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 Singh, Shri Khel Sai (Sarguja)
 Singh, Shri Lakshman (Rajgarh)
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar (Mandi)
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath (Maharajganj, Bihar)
 Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Motihari)
 Singh, Shri Rajo (Begusarai)
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Arrah)
 Singh, Shri Ramanand (Satna)
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan (Balua, Bihar)
 Singh, Shri Rampal (Domariaganj)
 Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba (Inner Manipur)
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad (Kodarma)
 Singh, Shri Vishvendra (Bharatpur)
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti (Bikramganj)
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna (Pratapgarh)
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama (Aurangabad, Bihar)
 Sinha, Shri Manoj (Gazipur)
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant (Hazaribagh)
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S. (Thiruvananthapuram)
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh (Godhra)
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit (Mumbai North East)
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar (Udupi)
 Soren, Shri Shibu (Dumka)

Sreenivasan, Shri C. (Dindigul)
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C. (Chickmangalore)
 Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava (Anantapur)
 Subba, Shri M.K. (Tezpur)
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M. (Sivaganga)
 Sudheeran, Shri V.M. (Alleppey)
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)
 Sunil Dutt, Shri (Mumbai North West)
 Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Adoor)
 Swain, Shri Kharabela (Balasore)
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Jaunpur)
 Swami, Shri I.D. (Karnal)

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B. (Vadodara)
 Thakur, Dr. C.P. (Patna)
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai (Bhandara)
 Thakur, Shri Ramsheth (Kulaba)
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su (Pudukkottai)
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari (East Delhi)
 Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt (Nainital)
 Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal (Rewa)
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)
 Tripathi, Shri Ram Naresh (Seoni)
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani (Deoria)
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh (Tarantaran)

U

Uma Bharati, Kumari (Bhopal)

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh (Kapadvanj)
 Vaiko, Shri (Sivakasi)

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)

Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas (Dhandhuka)

Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D. (Bharuch)

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)

Venkataswamy, Dr. N. (Tirupati)

Venkateshwarlu, Shri B. (Warangal)

Venkateswarlu, Prof. Ummareddy (Tenali)

Venugopal, Dr. S. (Adilabad)

Venugopal, Shri D. (Tirupattur)

Verma, Dr. Sahib Singh (Outer Delhi)

Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)

Verma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)

Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)

Verma, Shri Ram Murti Singh (Shahjahanpur)

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash (Kheri)

Vetriselvan, Shri V. (Krishnagiri)

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M. (Bhadrachalam)

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati G. (Amalapuram)

Vijayan, Shri A.K.S. (Nagapattinam)

Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)

Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma (Nellore)

Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

W

Wadiyar, Shri S D.N.R. (Mysore)

Wanaga, Shri Chintaman (Dahanu)

Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar (Arunachal East)

Y

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha (Mahendragarh)

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh (Alwar)

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh (Mainpuri)

Yadav, Shri Bhal Chandra (Khalilabad)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh (Etah)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Saharsa)

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Ramakant (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)

Yerrannaidu, Shri K. (Srikakulam)

Z

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob (Katwa)

Zawma, Shri Vanlal (Mizoram)

OFFICERS OF THE LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri Manohar Joshi

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Shri P.M. Sayeed

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Basu Deb Acharia

Shrimati Margaret Alva

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya

Shri P.H. Pandian

Shri Shriniwas Patil

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

Shri Beni Prasad Verma

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav

Shri K. Yerrannaidu

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri G.C. Malhotra

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Shri Pramod Mahajan

The Minister of
Parliamentary Affairs and
Minister of Communi-
cations and Information
Technology**CABINET MINISTERS**

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	The Prime Minister and also Incharge of the Ministries/Departments not specifically allocated to the charge of any Minister viz:	Shri Murasoli Maran	The Minister of Commerce and Industry
	1. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Shri Kariya Munda	The Minister of Agro and Rural Industries
	2. Ministry of Planning	Shri Ram Naik	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
	3. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	Shri Nitish Kumar	The Minister of Railways
	4. Department of Atomic Energy	Shri Jual Oram	The Minister of Tribal Affairs
	5. Department of Space	Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil	The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
Shri L.K. Advani	The Deputy Prime Minister, in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Coal and Mines.	Shri Suresh Prabhu	The Minister of Power
		Shri Kashiram Rana	The Minister of Textiles
Shri Ananth Kumar	The Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation.	Shri Arjun Charan Sethi	The Minister of Water Resources
Shri T.R. Baalu	The Minister of Environment and Forests	Shri Shanta Kumar	The Minister of Rural Development
		Shri Arun Shourie	The Minister of Disinvestment and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
Shri Sukh Dev Singh Dhindsa	The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri Ajit Singh	The Minister of Agriculture
Shri George Fernandes	The Minister of Defence	Shri Jaswant Singh	The Minister of Finance and Company Affairs.
Shri Ved Prakash Goyal	The Minister of Shipping	Shri Shatrughan Sinha	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare
Shri Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain	The Minister of Civil Aviation	Shri Yashwant Sinha	The Minister of External Affairs
Shri Jag Mohan	The Minister of Tourism and Culture	Shrimati Sushma Swaraj	The Minister of Information and Broadcasting
Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment	Kumari Uma Bharati	The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports
Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi	The Minister of Human Resource Development, Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Ocean Development	Dr. Sahib Singh Verma	The Minister of Labour
Shri K. Jana Krishnamurthy	The Minister of Law and Justice	Shri Sharad Yadav	The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

MINISTERS OF STATE (Independent Charge)

Shri M. Kannappan	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	Dr. Vallabhbhai Kathiria	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	Shri Vinod Khanna	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism and Culture
Shrimati Vasundhara Raje	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Small Scale Industries, Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Minister of State in the Departments of Atomic Energy and Space.	Shri Krishnamraju	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Shri N. T. Shanmugam	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries	Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel	Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
		Shri Subhash Maharia	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
		Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Ramesh Bais	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources	Shri A.K. Moorthy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries	Shri Shripad Yasso Naik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation
Shri Bandaru Dattatreya	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways	Shri Omar Abdullah	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.	Dr. Sanjay Paswan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
Shri Anant Gangaram Geete	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs	Shri Harin Pathak	The Minister of State in the Department of Defence Production and Supplies of the Ministry of Defence
Shri Vijay Goel	The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	Shri Annasaheb M.K. Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence	Shri Basangouda R. Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles.
		Shri Ashok Pradhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal and Mines and Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice	Shri Bachi Singh Rawat "Bachda"	The Minister of State in the Department of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology
Shri Pon Radhakrishnan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Shri A. Raja	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Tapan Sikdar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri O. Rajagopal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation	Shri Digvijay Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
Dr. Raman Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs	Shri I.D. Swami	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Su Thirunavukkarasar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping
		Prof. Rita Verma	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
		Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture

LOK SABHA DEBATES

First day of the Tenth Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha

LOK SABHA

Monday, July 15, 2002/Asadha 24, 1924 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(The National Anthem was played.)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terrorists are massacring people in
Jammu and the Government are doing nothing.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please stop. Please sit down.

[English]

Secretary General may now call the names of newly
elected Members in recent by-elections to take the oath or
make the affirmation.

11.02 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shrimati Ganti Vijaya Kumar (Amalapuram)

Shri Shibu Soren (Dumka)

Shri Tribhuwan Datt (Akbarpur)

11.05 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

[Translation]

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to introduce Shri
L.K. Advani as Deputy Prime Minister before introducing
my new colleagues.

Now I introduce my new colleagues:

Cabinet Minister

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil | The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises |
| 2. Dr. Sahib Singh Verma | The Minister of Labour |
| 3. Shri Shatrughan Sinha | The Minister of Health and Family Welfare |
| 4. Shri K. Jana Krishnamurthy | The Minister of Law and Justice |

Minister of State (Independent Charge)

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 5. Shri N.T. Shanmugam | The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries |
|------------------------|---|

Minister of State

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 6. Shri Shripad Yasso Naik | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation |
| 7. Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries |
| 8. Shri Vinod Khanna | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism and Culture |
| 9. Shri Anant Gangaram Geete | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs |
| 10. Shri Basangouda R. Patil | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles |
| 11. Dr. Sanjay Paswan | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology |
| 12. Shri A.K. Moorthy | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways |
| 13. Shri Su Thirunavukkarasar | The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping |

11.09 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

AND

REFERENCE TO PERSONS KILLED IN MILITANT ATTACK NEAR JAMMU-SRINAGAR HIGHWAY

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as we meet today after an interval of about two months, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the passing away of Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav, a sitting Member, Shri Basappa Danappa Jatti, former Vice-President of India and five of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Chandra Mohan Sinha, Shri Gulsher Ahmed, Shri Moti Ram Baigra, Shri R.R. Patel and Shrimati Mahendra Kumari and Shri S.L. Shakhder, former Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Honorary Officer of the House.

[Translation]

Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav was a member of present Lok Sabha representing Godda Parliamentary constituency of Jharkhand. He had been a Member of 6th, 11th and 12th Lok Sabha also from the same Parliamentary constituency from 1977 to 1979 and 1996 to 1999.

Prior to this, he was the member of Bihar Legislative Assembly from 1962 to 1967 and of Rajya Sabha for 1982 to 1988.

An efficient administrator, Shri Yadav served as the Union Minister of State for Health, family Welfare and Industries from 1977 to 1979.

As an active parliamentarian, Shri Yadav also served as a member of various Parliamentary and consultative committees.

A veteran freedom fighter Shri Yadav actively participated in the freedom struggle from 1942 to 1946.

An agriculturist and advocate by profession, Shri Yadav was a famous political and social worker. He was actively involved in the preservation and development of Indian culture and heritage. He wrote several books and also contributed several articles on Agriculture and silk-co-operatives in various newspapers and magazines. He worked hard for the welfare of the dalit and weaker sections of the society especially scheduled castes and labour class.

An erudite scholar, Shri Yadav had special interest in making continuous efforts for the promotion of Hindi in Government offices and he made relentless efforts for this purpose. He had been a member of 'Sansadiya Rajbhasha Samiti Parliamentary' Committee on official language and convenor of its sub-committee.

Shri Yadav travelled widely. He attended International conference on Health in erstwhile USSR, International cooperative conference in Hamburg-Germany and International conference on Joint Families in Paris, France. He went to Mexico in May-June 2001. He was also a member of Indian Parliamentary Delegation.

Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav passed away on 20th June, 2002 at Coimbatore, Tamilnadu at the age of 77 after a brief illness.

[English]

Shri Basappa Danappa Jatti, the former Vice-President of India passed away on 7 June, 2002 at Bangalore, Karnataka at the age of 90. He also served as the Acting President for five months from February to July, 1977.

Shri Jatti, during his illustrious administrative and political career served the nation in various capacities.

