between those who are landless and those who are working on the fields. Many of the laws provide that the first preference should be given to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people. At least, the law which is available in Andhra Pradesh and the law which is available in Maharashtra - I have seen them myself - provide that the land would be distributed to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people. It has to be like that only. Only then real social justice can be done. But there is a limitation. You cannot stretch the land. The land is going to be limited and the population is increasing. The land is also getting divided. The maximum land which can be had by a family is approximately 50 acres. If one family has got 50 acres, what happens is that in two generations that family divides the land between the children in the family and each person in the family gets about 5 or 6 acres of land. So, the land cannot be

stretched. Therefore, there is a limitation on distributing the land.

I would like to submit that in the ceiling law the first preference should be given to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes. The tenancy law should also give preference to them. But there is a limitation in distributing the land. This has to be understood. In these circumstances, what can be done? We can provide reservation to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in private enterprises. But this is also going to be very difficult and people are going to object to it. They are going to object to it tooth and nail. So, this is also going to be very difficult. Then, what else can be done?

The people who are sitting in the apex body here, in Parliament, have to think about it. In my opinion, there are two solutions available to us. First of all, it is not sufficient for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to educate themselves. The second step that they shall have to take is to see that they get economic strength also and the economic strength can come from the services and the land. But there is limitation on services and land also. There is unlimited scope for them in trading activities and industrial activities. The industry is expanding, but trade has not become very strong and there is a scope for the educated people among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to enter this field. But they do not have funds. They do not have experience also and it is in this area that they should be helped. There should be laws made by this Parliament and by other Legislatures also that if the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes want to stand on their own legs, they should be provided with credit facilities from the banks and the financial institutions. If good credit facilities are provided to them to start trading activities in the country, this problem can be solved to a great extent.

The third and the most important thing is that they should be given funds to start industries. Some people say that if funds are given, they may not be returned and the industries may not function. We know what is happening to other industries. We know that the non-performing assets of this country, I am told by the exports in the field, is to the tune of two lakh crores of rupees. Many people have taken funds from the financial institutions and the banks and they have not returned these funds as they should have.

Now, supposing, we, the Government and the society take the risk of giving credit facilities and finances to the economically weaker sections of the society there is nothing wrong in it. There may be some risk involved in it. I do understand that there would be some risk involved in it and

yet we have to take this kind of risk. When war takes place, there is a risk and when we give money to others there is a risk involved. If we give money to the weaker sections of the society, we would be doing some economic justice to them.

In my opinion, some thinking is necessary on this point and some decision has to be taken by the Government of India, the State Governments and the financial institutions to give money to them. Unfortunately, the situation which prevails in the country today is this. If a person belonging to the weaker section of the society is asking for a small amount of money, that is not easily available to him, but if a person is asking for a huge amount of money, Rs. 5,000 crore or Rs. 1,000 crore, that is easily given by the financial institutions and the banks. But if a person is asking for Rs. Five lakh or so, it is very difficult for him to get that money. So, if persons belonging to the weaker sections of the society intend to start some trading activity or industrial activity, we shall have to see that they are provided with funds by the banks and the financial institutions. In my opinion, this is the only solution which really gives them the financial sinews, financial muscles and the financial strength. We have tried all other things and they have given some help to them, but they are not sufficient.

**16.00 hrs.**

Something more has to be done. Some new area has to be discovered. We have to identify those new areas and we have to take some new steps. The only area, which is remaining untouched and which is not yet used in the trading activity and the industrial activity. We shall have to create the saga also of the people coming from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They are very brave people. They are very intelligent people. If you ask them to take the guns, go and fight in the war, they will easily do it. But if you ask them to take financial risk, they say no. As far as the financial risk is concerned, they say no. This kind of psychology, financial adventure, financial enterprising capacity should be developed for them and some steps have to be taken.

If the Government and other Governments will take the steps to give them the money, Shri Ramdas Athawale's responsibility is to go and tell them that they should be adventurous, they should be bold enough in taking up these kinds of jobs and helping themselves and helping others also. They should be told that instead of asking for a job, instead of trying to be a servant in some service, where he will not be the man at the top, where he will not be in a position to give jobs to others.

He himself can be owner of an enterprise, a shop or a trading organisation or an industrial organisation. He can give the jobs to others. If this is done, I think, the problem can be solved.

If a law has to be made for this, let there be a law made for this purpose. If the Executive decisions have to be taken in the Cabinet, let the Executive decisions be taken. If some resolution has to be passed for this purpose, let that resolution be made. Only then, we would have done real justice, social justice, economic justice and political justice to our brothers and sisters who have suffered for thousands of years in this country.

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Ramdas Athawale. He has drawn the attention of the House towards the poor, oppressed and neglected people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In his resolution he has demanded positive concrete steps to be taken for the implementation of policies and programmes formulated by the Government for social, economic and political upliftment of these people.

I feel that as far as his resolution is concerned, there is a need to review once more the changes that have taken place, even after 53 years, in the condition of those sections of people being deprived and exploited for hundreds of years, even though provisions were made in the Constitution through the efforts of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and others to give them social equity. Despite spending huge amount to provide facilities to them in the form of education, training or housing for their upliftment, it has been found that only few people are able to get its benefit. Later on, those people who get all the benefits from a separate section within that category and once they become capable they forget their duty towards the society to which they belong, thus a new class is formed. We should consider as to why such situation is arising? Only yesterday I read about this in the newspaper and I am of the opinion that the system of creamy layer should be implemented in case of SCs and STs. In Rajasthan, there are many sub-tribes within ST category and I would like to draw your attention towards two tribes in particular. One is Bheel tribe, which has a glorious history. They were called as Adivasis in Mewar. This tribe had proved its valour and bravery with the army of Maharana Pratap. They lead their lives in forests. They belong to STs and among them only few are literate and have reached higher posts. I have also to state that the kind of efforts which should have been made for the upliftment of Bheel community in Rajasthan are not sufficient. Similarly, in Rajasthan the second caste is Meena caste. Today, the people of this community live not only in Rajasthan but also in Gujarat and other States of the country. Every third IAS and IPS of the country belongs to Meena caste. Similarly, people belonging to a particular section among the Scheduled Castes, I do not want to name.

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

are holding higher posts but the development and upliftment of downtrodden people of the same category who were safai karmi and whom Gandhi ji used to call Harijan has not been taken place to the desired extent. We talk to formulate Government policies and their implementation for the social economic and political development of these people but at the same time we should introspect and review that inspite of so much efforts for the betterment of these people why only a certain section of this category has moved forward leaving behind the others. How such a gap has surfaced between them and is it not creating a feeling of high class and lower class among them? Untouchability is a social evil and it should be eradicated.

Today, in the morning during Zero Hour, Shri Athawale ji raised a matter regarding murder of a dalit in Maharashtra. Two-three days ago, it was reported regarding Uttar Pradesh that in a state where the Chief Minister belongs to a dalit community, dalits are being ill-treated and murdered. Very often we read in newspapers, that in Bihar, upper class people commit atrocities on dalits and scheduled caste people and set their houses on fire. Those who are in power there are making all efforts and are committed for the upliftment of dalit community. Despite, how such circumstances are formed in which atrocities are being committing against dalits.

A number of such incidents have been reported in Rajasthan also. There a bridegroom of dalit community can not sit on "ghori" (mare) on the occasion of marriage and with band can not take procession alongwith him as the people of upper caste object to it and forced him to get down from the "ghori" near the "chaupal" of the village. Discrimination is done even on the drinking water. Such is the situation even after passing of so many years, expansion of education and literacy and efforts made by several leaders. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati, Swami Vivekanand, Ramkrishan Pramhans, Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Shradhanand ji had made strong efforts to remove untouchability but despite that such incidents are taking place in the country. At some places regional parties also launched reform movements to eradicate untouchability. But still such a feeling is prevalent in the society. To root out this evil, Kabirji had said "ko baman ko shudra", that is, no one is Brahmin and no one is Shudra. For the sake of unity in the society criticizing the casteism Kabir had stated:

*"Ek Ishwar ke putra hain, jat-pat puchhai na koie.  
Jo hari ko bhaje, so hari ka hoey."*

This has been mentioned in Vedas also that all human beings are equal and the knowledge of Vedas is for human being only. During mediaeval period, people for their vested interests stated. "Satri Shudro Naddhiynam." Actually it was

the embodiment of our narrow approach but Vedas did not make mention about it anywhere. Therefore, Sir, through you, I want to say that we should consider all these points. We should also ponder over the fact that even after making so much efforts why weaker and backward sections of the society could not make progress; why they failed to acquire the feeling of self-respect and why they could not be brought into the mainstream of the nation and why harmony is not being created among them.