An advocate by profession, Shri Jatti was legal practitioner in the erstwhile Princely State of Jamkhadi, now in Karnataka.

An outstanding statesman, Shri Jatti was the Lieutenant Governor of Pondicherry from 1968 to 1972 and took over as the Governor of Orissa in November, 1972. He held the office of the Vice-President and Chairman of Rajya Sabha from 1974 to 1979 with great distinction.

Earlier, Shri Jatti was the Chairman of Municipal Council, Jamkhadi and Member of Legislature in the Princely State of Jamkhadi. He served as Minister under Maharaja of Jamkhadi and also became the Chief Minister. He piloted the proposal for merging the State with the Indian Union and was the first to do so in South India. He was nominated to the then composite State of Bombay as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. He became Parliamentary Secretary to then Chief Minister. He served as Deputy Minister of Health and Labour in the Morarji Desai Ministry of Bombay and later held charge as Minister of Health and Labour for some time. He was also appointed as Chairman of the Land Reforms Committee of the State and had submitted a report on the subject, which was later known as "Jatti Committee Report". This report dealt with

all problems and possible solutions regarding land reforms in the State. He was the Chief Minister of the erstwhile Mysore State from 1958 to 1962, Finance Minister in 1962 and Food Minister in 1966. He was re-elected to the Mysore Assembly in 1967.

A man of letters, Shri Jatti has to his credit a number of articles on philosophy, literature and allied subjects.

His gentle demeanour and humility endeared him to all.

Shri Chandra Mohan Sinha was a Member of Fifth and Sixth Lok Sabha from 1972 to 1979 representing Mayurbhanj Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa. He was also a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1991-92.

Earlier, Shri Sinha was a Member of Orissa Legislative Assembly from 1961 to 1967. He ably served as the Deputy Minister of Labour, Home, Revenue and Excise in Orissa State from 1962 to 1967.

Before venturing into active politics, Shri Sinha was in Government service from 1943 to 1949.

Shri Sinha served in the capacity of President and General Secretary of several labour unions from 1950 to 1961. He also served as Member of Labour Advisory Board, Scheduled Tribes Advisory Council, Forests Advisory Board of Orissa and Indian National Mine Workers' Federation.

An active political and social worker, Shri Sinha had established many schools and colleges and had taken up various developmental projects in Tribal areas. During his entire political career, he fought valiantly for the welfare of the downtrodden especially those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. He headed the Kalinga Foundation set up by Late Shri Biju Patnaik, former Chief Minister of Orissa.

Shri Chandra Mohan Sinha passed away on 13th May, 2002 at Bhubaneswar, Orissa at the age of 79.

Shri Gulsher Ahmed was a Member of Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing Satna Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Ahmed was a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1956 and Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1977. He also adorned the office of the Speaker of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1977 and Governor of Himachal Pradesh during 1993.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Ahmed was the Chairman of Joint Committee on Offices of Profit from 1980 to 1984 and Member of General Purposes Committee from 1980 to 1984 and Rules Committee during 1981-82.

An agriculturist and advocate by profession Shri Ahmed was an active social and political worker. He served as the President of Marketing Society, Satna and Education Society, Satna, Madhya Pradesh. He also served as Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from 1967 to 1972.

An educationist, Shri Ahmed was the Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Gramodaya University, Chitrakoot.

Shri Gulsher Ahmed passed away on 20 May, 2002 at Satna, Madhya Pradesh at the age of 81.

Shri Moti Ram Baigra was a Member of the Constituent Assembly of India from 1946 to 1950 and was elected to Provisional Parliament in 1950 representing Jammu and Kashmir State.

Shri Baigra was elected also to State Constituent Assembly and Legislative Assembly in 1951. He was re-elected to the Assembly in 1957 and remained its Member till 1962. Later, he was elected to Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council and served the Council for several years.

Shri Baigra served as President of Jammu Provincial National Conference. A keen supporter of regional autonomy, Shri Baigra preached communal harmony and brotherhood throughout his life.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Baigra fought relentlessly for freedom. He remained committed to secular and progressive ideology.

He was respected widely for his honesty and straightforwardness.

Shri Moti Ram Baigra passed away on 28 May, 2002 at Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir at the age of 94.

Shri R.R. Patel was a Member of Fifth and Sixth Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1979 representing Dadra and Nagar Haveli Parliamentary Constituency of the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Patel was a Member of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions during 1976-77.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Patel was an active social and political worker. He also served as Sarpanch at Moti Tambadi panchayat, Gujarat from 1955 to 1957.

Shri R.R. Patel passed away on 13 June, 2002 at Valsad, Gujarat at the age of 66.

Shrimati Mahendra Kumari was a Member of Tenth Lok Sabha from 1991 to 1996 representing Alwar Parliamentary Constituency of Rajasthan.

Shrimati Mahendra Kumari was a Member of Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests from 1993 to 1996 and House Committee from 1993 to 1995.

Notwithstanding her royal lineage, Shrimati Mahendra Kumari was a leader of the masses in the true sense of the word. She ceaselessly strove for the uplift and betterment of downtrodden and worked relentlessly for the welfare of the people of her Constituency.

A keen sports enthusiast, Shrimati Mahendra Kumari was a former champion of women's pistol shooting and had special interest in tennis, swimming and riding.

A widely travelled person, Shrimati Mahendra Kumari was a Member of Indian Parliamentary Group of the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China in 1995.

Shrimati Mahendra Kumari passed away on 27 June, 2002 at New Delhi at the age of 60 after a brief illness.

Shri S.L. Shakhder joined the Lok Sabha Secretariat as Deputy Secretary in 1950 and rose to become Secretary, Lok Sabha in 1964. On his election as the President of Secretaries-General of Parliaments of the World, he was designated Secretary-General on 13 November, 1973 and continued in that capacity till relinquishing this office on 18 June, 1977 on his appointment as Chief Election Commissioner of India.

An authority on Parliamentary Procedure and Practice and Constitutional Law, Shri Shakhder together with Shri M.N. Kaul played an important role in moulding and shaping the Rules of Procedure and Conventions in Lok Sabha, which have stood the test of time.

The depth of his knowledge and wide experience in parliamentary procedure and practice are symbolised in the monumental treatise, "Practice and Procedure in Parliament" co-authored by him with Shri M.N. Kaul. This treatise more popularly known as Kaul & Shakhder is

considered as an authority on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure and is 'widely consulted not only in India but in foreign legislative bodies as well.

Shri Shakhder also has, to his credit, various other informative and educative publications, viz., Report on the Budgetary Systems of the various parliaments; Process of Legislation; Inter-Parliamentary Relations; Budget in Parliament; Comptroller and Auditor General in India and U.K. - A Comparison; Administrative Accountability to Parliament; The Commonwealth Parliaments; The Constitution and Parliament in India; *Samvidhan Aur Sansad*, and many others.

He was appointed as Rapporteur by Inter Parliamentary Union and in that capacity, he brought out a report on the system of Parliamentary Committees obtaining in member-countries of Inter-Parliamentary Union.

A widely travelled person, Shri Shakhder accompanied a number of parliamentary delegations abroad and was a familiar figure in international parliamentary circles.

On his relinquishing the office of Secretary-General, he was appointed as Honorary Officer of the House.

Shri S.L. Shakhder passed away on 18 May, 2002 at New Delhi at the age of 83.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure, the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

As the hon. Members are aware, about 27 persons were killed and several injured in a militant attack in the sub-urban Rajiv Nagar area near Jammu-Srinagar highway, on 13 July, 2002. We deeply mourn the loss of lives of these innocent people and strongly deplore this cowardly act of violence. The House may place on record its deep sense of grief on this tragedy

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

11.23 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Payment of Minimum Wages

*1. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of incidents of violation of statutes relating to payment of minimum wages by many of the industries in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to enforce the statutory provisions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (c) The minimum wages are fixed, revised and enforced by the Central and the State Governments for the workers engaged in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions in accordance with the statutory provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. As regards enforcement, the same is secured through the Central and the State enforcement machineries. The officers of these machineries are appointed as Inspectors who conduct regular inspections and whenever they come across any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages, they advise the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-adherence, there are provisions of prosecutions against the defaulting employers.

The details of the inspections made and action thereon by the Central Government and the Government of NCT of Delhi in respect of the employments under their respective jurisdictions are as under:

Year	Central Government		
	No. of Inspections made	Amount got paid to workers (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Prosecutions launched
1	2	3	4
1998-1999	112	2.56	877
1999-2000	125	2.15	816
2000-2001	1.54	1.84	805

Government of NCT of Delhi

(Rs. in Crore)

1	2	3	4
2000	6719	1.27	829
2001	6416	0.91	1040
2002 (upto May)	3083	0.89	420

Production of Soya Bean/Soya Oil

*2. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable increase in prices of all the popular brands of soya oil during the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the extent of increase, brand-wise;

(c) whether the demands of soya oil have to be met by imports;

(d) if so, the quantity of soya oil imported during the last year;

(e) whether there is any decline in the indigenous production of soya bean/soya oil;

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

(g) the effective steps taken to increase the production of soya bean/soya oil and;

(h) the extent of assistance provided by the Government to the States for increasing the soya bean/soya oil production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The soya oil prices are governed by the demand and supply situation as also fluctuations in the international prices of edible oils. In the last six months, the international prices of edible oils have gone up which has led to increase in the domestic prices of all edible oils including the soya oil. The brand-wise prices of edible oils are not monitored.

(c) and (d) The demand for edible oil is not assessed

on the basis of a particular edible oil but is assessed on the basis of the production of all edible oils as a whole and the gap between the demand and supply is met through the import of edible oils. A quantity of 11.96 lakh tonnes of soybean oil has been imported during the financial year 2001-02 (up to January, 2002).

(e) and (f) The production of soybean/soya oil has declined during 2000-01 and 2001-02 as compared to the production during 1999-2000. The shortfall in the production of soybean is due to unfavourable weather conditions. The State-wise production of soybean in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is given in the enclosed statement.

(g) and (h) In order to increase the production of oilseeds including soybean, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 28 States covering 408 districts. Under the scheme assistance is being provided for various inputs and transfer of production and protection technology to the farmers for increasing the production of oilseeds including soybean. An amount of Rs.73.23 crores has been provided to the States for increasing the production of oilseeds including soybean during 2001-02.

Statement

State-wise production of soybean in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-01

State/U. T.	Production (000 tonnes)	
	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	13.9	11.8
Arunachal Pradesh	3.7	3.4
Gujarat	5.1	5.1
Himachal Pradesh	1.1	1.0
Karnataka	59.5	58.8
Madhya Pradesh	4743.0	3431.0
Chhattisgarh	-	9.0
Maharashtra	1620.0	1266.2
Meghalaya	0.9	0.8
Mizoram	1.4	1.6

1	2	3
Nagaland	14.0	11.7
Orissa	-	-
Rajasthan	601.0	455.9
Sikkim	3.4	3.4
Uttar Pradesh	14.0	9.9
Uttaranchal	-	3.0
West Bengal	0.4	0.3
All India	7081.4	5272.9

Road Accidents

*3. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been constant increase in the number of road accidents on National Highways;

(b) if so, the factors responsible therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the increasing road accidents;

(d) the percentage decrease in road accidents owing to steps taken by the Government;

(e) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has asked the oil companies to move petrol pumps away from National Highways to reduce the road accidents;

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

(g) the reaction of the oil companies thereto; and

(h) the extent to which the shifting of petrol pumps from National Highways are likely to reduce the road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) As per information available the number of road accidents per thousand motor vehicles on National Highways has been decreasing over the last few years as given below:

Year	Population of Vehicles all categories (in thousand)	No. of Accidents on National Highways	Accidents per thousand vehicle
1996	33783	89046 (P)	2.64
1997	37231	94014 (P)	2.53
1998	40939	98690 (P)	2.41
1999	45000 (Provisional)	103839	2.31

P = Provisional (information awaited from some States)

Analysis of road accidents reveals that about 83.5% of accidents are on account of fault of drivers. Condition of vehicles, roads etc. are some of the other factors that also contribute to accidents. Several road safety measures have been taken up. These include:

- (1) About 15,750 drivers of heavy motor vehicles have been provided refresher training in the last Plan period.
- (2) Publicity campaigns on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media.
- (3) Grants-in-aid is provided to voluntary organizations for administering road safety programmes.
- (4) Use of simulators in driver's training is encouraged
- (5) National Award instituted for voluntary organizations/individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety.
- (6) All India Essay Competition on road safety are organized for school children for creating awareness among the school children.
- (7) Fitness norms for transport vehicles have been tightened.
- (8) Widening/improvement of roads.

(e) to (h) National Highways Authority has not asked oil companies to move Petrol pumps away from National Highways. However, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, in consultation of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the oil companies is finalizing guidelines regarding the layout for access to the fuel stations on National Highways, for reducing accidents. This has been felt necessary as higher speed due to improved road conditions and increase in the number of motor vehicles necessitate a free flow of traffic on highways. In the absence of proper

lay-out of fuel stations, access and exit to highways obstructs traffic and thereby endangers safety of road users.

[English]

Setting up of Independent Agricultural Insurance Company

*4. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up an independent Agricultural Insurance Company/ Crop Insurance Corporation to provide insurance coverage exclusively for the agriculture related operations across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether nearly 19 States including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat have agreed to the above proposal;

(d) whether some of these States have registered one of the highest rates of crop failures in the country; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the said company is likely to be helpful to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The new organization is proposed to be promoted by the existing Public Sector General Insurance Companies and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

(c) All implementing States (21 States/UTs), including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat have accepted in principle the need for setting up of a separate National Agricultural Insurance company.

(d) A wide-spread failure of crops had occurred in Gujarat during Kharif-2000, and as a consequence thereof the highest amount of indemnity claims so far amounting to Rs.768.92 crore were paid in Gujarat.

(e) The proposed new organization would be helpful to the farmers in respect of the following:

- An exclusive insurance company will be able to arrange adequate manpower/infrastructure so that it could easily become approachable by the farmers and effective monitoring of crop conditions including yield would also be possible.

The proposed new agency will facilitate reducing the unit area of insurance.

The farmers, particularly non-loanee farmers, would be able to submit their insurance proposals directly to the insurance company.

The proposed new organization would be able to focus on crop insurance and make necessary changes, if required, in the implementation of the scheme quickly.

[Translation]

Constitution of Committee to Determine Prices of Agro Products

*5. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any board/committee to determine the prices of various agro-products during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether representatives of the farmers have also been included in the said board/committee;

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

(d) the criteria laid down for determining the prices of the agro-products?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) There is already in existence the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) to advise the Government on a continuing basis on agricultural price policy. The CACP, among other things, recommends the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 25 major agricultural commodities.

(b) and (c) Eminent persons having understanding of

agricultural production and consumer problems, not necessarily representing any particular group, are appointed to the three posts of Members (Non-Official) in the CACP on contract basis.

(d) The Government decides on the minimum support price for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the CACP, the views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as other relevant factors, which in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs).

While recommending MSPs, the CACP keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements; (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources; (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure, etc. and (iv) terms of trade between agricultural sector and non-agricultural sector.

[English]

Losses to IA

* 6. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has suffered continuous losses for the last three years and as a result thereof its market share has been falling steadily;

(b) if so, the estimated losses suffered by the Indian Airlines during 2001-2002 (till date) as compared to the corresponding period in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the reasons for such losses; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The net profit/(loss) of Indian Airlines and Alliance Air during the last three years are as under:

Year	Net Profit/(loss) (Rupees in Crores)	
	Indian Airlines	Alliance Air
1999-2000	51.42	0.94
2000-2001	(159.17)	(71.19)
2001-2002 (estimated)	(250.65)	(63.00)

The domestic market share of Indian Airlines and Alliance Air in the past three years has been as under:

Year	Percentage Market Share
1999-2000	56.0
2000-2001	50.9
2001-2002	49.7

Indian Airlines' decline in market share is primarily on account of decline in its capacity share in the domestic market. There was also decline of traffic of about 7% in 2001-2002 in view of the general economic slow down and the September 11 incident in USA whereas Capacity increase has been in excess of the market growth.

(c) The reasons for the losses incurred by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are as under:

1. Increase in the price of ATF
2. Increase in Landing and Navigational Charges
3. Increase in rate of exchange and levy of Customs duty on import of leased aircraft
4. Increase in Insurance Premium Rates
5. Increased Ground Handling Charges at Cochin Airport after the new airport came into operations, when self handling of flights by the airlines was withdrawn
6. Additional Security
7. Drop in domestic traffic.

(d) Indian Airlines and Alliance Air have taken the following measures to improve revenue and contain operational costs:

- Strict Budgetary Control
- Ban on fresh recruitment

- Route rationalization and deployment of aircraft based on market requirements
- Introduction of flexi fare policy
- Innovative marketing strategies
- Acquisition of aircraft on lease to replace ageing aircraft/augmentation of capacity
- Improvement in the quality of product/customer services.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to State Governments

*7. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance only to those State Governments which have adequate tourism potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States from which proposals for tourism projects have been received by the Union Government over the past 3 years, State-wise and project-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides Central financial assistance to all State Governments/UT Administrations for identified projects every year in consultation with them for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in the country.

(c) and (d) Based on the prioritised projects and the receipt of proposals, during last three years i.e. 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 the Department of Tourism, Government of India provided Central financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for 967 projects. Funds are sanctioned based on intense priority of the proposal and availability of funds. An amount of Rs.238 crores was sanctioned and Rs.104 crores was released for these projects.

[English]

Depletion of Ground Water Level

*8. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "India faces ground water depletion" appearing in the *Statesman* dated June 23, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the country is facing the threat of ground water depletion;

(c) if so, whether the Government have formulated any plans to overcome the crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) The Government is aware of the news-item captioned "India faces ground water depletion" appearing in the *Statesman* dated June 23, 2002. The long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1981-2000) has been observed in different States is given in the enclosed Statement.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan,

finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. Various measures as initiated by the Central Government to arrest decline in ground water and to harness it are indicated below:

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" in the country during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore.
- (v) A Central Sector Scheme of Recharge to Ground Water at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore for inclusion in the X Five Year Plan has been prepared.
- (vi) Organisation of mass awareness and training programmes on water harvesting and recharging of ground water all over the country.

Statement

Name of the State/UT/District having Pockets with Fall in Ground Water Level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)

State/UT	Districts
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Ananthapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddi, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum, Darbhanga

1	2
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapol, Tumkur, Uttara Kannada.
Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsingpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanja, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.
Punjab	Amritsar, Bathinda, Fatehgarh, Firozpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawan Shehar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sikar, Udaipur
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvavur, Tuticorin.
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Budaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai Bareli, Saharanpur, Unnao.
West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Midnapur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia.
NCT of Delhi	Mehrauli, Najafgarh and City block.
Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Export Cost of Agricultural Products

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

*9. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

(a) whether any new agri-exports strategy has been evolved to reduce export cost of agricultural products

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

to provide direct assistance to farmers and make their products more competitive in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the new strategy is an improvement over the earlier agri-exports strategy; and

(c) the extent of improvement in agri-exports registered during the last three months as compared to the corresponding period of last year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government have initiated various measures to reduce export cost of agricultural products to make them more competitive in the international market. These, inter alia, include setting up of agri export zones to provide enhance international market access and improved infrastructural facilities, better flow of credit, assistance for reducing the marketing costs such as for transport, handling and processing on export of selected agricultural commodities as also removal of export restrictions like requirement for registration, packaging etc. Besides various agriculture development schemes providing assistance to farmers on agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, irrigation, insecticides, pesticides as also for research & development and extension for reducing production costs and for improving efficiency of agricultural production are also being implemented.

The value of agricultural exports has increased from Rs. 25313.66 crores in the year 1999-2000 to Rs.29485.85 crores during the year 2001-02. Similarly, the value of export of agricultural produce during the last quarter of the year 2001-02 has also registered growth compare to the corresponding period of the year 2000-01 as detailed below:

Export of Agriculture Commodities

(value: Rs. in crores)

	Year 2000-01	Year 2001-02
January	2399.61	2841.96
February	2616.62	3100.12
March	3234.25	2719.35
Total	8250.48	8661.43

[Translation]

Foot and Mouth Disease

*10. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of milch cattle are reportedly suffering from the foot and mouth disease;

(b) if so, the estimated number of animals perished during the last three years as a result thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government to combat this disease; and

(d) the procedure for reviewing these measures and the details of the last review carried out alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Foot and Mouth Disease occurs in India throughout the year. Number of cattle which died due to this disease were 884, 237 and 1274 during 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

(c) and (d) Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in controlling this disease by way of providing grants-in-aid towards the cost of vaccine for the exotic, cross-bred and high yielding indigenous cattle belonging to weaker sections of the society. The State Governments and Union Territories are also advised from time to time to remain vigilant and take necessary steps in order to prevent the occurrence and spread of the disease. These measures are reviewed periodically. The latest review was held in June, 2002.

Loss due to ban on Indian Flights over Pakistan Air Space

* 11. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI. N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India have suffered heavy losses due to ban on Indian flights over Pakistan Air Space;

(b) if so, the details of such losses suffered by them so far on account of this ban;

(c) whether the Government have unilaterally lifted the ban on flights of Pakistan aircraft over Indian air space;

(d) if so, whether the Government of Pakistan propose to take any reciprocal step; and

(e) if not, the reaction of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The additional cost incurred by Air India and Indian Airlines due to diversion of flights on account of closure of Pakistan Air Space since 1st January, 2002 were Rs. 20.50 crores and Rs.4.6 crore respectively.