Appropriate laws and policies have been formulated for the upliftment of these sections but the Government be it of any party is not implementing them properly. What kind of mind set is being shown by us? Do the higher officers have no feeling for these deprived people? Riots are taking place in villages in the name of removing atrocities. Scheduled caste people lodge complaints against upper class people on petty issue dubbing them casteism. Officers in banks hesitate to ask them to do work. When they are asked to work they level allegation on the officer for committing atrocities against them. Both action and reaction are wrong. All are equal and the Children of one God. Our constitution has given right to equality to all.

16.12 hrs.

(SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*)

All are equal, there is nothing like upper class or lower class. However, there is a need to change the mindset of the so called upper class and also to change the way of reaction and the feeling to revolt against the society in the people of Scheduled caste. There is a need to create harmonious atmosphere in the entire society. The people of upper castes and lower castes should live harmoniously. They have to live just like milk and water. As milk absorbs water in itself when they are mixed and water protects the milk from burning when placed on fire. Our society should be induced with the feeling of equality, unity and affection so that our society could develop.

Bhagwan Buddha, Mahavir and other great legends have made efforts to remove untouchability and casteism but this evil is still prevailing in the society. The back log of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Government services is increasing day by day. Employees belonging to these castes are not being given promotions. I have written several letters to Department of Personnel in this regard. They further forwarded them and stated that an amendment should be brought in the Parliament in this regard. Although amendment has been made but still they point out some shortcomings or other. The backlog has still not been cleared even after so much relaxations in the eligibility to SCs/STs candidates. And



our brothers from SCs/STs categories are facing lot of difficulties. We are not making any obligation to them. They have been deprived of their rights for thousands of years. Therefore, it is our duty to provide equal status to them in the society and there should not be any discrimination against them in the matter of Government jobs and other services. The reservation quota of 15% and 7½% provided to them should be filled up.

NDA Government has made some amendments in the scholarship but there is a need to reconsider the scholarship given to the students be it at a level of middle school, higher secondary, or university level.

The hostels running under Social Welfare Ministry have all the facilities as per the provision made for providing food to the students. Grants in aid being given for housing, meals, education and training under Destitute Children Scheme should be continued so that they could become self-reliant. I think there is a need to ponder over the amount of grant. Similarly, Ashram Schools have been opened in adivasi areas for SC and ST people. However, there is seepage in the ceilings of these ashrams. Grant should be given for the proper maintenance of these ashram schools. In the absence of facilities, they are in pitiable condition. Therefore, adequate attention is required to be given to these ashram schools. Corruption is rampant in the coaching classes organised for the students. To organise coaching classes for the students is good whereby they are prepared for competitive examinations. It is being observed that those classes are not being held regularly. There is also a need to monitor the expenditure being incurred on it. The Government have formulated several policies and programmes but when the implementation issue comes to the fore it reminds me a couplet of Kabir - "Kathani Tothhi Jagat Mein, Karni Uttam Saar" Kaht Kabir - Karani Sabal, Uttare Bhajwal paar.

[English]

Saying and doing are different things.

[Translation]

Hence through you, I would like to say the Government that though several programmes and policies have been formulated and lots of things have been said about the principles, yet there is a need to implement these policies and programmes practically. Similarly, the assistance for the development of the tribal areas is given under the special component plan or the grant provided for the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and poor sections under Indira Awas Yojana is not sufficient to cater to the need to constructing the houses. Keeping in view the increase in

the price of material used in the construction of the house, there is a need to think whether house can be constructed with the sanctioned amount and also there is a need to take into account the efforts needed to be made to get their loans sanctioned by the banks or the other lending institutions.

Lastly, I would like to say through you that the Resolution moved by Shri Athawaleji is very much in time with the demand of the time and is pertinent and as I said initially that there is a need to consider the entire situation in holistic approach to remove discrimination in our society and, to generate a feeling of love among the masses and to inculcate a feeling of brotherhood among them. However I would also like to say that there is also a need to review the increasing backlog of vacancies. As I said creamy layer has developed among the reserved classes. The son of a collector also become collector and that of a magistrate becomes magistrate. However on the other hand, shoemaker and sweeper cherish dream for their children when they would hold these posts after getting education. There is a need to make an effort in the direction of providing rights to these people. I am of the opinion that the Government should constitute a commission to pay attention to all these issues and consider over especially these circumstances.

With these words I conclude and thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Resolution of Shri Ramdas Athawale that the Government should by strengthening the administration and bringing an appropriate legislation, take active measures to implement the policies and programmes meant for the socio-economic and political development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Shri Shivraj Patilji delivered a very good speech during discussion. The discussion is meant for listening to the views of the hon. Members and to take effective and positive steps by the Government. The main cause of the interruptions in the House is laxity shown by the Government in taking effective steps. The main cause of the interruptions in the House is the laxity shown by the Government in taking steps on the basis of merits, demerits and facts of a particular situation. It is on account of it that the tension builds up in the House.

Shri Jatiyaji is the Minister in this Department but he has left the House. The Minister of State of this department Sanjay Paswan is sitting here. I would like that today's discussion may not remain confined to mere formality alone. This discussion would become meaningful once the Government take concrete step.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is a welfare state committed for

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

the welfare of the weaker sections of the society and we have adopted it in the Constitution also. It has also been mentioned in the directive principles of state policy and the Preamble of the Constitution. The article 38, 39 and 46 of the constitution bear a testimony to the commitment of the Government towards the welfare of weaker sections in the society. The Ministry of Welfare was set up on 25 September, 1985 to monitor the implementation of various policies and programmes formulated for the welfare of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and proper implementation of reservation meant for them.

Later on Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was also added to it. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was segregated from it on 13th October, 1999 and a separate department was created. As per the 1991 census, Scheduled Castes comprised 13.82 percent of the country's population but the country's population was estimated to be 84.63 crore in that census. If the 1991 census is taken as the basis, the percentage of the Scheduled Castes comes to 16.8 percent of the country's population. The Schemes on priority basis are formulated for the welfare of these sections during each Five Year Plan but there is a need to see how much of their benefits percolates down to these weaker sections. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was constituted through the 65th Constitution Amendment Act 1990 under the article 388. The Commission was entrusted with the task of investigating into and supervising the various aspects of the constitutional safeguards for the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also to advice in the matter of economic development to these classes. In total it can be said that the Commission has not been provided with any constitutional powers. I am very sorry to say that no debate is held on the report submitted to the President and laid on the Table of the House regarding the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It can yield good results if the Government honestly consider over the report laid in the House and also pay heed to the views and suggestions of the MP's and make efforts to take initiative in the direction. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very anguished to say that the discussion is not held in the House on the report regarding Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe. I would like to request that there is a need to hold discussion on the said report.

Mr. Chairman. Sir, though untouchability has been eradicated in our country by law but the incidents of such kind are reported everyday in the newspaper, I don't want to talk of any political party. This matter is related to our mindset. Some people in society do not want to change their thinking. The people of weaker section in the country today also read about the Russian and French revolution. The younger generation

don't want to live in the same circumstances in which their forefather had lived. They are bent upon creating social rebellion. So many cases are reported and there is a need to ponder over as how to check those. I am also the member of the committee on social empowerment constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Sanjay Paswanji.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of India provides special financial assistance to the State Governments for the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Not once but I have said it many times that there is a need to ensure whether or not the funds provided to the State Government are utilised properly. Though the funds are released from the Centre to the State Governments but they don't send the utilisation certificate. Maybe the money is spent under some other head. There is a need to monitor this thing. The figures of expenditure sent by the State Governments to the Union Government are not satisfactory. Hence I have reiterated time and again that there is a need to develop a monitoring mechanism. The Union Government should develop a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the funds sent to the State Governments for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been properly utilised or not? Unless the Government ensures this, the funds meant for welfare would not be utilised properly.