(c) to (e) Government of India on 10 June 2002 lifted all restrictions placed on Pakistani aircraft and Pakistani airlines to overfly Indian territory. The decision was formally conveyed to Government of Pakistan. Pakistan has, however, not taken subsequent steps.

[English]

Animals Performing in Circuses

12. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of circuses where wild animals are still being used for performing various activities;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check the same;

(c) the number of wild animals rescued from various circuses during 2001-02 and thereafter category-wise;

(d) the manner in which these rescued animals are being kept; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to release them in the wild?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Most of the circuses are using some or other wild animals for performing activities. Government of India in October 1998 banned public performance by bear, monkey, tiger, panther and lion. Against this order the Circus Owners went in appeal to the High Court of Delhi and the appeal was rejected in December 1998. They thereafter went in appeal to the Hon'ble Supreme Court where also the appeal was rejected but no orders regarding transfer of animals to the custody of the government was made by the Supreme Court. The Central Government then requested the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States to cancel certificates of ownership of circuses except in cases where there are specific stay orders by the courts and take the custody of the animals and maintain them in the rescue centers constructed through the funds provided by the Central Zoo Authority. The details of the animals transferred from circuses to rescue centers are given in the enclosed statement. Each animal has been provided with feeding/night shelter with open area attached for their free movement. Government of India is providing financial assistance to the concerned State Governments where these rescue centers are located to meet the expenditure on their feed and health care. As these animals do not have the capacity to fend for themselves in the wild it is not possible to release them in the wild.

Statement

List of Animals Received from Various Circuses

Sl. No.	Name of the Circus	No. of Lions	No. of Tigers	No. of Bears	No. of Panthers	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Upto the year 2000-2001						
1.	Mobile Circus, Kolar	-	1	-	1	2
2.	Mobile Circus, Kundapur	2	-	-	-	2
3.	Geeta Circus	11	-	-	-	11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Komal Circus	29	-	1	-	30
	Total	42	1	1	1	45
II. From 2001 till date						
5.	Johnson Indian Variety Entertainment	2	-	1	-	3
6.	Royal Mobile Circus	6	-	1	1	8
7.	Private Circus	6	-	-	-	6
8.	Great Rayan Circus	15	8	1	-	24
9.	Golden Circus	2	-	-	-	2
10.	Asiad Circus	2	4	-	-	6
11.	Bharat Circus	5	-	-	-	5
12.	Shalimar & New Circuses	6	-	-	-	6
13.	Raj Kamal Circus	20	-	1	-	21
14.	Ajanta Circus	18	2	1	-	21
15.	Sai Baba Circus	1	-	-	-	1
16.	Famous Circus	9	21	-	-	30
17.	Rambo Circus	12	-	-	-	12
18.	Grand National Circus	12	2	-	-	14
	Total	116	37	5	1	159
	Total animals received	158	38	6	2	204

[Translation]

Agriculture Production by Remote Sensing

*13. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is working on any project in coordination with the Department of Space for authentic forecasting of agricultural production by remote sensing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture is regularly interacting with the Department of Space for the development of remote sensing applications in agriculture. A project known as the Crop Acreage and Production Estimation (CAPE) project is being implemented through the Department of Space since 1988. This project aims at developing and upgrading the methodology of area and pre-harvest production assessment of crops using remote sensing.

The Government is now considering to implement during the Tenth Five Year Plan a project called "Forecasting Agricultural Output Using Space, Agro-meteorology and

Land-based Observations" (FASAL), an umbrella project aimed to institutionalize the diverse utilities of remote sensing for agriculture including CAPE with primary focus on crop inventory assessment. This project is also jointly conceived with the Department of Space.

The FASAL approach integrates inputs from three types of observations viz., remote sensing, weather and field observations, providing complementary and supplementary information, to make forecasts and inferences of coverage, accuracy, and timeliness.

The project has been conceived, after developing various methods and technologies of using remote sensing data for estimating area & production for several crops under CAPE at different geographical levels. Initially, it is proposed to use/develop the technology for crop inventory assessment for eleven crops, namely, Rice (Kharif: K and Rabi: R), Jowar (K & R), Maize, Bajra (K), Jute, Ragi, Cotton, Sugarcane, Groundnut (K&R), Rapeseeds & Mustard & Wheat. To begin with, these assessments are planned at National and State levels. Other uses of remote sensing in agriculture cover land use & wasteland mapping, drought assessment, soil resource surveys, cropping system analysis, Horticulture crops coverage etc.

The FASAL project is proposed to be implemented in phases during the Tenth Five Year Plan so that it becomes fully operational by the end of the Plan.

Assistance by World Bank to Develop Agriculture

*14. SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial aid given by the World Bank for all round development of agriculture in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the financial aid is conditional; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Requisite details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No specific conditions have been laid by the World Bank in giving financial assistance for Indian agriculture sector, which is governed by World Bank's existing Procurement Procedures & Regulations etc., to be followed by all World Bank assistance receiving projects, including agriculture sector - based on-going projects.

Statement

Assistance by World Bank to Develop Agriculture

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the Project	State/States covered	World Bank assistance utilisation during last three years i.e. 1.4.1999 to 31.3.2002)
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam Rural Infrastructure & Agricultural Services Project	Assam	278.015
2.	Bihar Plateau Development Project	Bihar	147.166
3.	Karnataka Watershed Development Project	Karnataka	14.394
4.	Agriculture Development Project - Rajasthan	Rajasthan	67.745
5.	Agriculture Development Project - Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	0.120
6.	U.P. Diversified Agricultural Support Project	U.P. and Uttaranchal	182.844

1	2	3	4
7	U.P. Sodic Land Reclamation Project - Phase-I	U.P.	55.927
8	U.P. Sodic Land Reclamation Project - Phase-II	U.P.	237.723
9	National Agricultural Technology Project	Research component - central sector	343.973
		ITD component - 7 States covering Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Punjab and Jharkhand	
10	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)	Multi-State Project covering Gujarat, Orissa & Rajasthan	3.377
11	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills) - Phase-II	Multi-State Project covering Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Punjab and Uttaranchal	218.259
12	Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	Multi-State Project covering Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal	24.121
13	Agriculture Human Resource Development Project	Multi-State Project covering Andhra Pradesh, Haryana and Tamil Nadu	138.754
Total			1712.418

[English]

Conversion of Barren Land into Agricultural Land

*15. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of scheme under implementation to convert the barren land into agricultural land, State-wise;

(b) whether these schemes are being implemented through a time bound action plan;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) Barren land refers to exposed steep mountain slopes, snow covered and such other areas, which cannot be brought under cultivation at an economic cost, hence there is no scheme for development of such areas.

However, Government of India is implementing following schemes for development of wasteland and degraded lands:

- i) Integrated Wasteland Development Project.
- ii) Desert Development Programme.
- iii) Drought Prone Areas Programme.
- iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soils.
- v) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.
- vi) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.
- vii) Soil conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers.

The schemes No. (i) to (iii) are being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development and remaining schemes No. (iv) to (vii) are being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture.

Protection of Mangrove Forests

*16. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of mangrove forests in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken to protect them;
- (c) whether the Government have allocated funds during the last two years for saving mangrove forests;
- (d) if so, the details there of, State-wise; and
- (e) the most famous mangrove forests in the country that attracts tourists?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) As per the State of Forest Report (1999) the total area of Mangrove forests in India is 4871 sq. km. The State-wise Mangrove area in the country is given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) Taking into consideration the ecological and economic significance of Mangroves, Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated a Scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs during 1986. On the recommendations of the National Committee on Mangroves and Coral Reefs, 30 Mangrove areas in the country have been identified for intensive conservation and management. Grants are released to the concerned State Governments/Union Territories for implementation of Management Action Plans on all the identified Mangrove areas. Activities include, survey and demarcation, restoration and protection measures and education and awareness as well as research activities related to conservation of Mangroves.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs.678.56 lakhs has been released to the concerned State Governments/Union Territories for implementation of Management Action Plans on the identified mangrove areas during the last 2 years. Particulars of the State-wise release of these grants during the respective years are given in enclosed statement-II.

- (e) Sunderbans in West Bengal and Bhitarkanika in Orissa are the most famous Mangrove Forests in the country which attract tourists.

Statement-I

State-wise area of Mangroves (Source: FSI Report, 1999)

S.No.	State/UT	Area in sq. km.
East Coast:		
1.	West Bengal	2125
2.	Orissa	215
3.	Andhra Pradesh	397
4.	Tamil Nadu	21
5.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	966
Total		3724
West Coast:		
6.	Kerala	Not reported*
7.	Karnataka	3
8.	Goa	5
9.	Maharashtra	108
10.	Gujarat	1031
Total		1147
Grand Total		4871

* As per the information received from Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala the State has Mangrove area of 16.71 sq.km. Vembanad Mangrove area in the State has been included in the list of identified mangrove areas by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for conservation and management

Statement-II

Grants released to the respective State Governments /UTs for implementation of Management Action Plans (MAPs) on Mangroves during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002

Mangroves:

(Rs. in lakh.)

S.No.	State	Mangrove Area	2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	West Bengal	Sunderbans	-	45.00	45.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Orissa	Bhitarkanika		14.39	14.39
		Mahanadi		3.31	3.31
		Subernrekha	23.50		23.50
		Devi	17.25	1.72	18.97
		Dhamra	15.00	.	15.00
		MGRC		22.00	22.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Coringa	31.20	28.18	59.38
		Krishna	14.39	14.50	28.89
		East Godavari	14.28	14.50	28.78
4.	Tamil Nadu	Pichavaram	16.00	12.20	28.20
		Muthupet	64.00	61.95	125.95
		Ramnad	4.70	14.00	18.70
		Kazhuveli	-	15.00	15.00
5.	Maharashtra	Devgadh-Vijaydurga	9.74		9.74
		Mumbra-Diva	26.41		26.41
		Vaitarna	14.05		14.05
		Kundalika-Revdanda	13.52		13.52
		Vasai-Manori	11.79		11.79
		Shreevardhan-Varal-Kalsuri	13.49		13.49
6.	Goa	Goa	12.45	8.63	21.08
7.	A&N Islands	North Andamans	7.64	8.54	16.18
		Nicobar	4.00	2.56	6.56
8.	Gujarat	Gulf of Khambhat	21.64		21.64
		Gulf of Kutchh	66.47		66.47
9.	Karnataka	Coondapur		1.86	1.86
		Honnavar Div.		8.70	8.70
		Total	401.52	277.04	678.56

**Report of the Second National
Labour Commission**

*17. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second National Labour Commission has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made by the Labour Commission;

(c) whether the Government have since examined the recommendations of the Commission;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to each of the recommendations; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be examined and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Commission has submitted its report to the Government on 29.06.2002.

(b) to (e) The report is under process/examination. The report is a voluminous document, containing recommendations on wide range of issues which require consultation with all concerned organizations/agencies before these are accepted/implemented. Given the procedural requirements, it is not possible to specify a definite time frame for examination, acceptance and implementation of the report.

Release of Waste Forest Land for Public Use

*18. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of requests pending in the Ministry regarding release of the waste forest lands for public use, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken so far by the Government on each of the requests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There is no such term as waste forest land and therefore the question of any request regarding release of such land for public use does not arise.

(b) Does not arise

[Translation]

**Technology Mission on
Oilseed and Pulses**

*19. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount provided by the Government under the Technological Mission on oilseeds and pulses during 1999 to June 2002, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount sought by various states under the Mission during the above period;

(c) whether the State Governments, particularly the Government of Madhya Pradesh had demanded more funds;

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

(e) the details of norms for making such allocation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The details of funds provided by the Govt. under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses during the period 1999 to June, 2002 to the State Govts. under the centrally sponsored schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) are given in the enclosed statements - I&II.

(b) to (e) The funds are allocated to the states for the implementation of these programmes based on their utilization of funds in the previous years, together with the area coverage of the state under oilseeds and pulses. The Govts. of Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram sought an additional assistance of Rs. 367 lakh and Rs. 95 lakh respectively under OPP and Rs. 75.84 lakh and Rs. 60 lakh respectively under NPDP during the last year and the same was provided to them for the implementation of the these programmes.

Statement-I

Oilseeds Production Programme

*State-wise release of funds during the period
1999 to June, 2002*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Releases		
		1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	976.81	805.00	928.75

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Bihar	-	-	-
3.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	157.00
4.	Goa	3.91	5.00	5.00
5.	Gujarat	1130.00	980.00	850.00
6.	Haryana	328.65	170.00	183.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	23.00	10.00	-
8.	J&K	47.00	20.00	-
9.	Jharkhand	-	-	30.00
10.	Karnataka	580.81	369.97	535.00
11.	Kerala	50.00	35.00	35.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1054.80	960.00	1207.00
13.	Maharashtra	1030.43	825.00	825.00
14.	Orissa	500.00	369.97	131.25
15.	Punjab	20.00	15.00	-
16.	Rajasthan	1140.15	900.00	910.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	624.66	470.00	470.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	458.00	75.00	100.00
19.	Uttaranchal	-	-	50.00
20.	West Bengal	246.00	190.00	190.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	118.88	127.11	-
22.	Assam	142.00	465.00	150.00
23.	Manipur	224.90	265.00	56.00
24.	Meghalaya	80.00	121.67	-
25.	Mizoram	120.00	276.25	190.00
26.	Nagaland	160.00	185.00	136.00
27.	Tripura	140.00	165.00	115.00
28.	Sikkim	60.00	50.00	69.00
Total		9260.00	8020.00	7320.00

PS: During 2002-03 (upto June 2002) no funds have been released to the States.

Statement-II*National Pulses Development Project*

State-wise release of funds during the period 1999 to June, 2002

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No. State		Releases		
		1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	105.00	91.00	87.00
2.	Bihar	-	-	-
3.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	85.00
4.	Goa	3.00	1.00	1.00
5.	Gujarat	180.22	100.00	105.00
6.	Haryana	68.00	49.00	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-	8.50	10.00
8.	J&K	20.00	18.50	-
9.	Jharkhand	-	-	27.66
10.	Karnataka	150.00	112.00	107.00
11.	Kerala	12.00	6.50	5.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	369.00	398.00	275.84
13.	Maharashtra	430.00	271.00	262.00
14.	Orissa	180.00	145.50	58.50
15.	Punjab	14.73	15.00	
16.	Rajasthan	474.90	315.00	255.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	150.00	115.00	115.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	281.39	330.00	107.00
19.	Uttaranchal	-	-	55.00
20.	West Bengal	54.16	20.00	30.00
21.	Delhi	1.00	1.00	1.00

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.00	1.00	1.00
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	43.88	50.00	5.00
24.	Assam	44.43	70.00	32.00
25.	Manipur	89.96	115.00	31.84
26.	Meghalaya	77.33	50.00	4.16
27.	Mizoram	30.00	140.00	80.00
28.	Nagaland	100.00	105.00	70.00
29.	Tripura	100.00	110.00	73.00
30.	Sikkim	15.00	10.00	14.00
Total		2995.00	2648.00	1898.00

PS: During 2002-03 (upto June 2002), no funds have been released to the States.

[English]

Plenary Session of I.L.O. in Geneva

*20. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Plenary Session of the International Labour Organisation was held in Geneva recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the Indian participants therein alongwith the agenda discussed and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Plenary Session of the International Labour Conference was held in Geneva from 3rd to 20th June 2002.

A tripartite delegation of 26 members from India (8 government representatives, 8 workers' representatives and 8 employers' representatives) led by the Minister of State for Labour attended the International Labour Conference, 2002. PS to the Minister accompanied the Minister.

The main issues discussed during the Conference were:

- Report of the Director-General, ILO on the ILO's Programme Implementation during 2000-01.
- Global Report on Child Labour under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
- Programme and Budget and other questions of the ILO.
- Reports of the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.
- Promotion of Cooperatives, with a view to adopt a Recommendation.
- Recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases and the ILO list of occupational diseases, with a view to adopt a Protocol and a Recommendation.
- General discussion on Decent Work and the Informal Economy.
- Withdrawal of 20 ILO Recommendations.

Following the discussions, the Conference adopted:

- (a) A Protocol to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention.
- (b) A Recommendation concerning the list of Occupational diseases and the recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases.
- (c) A Recommendation concerning Promotion of Cooperatives.
- (d) Conclusions of the discussions on Decent Work and Informal Economy.
- (e) It also decided to withdraw 20 old Recommendations of the ILO which are considered to have outlived their utility.

[Translation]

Promotion of Agro Forestry and Horticulture

1. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote agro forestry and horticulture units in the country particularly in Gujarat;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Government of India has been promoting programmes for the development of horticulture and also agro-forestry in the country including Gujarat. The horticulture developmental schemes of the Government were implemented during 8th and 9th Plan in all the States and Union Territories including Gujarat. Since October, 2000, the schemes of horticulture have been subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on macro management of Agriculture - supplementation/complementation of states' efforts through work plans. The programmes of the scheme are now implemented by the States through work plan. Under this scheme the States have greater flexibility to priorities their needs as per the requirement of the States.

In case of Gujarat, funds amounting to Rs.811.5 lakhs have been provided from 1997-98 to September, 2000, to the State under various horticulture schemes. Under macro

management scheme funds amounting to Rs.15.11 crore and Rs.19.00 crore have been made available to the State during 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively.

Visit of Foreign Tourists

2. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited India and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the number of foreign tourists visited Bihar during the said period, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any plan to promote tourism in the country including Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The number of foreign tourists who visited India and the foreign exchange earned through tourism during the last five years is as follows:

Year	Number of Foreign tourists visited India (in million)	Foreign Exchange Earned (Rs. in crores)
1997	2.37	10.511
1998	2.36	12,150
1999	2.48	12,951
2000	2.65	14,238
2001	2.54	14,344

(b) The number of visits of foreign tourists to the State of Bihar during the last five years is as follows:

Year	Number of visits of foreign tourists to Bihar
1997	1,30,375
1998	79,754
1999	76,389
2000	73,321
2001	85,673

(c) and (d) The Department of Tourism, Govt. of India has announced a National Tourism Policy-2002 with the objective of positioning tourism as a major engine of economic growth and to harness its direct and multiplier effects for employment and poverty eradication in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Pending Cases of Labour Disputes

3. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of labour dispute pending or under consideration in labour courts in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

- (b) whether there has been continuous increase in the number of pending cases during the last decade;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to fill up the vacant posts of Presiding Judges for disposal of pending cases at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) As on 31-3-2002, 11,550 cases of labour disputes are pending in the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts in the country, including 832 cases in the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts in Maharashtra. (Mumbai-I and Mumbai-II)

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Some of the main reasons for increase in the pendency of cases are:
 - (i) inadequate number of Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts,
 - (ii) parties seeking adjournments to file documents,
 - (iii) absence of both applicants and respondents,
 - (iv) time taken for filling up the posts of Presiding Officers after observing all procedural formalities.
- (d) At present all the posts of Presiding Officers are filled up.

[English]

Upgradation of Chandigarh Airport

4. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the existing infrastructure at the airport terminal at Chandigarh, needs modification as well as upgradation; and
- (b) if so, the action proposed by the Government in the matter to make Chandigarh airport terminal at par with those in other States capitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Chandigarh Airport belongs to Ministry of Defence (Indian Air Force). Airport Authority of India (AAI) maintains a civil enclave for handling civil flights. The existing terminal building is capable of handling 200 passengers at a time and is

provided with all modern passengers amenities. The existing infrastructure at the airport is adequate to handle the existing traffic. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has, however, drawn plans for expansion and modification of the existing terminal building to accommodate 400 passengers at a time with all modern facilities and expansion of apron to accommodate three AB-320 type of aircraft at a time.

[Translation]

National Highway No.8

5. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to heavy traffic pressure there is a proposal to convert the Jaipur-Ajmer National Highway No.8 into six lanes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and
- (d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) The Jaipur-Kishangarh section of National Highway-8 in the State of Rajasthan is proposed to be widened from existing 2-lanes to 6-lanes divided carriageway facility, on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) as part of National Highway Development Project. It would have grade separated intersections, safety features, user amenities and Highway Traffic Management System with emergency call boxes, ambulance, two cranes, etc. The Concession Agreement for the implementation of the project has been signed in May, 2002. The private investor is expected to invest Rs.646.83 crore, out of which NHAI will provide Rs.211 crore as grant. In addition, expenditure of above Rs.55 crore is expected to be incurred by NHAI on pre-construction/supervision activities.

Tourism Circuits in Gujarat

6. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tourist circuits set up in Gujarat so far;
- (b) the steps taken to develop these tourist circuits during the last three years;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) whether any special scheme has been formulated for the development of tourism in Gujarat during the current Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) In order to strengthen infrastructure facilities, 21 circuits were identified in the Ninth Plan for development through the joint efforts of Central and State Governments and the private sector, which include the following two in Gujarat:

(1) Ahmedabad- Rajkot- Dwarka-Porbandar- Somnath-Girnar- Palitana-Ahmedabad

(2) Ahmedabad-Modhera-Patan-Aambaji-Mt.Abu

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/circuits is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides financial assistance for the identified projects every year in consultation with them.