I would also like to submit that there seems to have formed a caucus in the society. The really deserving person fails to get any assistance but the cunning and the clever know how to get funds from the Government. That is why Government funds are used by this very section. And the person who really deserves it, is deprived of it. This aspect needs to be looked into.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the candidates belonging to SC and ST community are provided pre-matric and post-matric scholarship. But it does not mean a lot as education today has been commercialised absolutely. The education imparted in Government institutions is no longer attractive. Private institutions are attracting more and more people. In their competition, Government institutions are nowhere. The SC and ST students can't get education in private institutions. It is not that such students are lacking in talent. Their parents want to give quality education to their children but they are unable to do so because of economic reasons. I am talking about all the sections. The current situation is that 87 percent students drop out of schools by the time they reach class 12. The reason lies not because of lack of desire on the part of the parents, but because of lack of financial resources. The assistance provided by the Government is too meagre in the present context.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we talk about IT today. Current age is the age of information technology. Please excuse me for saying that, but its benefit would also be harvested by those who get higher level education. Everyone will not get its benefit. Its benefit would be garnered by a particular section. The students of weaker sections of SCs and STs would not be able to draw benefit from it. The commercialisation of education has resulted in the fact that those persons, who are economically not better off, which mostly comprise SCs and STs are not able to provide education to their children. The Department says that they have constructed so many hostels, provided scholarship to so many students but there exists a huge gap in the facilities provided at Government hostels and those provided by private institutions. Therefore we need to look positively at the aspect of changing current situation.

I would also like to submit that Baba Saheb Ambedkar Foundation was set up on 24th March, 1992. After Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and Mahatma Gandhi, this year we are celebrating the birth centenary of Shri Jai Prakash Narain and Chaudhary Charan Singh. The birth centenary celebrations of all these great men were completed in one year but the birth centenary of Baba Saheb Ambedkar was celebrated for three years. It is my good fortune that at that time I was the Minister of that Department and in the birth centenary year of Babasaheb Ambedkar I had constituted six sub committees on subject such as education, reservation, economic issues, land division etc. Government had promised to implement the recommendations of those sub-committees. I would like to remind Shri Rasa Singh Rawat that even Vajpayee ji had committed and this was approved by the Cabinet also. But they have remained unimplemented so far. The recommendations also mentioned that the literature of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar would be published in various languages. I must say that the office set up for that purpose is in bad condition. The foundation is not fulfilling the objectives for which it was set up. This should also be looked into. The residence of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was at Alipur Road, Delhi. It was proposed to be converted into a memorial but as per my information the work on memorial is not completed. We need to consider all these aspects.

Through you, I would also like to say that the weaker sections, dalits, poors, SCs and STs would suffer most from the disinvestment and economic liberalisation. When any Government undertaking is handed over to private sector, its service conditions would be fixed by the private sector, which would mean end of reservation. It is another thing to talk about its consequence, but in my opinion, allocation for self employment schemes need to be increased and emphasis be laid on them. People should be given an opportunity to earn their own livelihood and they should be provided capital,

as Shri Shivraj Patil said, to run their own enterprise. For this, the allocation or self employment schemes need to be increased. Shri Rasa Singh Rawat mentioned that Rs. 20000 are provided under Indira Awas Yojana, but does that amount reach the eligible persons? From the time, Rs. 20000 was fixed the prices of various goods have increased. This amount is not practical in the present context. Even in that, there are rigid conditions about the manner in which the House is to be built. What type of House can be constructed in Rs. 20,000? Therefore the amount provided to the poor for constructing House needs to be increased.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make one more request through you. Shri Rasa Singh ji was saying that people ought to live with self respect. There is no correlation between self respect and poverty. Self respect comes only when one is self reliant in all respects. Such a thing can't exist in one who is poor. If there economic condition is made better, self respect would be generated automatically. The real and fundamental issue is to make weaker sections self reliant to make them independent, to protect their traditional industries, to provide market for it. Only then they would get benefit. I would like to quote the example of shoe industry of Agra. All the members of family - from 5 year kid to 70 year old work in that cottage industry. After the shoe is made, they put it in a basket and carry it to the market. He gets Rs. 20 for each pair which is eventually sold at Rs. 300 in the market. Now the person who has not put in any effort in making the shoe, packs it in an attractive box, puts his own trade-mark and sells it at Rs. 300. Those who do not labour are taking all the profits. If market, raw materials, and credit is provided to those working in cottage industries they can become self reliant. Therefore the greatest need is to protect the traditional industries of weaker sections and making efforts to strengthen them. No initiative has been taken in this direction. Ramdasji rightly said, that the subject of reservation ought to be put in the ninth schedule of the constitution, as people frequently move court on the issue.