The information regarding projects sanctioned in the State of Gujarat including at places located on these circuits during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of Projects		Amount
	approved	sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	
1999-2000	13		327.64
2000-01	19		510.84
2001-02	11		305.50

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

[English]

National Highways in West Bengal

7. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request from the Government of West Bengal for enlisting certain Highways as National Highways has been pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) 13 proposals for declaration of state roads as National Highways in West Bengal had been received and have now been returned to the State Government in June, 2002 for review based on the revised criteria for declaration of new National Highways. There is no proposal to declare any new National Highway in the country at present due to fund constraints. The Government may however, consider declaration of a few State Highways as National Highways during the course of the 10th-Five Year Plan from amongst the modified proposals to be received from various States keeping in view the traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Setting up of Butterfly Park

8. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in collaboration with Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation propose to set up a "Butterfly Park" at Said-ul-Ajab in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The IARI is not aware that the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation is proposing to set up a Butterfly Park in Delhi.

(b) Question does not arise.

Identity Card for Labourers of Construction Work

9. SHRI. A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to issue Identity Cards to the labourers engaged in construction work in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make it mandatory for the employers of construction workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996. As per the Act, each State Government shall constitute a Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board. The Board shall give to each beneficiary registered with the Board an Identity Card with his/her photo mentioning details of work being done by the Card holder.

In Kerala about 9.70 lakh construction workers have been registered as on 31.01.2002 by the State Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board. The Government is persuading other State Governments for early adoption of the Act.

The registration by the construction workers with the State Welfare Boards is voluntary and the benefits of the Act would be available to the workers who have registered themselves with the Boards.

Virus Resistant Varieties of Tomatoes

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore has developed three virus-resistant varieties of tomatoes which reduces cost of cultivation and are pesticide free; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to popularise the said virus-resistant tomatoes among farmers?

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

(b) These varieties have been released by the state level Variety Release Committee for cultivation in Karnataka only. However, these varieties are yet to be tested at national level in multi-location trials.

Modernisation of Irrigation Projects

11. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any major or medium irrigation project has been taken up for expansion and modernisation in the States including Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the estimated cost of such projects and the amount so far spent thereon;

(c) the amount earmarked for the said projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the likely amount to be spent during the current financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The details of major and medium irrigation projects taken up for extension and modernisation in the States including Tamil Nadu are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores/Potential in Th. Ha.)

Sl.No.	State/Project	Latest Estimated Cost	Outlay of IX Plan	Cummulative Expenditure up to IX Plan	Potential Created upto IX Plan
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Tungabhadra HLC St. II	618.50	150.00	215.48	47.07
2.	Godavari Barrage	151.65	5.90	186.77	Stabilisation
3.	Improvement of Nizam Sagar	83.35	10.74	43.05	Stabilisation
4.	NSRSP Dam maintenance	1129.00	-	989.00	Protection Work

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Improvement to NSP	83.35	-	36.88	Stabilisation
6.	Pulichintala	815.23	100.00	35.67	Stabilisation
7.	Sriram Sagar St. II	993.00	100.00	10.59	0.00
8.	Flood Flow Canal SRSP	2741.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Modernisation of TBPHLC	50.85	-	35.85	Stabilisation
10.	Modernisation of Krishna Delta System	659.16	-	0.10	Stabilisation
11.	Modernisation of Godavari Delta System	62.40	-	54.10	Stabilisation
12.	Prakasam Barrage	8.08	-	5.50	Stabilisation
13.	RDS Link Canal	20.00	-	4.00	Supplemented to RDA Ayacut
14.	Gosta Nadi Canal-cum-drain	3.81	-	3.53	-
Assam					
1.	Modernisation of Jamuna	60.27	1.30	0.1162	0.05
Bihar					
1.	Sone Modernisation	235.93	57.10	167.13	23.50
2.	Kadwan	10.50	0.00	9.83	
3.	Jamania Pump	104.36	27.03	37.05	4.23
4.	Restoration of Eastern Kosi, Gandak and other system		60.00	24.45	125.10
Gujarat					
1.	Restoration of mitti	932.00	0.05	26.16	-
2.	Prevention of selenity ingress (HLC I&II)	209.20 1971.47	161.41	330.46	23.67
3.	Kadana Right Bank Canal	30.50	5.00	27.73	1.05
4.	Link Canal Ukai to Gordh Weir	44.50	2.00	4.83	0.00
5.	Kadana Recharge Channel	471.00	3.00	6.06	-
6.	Link Bhadar main canal with Kadana RBC	4.13	3.00	0.00	-
7.	Kadana LBSCL	35.00	0.10	1.07	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Haryana					
1.	Improvement/reconditioning and remodeling of old existing canal	417.18	147.44	277.98	2.00
2.	Restoration capacity of BML	16.15	11.10	18.13	-
Jammu & Kashmir					
1.	Mod. of Martand canal	17.72	1.80	8.64	-
2.	Mod. of Zaingir canal	13.66	2.00	9.29	4.90
3.	Mod. of Ranbir canal	84.40	35.00	50.46	2.19
4.	Mod. of New Pratap canal	21.68	7.52	9.75	0.15
5.	Mod. of Kathua canal	15.68	8.37	9.51	0.17
Karnataka					
1.	Taraka	51.00		26.30	Stabilisation
2.	Mod. of KRS canal	355.20	46.00	151.53	Stabilisation
3.	Mahahayi Diversion	180.76	-	0.47	Stabilisation
Kerala					
1.	B/R Chamavattan	120.00		10.00	0.00
2.	B/R Thirthla	26.00	-	16.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh					
1.	Chambal Lift	25.80	0.00	4.18	-
2.	Mod. of Harsi	24.80	0.00	10.51	-
3.	Sindh Removal Link	22.31	0.00	9.18	-
4.	Chambal Phase-II	9.07	0.00	8.87	
Maharashtra					
1.	Strengthening of Bhatghar	7.56	0.00	6.75	0.00
2.	Strengthening of Radhanagri dam	15.22	0.00	6.44	0.00
3.	Extension of Krishna canal	30.10	0.24	6.77	11.29
4.	Strengthening of Ekrukha dam	13.20	-	1.93	0.00
5.	Gated weir at Khodasi	17.45	0.27	9.56	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Sangola Branch canal	169.04	104.69	116.21	3.50
Manipur					
1.	Lokak Lift				
2.	Khoupum Dam				
3.	Sakmai Barrage	115.47	8.50	2.10	32.75
4.	Imphal Barrage				
5.	Singda Dam				
Orissa					
1.	Upper Indravati Extension	85.00	-	15.06	0.00
2.	Upper Kolab Extension	50.50	-	7.00	0.00
3.	Upper Jonk Extension	18.00	-	10.38	0.00
4.	Govardhanpur Barrage	10.78		7.96	-
5.	Golkunda HL Bridge	7.48	-	6.05	-
6.	WRCP	1357.22	-	673.58	17.51
Punjab					
1.	Extension and improvement of Shahnahar Canal System	273.01	16.98	127.55	24.237
2.	Lining of Channels Ph. II	282.51	45.08	243.80	62.925
3.	Raising lining of BML Canal for providing free Board	20.46	1.40	9.97	-
4.	Construction of Super passage at RD 2.03 - 760 of Jalandhar Branch Doab Canal	10.07	5.63	5.09	-
5.	Extension of Phase-II of Kandi Canal from Hoshiarpur to Balachaur	147.13	61.00	8.69	
6.	Lining of Channels	49.02	27.00	0.00	-
7.	Remodeling of Channels of UBDC system	177.80	98.01	81.38	-
Rajasthan					
1.	IGNP Stage-I	121.92	85.00	111.54	543.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Mod. of Gang Canal	445.73	20.00	83.41	-
Tamil Nadu					
1.	WRCP	1089.14	807.90	643.93	0.00
Uttar Pradesh					
1.	Mod. of Agra Canal	89.84	37.39	14.24	5.00
2.	Lining of Channels in Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand	97.00	5.00	7.51	6.42
3.	Mod. of Lachura HW	102.00	57.14	6.26	0.00
West Bengal					
1.	Spl. Repair to Mayurakshi	10.00	9.00	12.86	0.00
2.	Mod. of Mayurakshi	66.00	1.00	3.68	0.00
3.	Mod. of DVC	110.00	1.00	3.41	0.00
4.	Spl. Repair to Midnapur Canal	2.75	1.00	2.62	0.00
5.	Mod. of Kangsabati	491.00	5.00	99.32	0.00
6.	Extension of Bandhu	6.10	1.02	5.32	0.52

Note: Irrigation being a State subject, the amount to be spent during the current financial year is dependent on the Budgetary allocation to be made by the State Governments for these projects.

[Translation]

Livestock Census in Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal

12. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Livestock Census has been conducted recently in Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the number of cattle especially the number of milch cattle in these States;

(c) the status of cross breed cattle in these States; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union as well as State Governments to increase the number of cattle and also to improve their breed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir conducted the 16th Livestock Census in 1997 while the livestock census was not conducted by the State Government of West Bengal.

(b) In Jammu & Kashmir, the total number of cattle population is 31.75 lakhs and out of this the total number of milch cattle is 6.99 lakhs. On the basis of projected figures given by the Government of West Bengal, the total cattle population is estimated to be 178.32 lakhs out of which the number of milch cattle is 30.37 lakhs.

(c) In Jammu & Kashmir the total cross-breed cattle population is 10.83 lakhs and in West Bengal the total cross breed cattle population is 9.36 lakhs.

(d) The main focus of policy of the Government at present is to reduce mortality in cattle by undertaking livestock health cover. It is felt that the number of cattle exceeds the carrying capacity of the land with an increasing human population competing with animals for the produce of the

land. Therefore, the approach has been to concentrate on improvement of productivity of cattle rather than increasing their number. Both the States and Centre have established breeding farms for supply of improved germplasm. A national project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding has also been initiated to reach quality breeding inputs at farmer's doorstep.

[English]

External Aid for Conservation of Wildlife

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

(a) whether a leading US Organisation for conservation of wildlife and several other foreign agencies have come forward to help Assam in conservation and promotion of elephants by developing the habitat of pachyderms in Kaziranga National Park and other forest area in Digboi and elsewhere in the state;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of aid offered by each agency; and

(c) the details of aid received so far this year and the steps taken for development of the pachyderm habitat?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The US Fish and Wildlife Service has agreed to provide financial support for the following areas in Assam from the Asian Elephant Conservation Fund:

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| (1) | Construction of anti-poaching camps in Sonai Rupa Sanctuary | US \$ 35,085 |
| (2) | Creation of infrastructure in Kaziranga National Park and additional areas | US \$ 42,882 |
| (3) | Efforts to decrease Elephant-Human conflict under Digboi Forest Division | US \$ 37,240 |

(c) The funds for Sonai Rupa Sanctuary (US \$ 35,085) have been received through the 'Welfare Areas and Development Trust' and the works are in progress. Contracts have been signed by the aforesaid trust and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Kaziranga National Park and Digboi Forest Division, but the funds are not yet released.

Regional Provident Fund Office in Keonjhar

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

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up the Regional Provident Fund office in Keonjhar district, Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Opening of new offices of Employees Provident Fund Organisation is governed by norms developed by National Productivity Council and approved by the Executive Committee, Central Board of Trustees (Employees' Provident Fund). Under these norms the proposal is examined on parameters like number of establishments, employees, claims received/settled, distance from regional Office, demographic profile etc. While considering opening of new offices, the recommendation of the Regional Committee, Employees' Provident Fund of the Concerned State is also kept in view. The proposal to open a Sub-Regional Office at Keonjhar in Orissa was considered by the Regional Committee, Orissa and the same was rejected.

[Translation]

Repair and Maintenance of NHs in Jharkhand

15. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for repair and maintenance of National Highways in Jharkhand during each of the last two years;

(b) whether annual allocation for repair and maintenance of National Highways in the State has constantly been decreasing;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that in the absence of maintenance and repair, most of the National Highways are in bad condition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Amounts released for development and repair & maintenance of National Highways in Jharkhand during the last two years is as under:

Year	(Rs. in crore)	
	Amount released for development of NHs	Amount released for repair and maintenance
2000-2001	11.89	6.60
2001-2002	29.71	19.76

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise. National Highways in Jharkhand are being maintained generally in traffic worthy condition within available resources.

[English]

Scheme for Anti-Erosion Works

16. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced any scheme for anti-erosion works in the country during the last three years; and

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

Statement

The Demand and Supply of Fodder in the Country State-wise

State	Dry Fodder (000 tons)		Green Fodder (000 tons)	
	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	38042	32338	16521	32918
Assam	12920	8398	6461	8200
Bihar	55831	33499	27916	37000
Gujarat	21849	11798	10924	31300
Haryana	10441	15249	5221	10114
Himachal Pradesh	5900	7375	2950	8314
Jammu & Kashmir	7784	2490	3892	7316
Karnataka	27118	21694	13559	23118
Kerala	8248	2474	4124	3010

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical Anti Erosion Works in the Ganga Basin States" covering the States of Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal was introduced in the year 2000-2001.

[Translation]

Requirement of Fodder

17. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the requirement of the fodder in the country; and

(b) if so, the demand and the supply of fodder in the country, State-wise?

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

(b) The demand and supply of fodder in the country state-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh	57561	43171	28781	63516
Maharashtra	38051	40334	19025	38630
Manipur	2756	845	1378	1218
Meghalaya	1629	326	815	5700
Nagaland	577	712	288	3430
Orissa	19137	18005	24569	24218
Punjab	23235	26659	12345	11000
Rajasthan	25838	25826	12919	52944
Sikkim	403	380	201	845
Tamil Nadu	16055	18555	8028	10993
Tripura	1104	810	552	1274
Uttar Pradesh	93604	60818	46802	32925
West Bengal	29082	26192	14541	7240

[English]

**Widening/Linking of NHs in North
Eastern States**

18. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects of widening/linking of National Highways (NHs) in the North Eastern States are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two projects amounting to Rs. 17.48 crores for widening of NH 39 from Km. 410 to 430.400 in Manipur have been received from the State Government recently.

(c) These projects are under scrutiny and will be processed further depending upon the availability of funds.

Wage Earnings per Worker

19. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the rank of India in the World with regard to per day wage earnings per worker?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): The ranking of countries with regard to per day wage earnings per worker has not been possible due to many factors like different methodology used, different currencies, varying purchasing power, etc. However, a statement giving wages per worker in some countries based on ILO's publication "Year Book" of Labour Statistics, 2001" is enclosed. As per the Annual Survey of Industries, 1998-99, the average monthly wage to a worker in India comes to Rs.3251/-.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the country	Earnings per worker (year 1998)
1	2	3
1	Australia	443 (in Dollars, earnings/week)
2	China	623 (in Yuans, earnings/ month)

1	2	3
3	Egypt	113 (in Pounds, earnings/month)
4	France	54 (in Francs, earnings/hour)
5	Germany	14 (in Marks, earnings/hour)
6	Hong Kong	395 (in Dollars, earnings/day)
7	Indonesia	204 (in Rupiahs, earnings/week)
8	Japan	8691 (in Yens, earnings/month)
9	Mexico	15 (in Pesos, earnings/hour)
10	Philippines	122 (in Pesos, earnings/day)
11	Pakistan	3706 (in Rupees, earnings/month)
12	Russia	1050 (in Roubles, earnings/month)
13	Sri Lanka	150 (in Rupees, earnings/hour)
14	UK	10 (in Pounds, earnings/week)
15	USA	17 (in Dollars, earnings/ hour)

Source: ILO (Year Book of Labour Statistics, 2001)

Funds for Repairs and construction of Highways

20. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and budget allocation made in 2001-2002 for repair and construction of highways;

(b) whether the targets have been achieved and allocated amount spent;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

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

(e) the targets for repair and construction of new highways fixed for 2002-03 and the amount allocated for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) The Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. The physical targets and achievements made for development

of National Highways during the year 2001-02 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

Budget allocation and expenditure on development and maintenance of National Highways during the year 2001-02 are as under:

	Development (Rs. in crores)		Maintenance (Rs. in crores)	
	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
Ministry's funds	1737	1722 (tentative)	720	581 (tentative)
National Highway Authority of India	5046 (Govt. allocation 3060)	4189	192	192

(c) and (d) Shortfall in achievements are generally due to delay in land acquisition, delay in award of contracts, contractual problems and problems in bridge foundations etc. Quarterly review of projects and close monitoring, preparation of detailed project reports, thorough sub soil investigations are being undertaken to avoid shortfalls.

(e) The physical targets fixed for achievement of National Highway works for the year 2002-03 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Budget allocation and expenditure on development and maintenance of National Highways during the year 2002-03 are as under:

	Allocation of funds (Rs. in crores)	
	Development	Maintenance
Ministry's funds	1681	684
National Highway Authority of India	10039 (Govt. allocation 4003)	107

Statement-I

Physical targets and achievements for the year 2001-02

Sl. No.	Description of the items	Targets for 2001-02	Achievements during 2001-02
1	2	3	4
Target physical			
1	Completion of works (Nos.)	620	620
2	Improvement of low grade section (Kms)	89	118

1	2	3	4
3	Widening single lane to 2 lane (Kms)	583	589
4	Strengthening weak 2 lane (Kms)	547	686
5	Widening to 4 lanes (Kms)	679	331
6	Construction of bypasses (Nos.)	10	8
7	Construction of major bridges	77	24
8	Construction of minor bridges including Rail Over Bridge (Nos.)	96	99
9	Improvement to Riding Quality (Kms)	2909	2764

Statement-II*Physical targets for the year 2002-03*

Sl.No.	Description of the items	Targets for 2002-03
Target physical		
1	Completion of works (Nos.)	755
2	Improvement of low grade section (Kms)	73
3	Widening single lane to 2 lane (Kms)	633
4	Strengthening weak 2 lane (Kms)	754
5	Widening to 4 lanes (Kms)	443
6	Construction of bypasses (Nos.)	17
7	Construction of major bridges	29
8	Construction of minor bridges including Rail Over Bridge (Nos.)	145
9	Improvement to Riding Quality (Kms)	4136

*[Translation]***Welfare Scheme for Cotton Growers**

21. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of cotton as fixed by the Union Government during 2001-2002;

(b) whether some new welfare schemes have been launched for the cotton growers in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are providing any loan to the cotton growing farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Minimum Support price fixed by the Government for the basic varieties of cotton during 2001-2002 is as under:

Varieties	Price in (Rs/Qtl in Kapas)
J-34/F-414/H- 777	1675
H-4	1875

(b) and (c) The Government of India is implementing Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in 13 Cotton growing states of the country including Maharashtra to enhance the production, productivity and marketing/ginning facilities. In addition, in case of fall in price, cotton is purchased by Cotton Corporation of India at minimum support price (MSP) fixed by the Government of India except in Maharashtra where State Government makes procurement under Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme.

(d) Loans to the farmers including cotton growers are available through various credit agencies like commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Cooperative Societies etc. Government is not providing any loan to the cotton growing farmers under its schemes.

(e) The question does not arise.

*[English]***Vacant Posts**

22. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise names of posts lying vacant in his Ministry/Departments and subordinate offices as on March 31, 2002 alongwith the date from which they are lying vacant;

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

(c) the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of Sabha.

Import of Soya Oil

23. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of Soya Oil is imported from various countries like Argentina, Brazil and USA;

(b) if so, the quantity of Soya Oil imported during 2001-2002 together with the imported prices of each country;

(c) whether there is likelihood that the imported Soya Oil is extracted from transgenic varieties;

(d) if so, whether genetically modified food is being imported without any risk valuation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of Soya Oil imported from various countries during April 2001 to February 2002 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) The import of genetically modified products is governed by Rules framed under Environment Protection Act, 1986 which is handled by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Rule 11 of the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, import, export and storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989, notified under EP Act 1986, provides that food stuffs, ingredients in food stuffs and additives including processing aids containing or consisting of genetically engineered organisms or cells, shall not be produced, sold, imported or used except with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC).

Only two cases of import of soya oil have been filed before the GEAC by the Catholic Relief Services and CARE, India. The sample of oil sought to be imported were tested at Centre for DNA Finger Printing and Diagnostics (CDFD), Hyderabad, as per directions of GEAC. The CDFD reported that the samples do not contain either DNA or proteins. There after GEAC accorded clearance of the consignments.

Statement

Soya bean crude oil

Country	Quantity in Mts Value in Rs. crore	
	Quantity	Value
Argentina	741418.98	1250.15
Baharian Is	1500	2.17
Brazil	303028.45	488.1
Indonesia	4650.38	7.4
Malaysia	9324.71	17.68
Netherlands	1750	2.89
Singapore	250	0.36
South Africa	2000	2.94
Thailand	1379	2.45
USA	13572.87	22.65
Unspecified	2000	3.19

Other soya bean oil & its fractions

Country	Quantity	Value
Argentina	145978.73	231.90
Brazil	45617.89	77.85
Denmark	53.3	0.12
German F. Rep	48.9	0.14
Indonesia	1000.28	1.22
South Africa	4000	5.93
UAE	750	1.26
USA	5865.33	21.98

Hotel and Amusement Park in Tripura

24. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the Government of Tripura for setting up of a star hotel and an amusement park in the State;

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

(c) the time by which the hotel and amusement park is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The proposal for setting up of an amusement park near Agartala was received from the State Government of Tripura and was prioritised under Equity Scheme during 2000-01. In 2001-02, the State Government proposed to sanction this project under the Central Financial Assistance Scheme which was not agreed to. There is no scheme for funding of hotel projects.