Finally, I would like to submit that the real issue is of land reforms. Shri Shivraj Patil mentioned that whatever be the reasons, but I do have personal knowledge in this regard. Some people have occupied huge chunks of land by hook or by crook, - this is one aspect. In my opinion, all the barren and wasteland of the country, after making them culturable, be distributed among dalits. It would be beneficial to them hugely. We do not want to do even this. The question is how they are going to develop self confidence among them if we do not do this. Lastly, I would like to request through you that we have to change the existing situation. The incidents of atrocities against dalits are increasing and as per report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,

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Uttar Pradesh is the leading State in regard to the atrocities being committed against dalits. Lastly, through you, I would request that the incident that took place at Dalma Chowki in Jhajjar in Haryana and its subsequent reporting in newspaper indicates that the situation is not well. It was also said that the persons who had murdered five dalits by dragging out them from Dalma Chowki will be honoured.

Sir, it is the law which punishes the guilty. Who are the other persons to punish them even if they had committed a crime law would punish them. If it is not so, why has the state come in existence and why the concept of state has been envisaged. The state is meant to ensure that the life and property of the people may remain safe. It is the function of the state to award punishment. If the people start punishing each other, the very conception of the state will cease to exist and the people will lose faith in the institution of state and they will become despaired. Thereafter it was also stated that those who murdered five dalits did not commit any crime, rather they did the right thing. This type of mindset in the country will prove fatal for the country.

Sir, my friend Paswanji, was talking of conversion right now and he said that some people get converted out of some allurements. But it is not true. It can be explained in terms of the discrimination done against certain section of society which lead to it. You must also think over to the reason that I have just given for people getting converted. This is also one of the reasons of conversion. I am not a renowned poet but I would like to recite a couplet written by some poet:-

*"Raat ka Intezaar Kon Kare, Aik Din Mein Kya Nahi Hota,  
Kuch to Majbooriyan Rahi Hongi, Yon Hi Koi  
Bewafa Nahin Hota".*

Sir, we need to change our behaviour, attitude, way of thinking etc. All these things are responsible for the present solution. The people with feudal outlook will have to change their ways in the changing circumstances and if they fail to do so the situations will further worsen.

Sir, Lastly, through you I would like to request this only that the fundamental question has been raised by Shri Shivrajji Patil that not only social justice but economic justice should also be created in the society. Our behaviour and whole outlook changes according to our economic status. If the dalits are to be given equality in true sense then they will have to be made self-reliant and there is a need to improve their financial condition. There is also a need to revive traditional industries and to encourage self-employment and I am of the opinion that there would not be a better step for dalits if we make

extra efforts to achieve the proposals of the motion moved by Shri Ramdas Athawaleji.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Hon. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to place my views on record on the Resolution brought forth by Shri Ramdas Athawale. The Resolution urges upon the Government to take vigorous steps for implementation of policies and programmes for socio-economic and political upliftment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society by strengthening the administration and by bringing forward suitable legislation.

The Resolution itself defines its purpose. It has emphasised the role of the Government machinery. We, the policy makers, have to realise our duties and responsibilities for the upliftment of these weaker sections. Fifty-five years after Independence, it is unfortunate that we still have to discuss this. As Shri Ramji Lal Suman has rightly pointed out, we will have to make concrete policies in this regard in the initial year of the Tenth Plan.

Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution of India had, in the Fifth and the Sixth Schedules of the Constitution of India, defined the policies and programmes and also safeguards.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar has already mentioned. I would like to quote a few lines of his Address which he delivered in a gathering, about untouchability in 1927. He said:

"Untouchability can attain self-elevation only by learning self-help, gaining self-knowledge and gaining self-respect."

Are our programmes and policies moving towards these goals which the Father of our Constitution had dreamt about? Where are we lagging behind?

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House that it has been said in the 10th Five Year Plan that 'to tackle various unresolved problems of tribals, the 10th Plan shall formulate a comprehensive National Policy for empowering tribals through the integrated development which will lay down the responsibilities of different wings of Government and appropriate accountability.

Sir, out of this 22.5 per cent population of our great nation, what is the level of upliftment, we have achieved in the socio-political and economic empowerment during all these days? Does the fault lie on the policy makers; or is it the problem in implementation by the implementing agencies; or is it the fault of group of officials committed to carry these schemes at the grassroots level; or is there any lacuna that

we have failed ourselves to address these issues all these years?

Sir, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India has brought out a publication "Milestones of Success". There, under the heading "Tribal Affairs", they have mentioned about 15-16 schemes. I would like to concentrate only on three issues. The level of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan has been increased from Rs. 400 crore to Rs. 500 crore from 1999-2000 to 2001-02. This is the budget allocation for the upliftment of the eight per cent of the tribal population. Here again, I would like to inform, with a painful heart, that there is a grate regional imbalance among the Scheduled Caste, poor and downtrodden people. This eight per cent tribal population is living and is scattered in 20 per cent of the geographical area of the country. Except States like Punjab and Haryana, they are spread throughout the country. Their main concentration is in the central parts of India, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal. About 85 per cent of them are located only in these areas. Another pocket of population living in the North-East where 12 per cent of such tribal population resides.

For the North-Eastern States, even the hon. Prime Minister has announced a special budget allocation. They are trying to formulate the schemes.

Are we not competent enough, are we not committed to implement the schemes which will cater to the needs, which will address the issues of socio-political and economic empowerment of this tribal community? We are decentralising everything. There is no proper Budget allocation which is proportionate to the population. This is the first one. The second one is that even when the Budget allocation is made, we are not concentrating on policies and programmes in a need-based manner. I would like to have a concrete reply from the hon. Minister as to on what schemes the Government of India had focused and formulated, and what is the Budget allotment in these areas where regional imbalances is more like between North and South India and also the North Indian States, where tribal population is more. Are we not having a specific or special programme for upliftment of the tribal people?

I congratulate the Government of India for having appointed a Commission for the Tribal Welfare under article 337 of the Constitution of India. There are members in this Constitution. They are vested with the responsibilities; it is given in the Gazette of India that they would submit the report to His Excellency the President of India as soon as they prepare the report, or not later than one year from the publication of this order. This Commission has to address some items, which I place on the Table of the House, for want

of time. We will have the commitments mentioned in the Gazette. I appeal through you, Sir, to have a separate discussion. The Commission will have to give a concrete reply as to the State-wise Budget allocation, different programmes, the achievement, etc. so that instead of waiting for a year, we can have it after six months; if the House contributes something, it could be incorporated and we can improve the implementation of the programmes so that the Commission definitely helps upliftment of the tribal community.

Shri Shivraj Patil has given good suggestions. Will the Ministry take note of these suggestions? The suggestions and the points that we are making here should have a result in implementing the programmes. There is no point only in speaking here. The Constitution of India has all the schemes; but they are only in the book-form. It has not reached the grassroots.

In this context, I would like to invite the Commission to come to Tamil Nadu, at least they can see the best performed State where the poor and downtrodden community is uplifted; they can see the schemes the State Government has adopted and how it has done it, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. V. SAROJA: I have not yet started.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI): Sir, there is no quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Please take your seat.

Let the quorum bell be rung —

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since there is no quorum in the House, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 5.30 p.m.

17.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty\* minutes past  
Seventeen of the Clock.*

17.34 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on  
Monday, April 28, 2003/Vaisakha 8, 1925 (Saka).*

\* At 1730 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General informed the Members present as follows:

"There is no quorum. The House, therefore, cannot meet; and we may not start the House till there is no quorum. Hon. Speaker has directed that the House be adjourned to meet on Monday, the 28th April, 2003 at 11 a.m."

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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in  
Lok Sabha (Tenth Edition) and Printed at Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006

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