(c) Does not arise.

Assessment of Impact of Drought in Andhra Pradesh

25. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central team visited Andhra Pradesh in May, 2002 to assess the impact of drought in the State;

(b) if so, the districts visited by the team and the details of discussions held with the officials concerned;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) The team visited Medak, Prakasam, Rangareddy and Vizianagaram districts and held discussions with the District Collectors, villagers, farmers and workers. The team also had discussions with the State level officials and a wrap meeting with the State Chief Minister and other Senior Officers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Subsequent to the visit of the team, 5 lakh MTs of foodgrains was allocated to the State under the Special component of Sampoorana Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY).

Instrument Landing System at Dimapur Airport

26. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 2245 dated March 18, 2002 and state:

(a) the action taken/being taken for installation of Instrument Landing System (ILS) and other allied works at Dimapur Airport;

(b) the funds allocated and details of action plan initiated; and

(c) the time by which the above mentioned work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The land required for installation of Instrument Landing System (ILS) has still not been vacated by the Assam Rifles Training Centre (ARTC). Matter is vigorously being taken up with the ARTC for vacating the land. An amount of Rs. 1.75 crores has been allocated for the purpose. Order has already been placed and the equipment is likely to be received in October, 2002. It will take 12 months approximately for completion of the project. Action for installation of ILS and other allied works will only be taken after handing over of the land to Airports Authority of India.

[Translation]

Agricultural Subsidy

27. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, 2002 of America under which Government were empowered to increase agricultural subsidy, is against the spirit of and agreement with the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have initiated negotiations with the USA Government to withdraw the said Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely impact of the said Act on the agro-produces of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The proposed increase in domestic support to agriculture in US would not be consistent with the spirit of Doha Ministerial

Declaration where it was decided to engage into negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access; reduction of, with a view to phasing out all forms of export subsidies; and substantial reduction in trade distorting domestic support. Reports are indicating that the US Farm Bill will have a price depressing effect on world markets. This may have negative effects for developing countries as well.

In accordance with the reduction commitments for domestic support undertaken by US in WTG Agreement on Agriculture, there is a limit as \$ 19.1 billion per annum for Aggregate measurement of Support (AMS) that the USA can spend on price linked or production linked subsidy. If the projected subsidies for the calculation of AMS in the US Farm Bill exceed the above ceiling, US would be in violation of its commitments under WTO Agreement of Agriculture.

Khadi and Village Industries Board

28. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the board of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has not yet been constituted;

(b) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the time by which the board is likely to be constituted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) (a) to (c) The re-constitution of the Khadi and village Industries Board is under the consideration of the Government.

Funds Allocation for Vocational Training to Child Labour

29. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had allocated funds during Ninth Five Year Plan to provide vocational training to child labour;

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

(c) whether the Government have any plans to provide vocational training to child labour during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the amount allocated by the Government for the same; and

(e) the number of child labourers likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for the benefit of child labour withdrawn from work, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations. Under these schemes Special schools/Centres have been set up with provision of non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend health care etc. In the Ninth Plan period, a budget allocation of Rs.249.60 crore was made for this purpose.

(c) to (e) In the Tenth Plan period, Government intends to continue with the component of vocational training under the scheme of NCLP.

Planning Commission has not yet indicated the total provision of funds for the Child Labour Scheme for the duration of the Tenth Plan. The number of Child labourers to be benefited would depend on the actual fund allocation.

Japanese Aid for Yamuna Action Plan

30. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has proposed to provide any financial assistance for Yamuna Action Plan;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action so far to get above assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A project proposal for abatement of pollution of river Yamuna has been prepared under Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II for taking up works in the three States of Haryana, UP and Delhi. As per pre-feasibility report, the estimated cost of works in 24 towns of Haryana, and 8 towns in UP besides Delhi is as follows:

Delhi	-	Rs. 599 crore
Haryana	-	Rs. 349 crore
UP	-	Rs. 1070 crore
Total	-	Rs. 2018 crore

The project involves laying of gravity sewers for diversion of sewage reaching the river, construction of sewage pumping stations, sewage treatment plants (STPs), setting up of sewage disinfection facilities, construction of low cost toilets, crematoria, improvement of bathing ghats, afforestation and public participation & awareness programme. The total volume of waste-water to be intercepted, diverted and treated under the project is 1582 mld. The proposal has been posed for funding to Japan Bank for International Cooperation in March, 2002.

[English]

Reduction in Fare by IA

31. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has announced the reduction in air fare in the Western Sector;

(b) if so, whether similar reduction in air fare will be introduced all over the country;

(c) if not, the reasons for selecting only the Western Sector for this purpose; and

(d) the other measures being taken by Indian Airlines to expand their market share?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has reduced air fares on various sectors across domestic network covering all regions of the country including Western sector.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Indian Airlines has, in the recent past, increased capacity on a number of routes and has offered new links with an objective to increase its market share.

Vacant Posts in Brahmaputra Board

32. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether top posts of Brahmaputra Board have been lying vacant since its inception in 1980;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time likely to be taken to fill up the said posts; and

(c) the steps being taken to make the Board beneficial for North East States?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To provide maximum benefits to the North-East States, the Brahmaputra Board is actively involved in preparation of Master Plans for Water Resources Development, Survey and Investigation Works for preparation of Detailed Project Reports of identified Drainage Development Schemes and for multipurpose dam projects, execution of Harang Drainage Development Scheme and Pagladiya Dam Project. The Board has prepared Master Plan Part-I (Main Stem of Brahmaputra river), Master Plan Part-II (Barak river and its tributaries) and Part-III of some of the Sub-basins of Brahmaputra interalia suggesting the short and long term measures for flood management. The Board has also initiated action to take up watershed management schemes and anti erosion schemes in different State of North Eastern region.

NAFED

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

(a) whether NAFED bagged a tender floated by Army Purchase Organisations for supply of gram, barley, peas etc.;

(b) if so, whether NAFED passed on the tender to Delhi Federation which lacks infrastructure to execute the tender; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) As a matter of policy and business practice, NAFED undertakes all procurement operations through member State level Cooperative Federations. Delhi State Federation being constituent member of NAFED was appointed as agent for this contract as they performed satisfactorily in the past in executing similar contracts with Army Purchase Organisation.

Discontinuance of Air Service by Virgin Airlines

34. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Virgin Atlantic has decided to discontinue its operations between India and London;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are considering to review the issue;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total number of flights operated by Virgin Airlines from India vis-a-vis flights operated by Air India to UK?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Virgin Atlantic has served a notice to terminate their agreement with Air India on 12th February, 2002, because of financial non-viability of their existing operations, which will be effective after a six month notice period. Representatives of the two airlines have also met in London in June, 2002, to discuss the issue, which ended inconclusively. The two airlines have agreed to meet again before the notice of termination becomes effective.

(e) Virgin Atlantic is presently operating twice weekly services between London and Delhi out of Indian side's entitlement under a code share/block space agreement with Air India. Air India on the other hand is operating 11 flights per week to/through UK.

[Translation]

National Highways in Jharkhand and Bihar

35. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the

Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of highways in the country especially in Jharkhand and Bihar being doubled and widened as on date, State-wise;

(b) the details of highways in these States where the work of doubling/widening has been started/proposed to be undertaken alongwith the number of those highways still deprived of this work as on date; and

(c) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Presumably, Hon'ble Member is seeking information about the length of National Highways being doubled/widened. Development of National Highways including widening is a continuous process and is undertaken in phases based on traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds. Details of National Highways having single/intermediate lane carriageway, 2/4 lane carriageway and proposed to be undertaken for widening during the 10th Plan and 4/6 laning of National Highways under National Highways Development and Port Connectivity are given in enclosed statement.

(c) Widening is a continuous process and it is not possible to indicate the time by which the entire National Highway network would be widened.

Statement

National Highways in Jharkhand and Bihar

(Length in Kms.)

Sl.No.	States	Total length of National Highways	Length of National Highways having Single/Intermediate Lane carriageway	Length of National Highways having 2/4 lane carriageway	Length of National Highways proposed for widening to 2 lane during 10th plan	Length of National Highways widened, being widened/to be widened to 4/6 lane under NHDP and Port Connectivity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	4038	348	3690	244	1779
2	Arunachal Pradesh	392	392	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Assam	2836	848	1988	85	753
4	Bihar	3502	2196	1306	686	723
5	Chandigarh	24	0	24	0	0
6	Chhattisgarh	1774	891	883	509	0
7	Delhi	72	0	72	0	59
8	Goa	269	121	148	0	18
9	Gujarat	2461	0	2461	52	1195
10	Haryana	1361	555	806	185	332
11	Himachal Pradesh	1188	825	363	408	14
12	Jammu & Kashmir	823	97	726	0	405
13	Jharkhand	1413	829	584	561	192
14	Karnataka	3570	1617	1953	832	785
15	Kerala	1440	516	924	0	170
16	Madhya Pradesh	4664	1396	3268	350	666
17	Maharashtra	3626	314	3312	0	766
18	Manipur	954	734	220	69	0
19	Meghalaya	717	428	289	185	0
20	Mizoram	927	927	0	0	0
21	Nagaland	369	268	101	0	0
22	Orissa	3301	1603	1698	623	514
23	Pondicherry	53	0	53	0	0
24	Punjab	1553	0	1553	0	296
25	Rajasthan	4597	1716	2881	1192	1237
26	Sikkim	62	62	0	0	0
27	Tamil Nadu	3758	367	3391	96	1250
28	Tripura	400	400	0	6	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	4942	581	4361	143	1569
30	Uttaranchal	1075	760	315	95	0
31	West Bengal	1951	505	1446	0	821
Total		58112	19296	38816	6321	13544

*[English]***Inter-State Migrant Workers**

36. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of the Inter-State migrant workers who are paid less than the minimum wages and made to work under hazardous conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979 is not being enforced in any State due to the inherent lacuna in the Act; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make it more effective and enforceable one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the problems of the inter-state migrant workers. In order to safeguard the Interest of Inter-State Migrant Workers, the Government has enacted Inter State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979. The Act envisages payment of equal wages to migrant and local workers for same or similar kind of work.

(c) and (d) The responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 lies both with the Central and State Governments in their respective spheres. As most of the workers move on their own, there is difficulty in effective enforcement of the Act. To enforce the provisions of the Act, the recipient States of the migrant workmen have been advised to co-operate with the officers of the States who send the migrant workmen whenever any

enquiry is conducted for effective enforcement of the provisions of the Act.

*[Translation]***Grant for Development of Religious and Cultural Cities**

37. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:

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

(a) the amount allocated by the Government for the preservation of protected monuments/heritage sites particularly in Chennai Circle, North Eastern Region, Rajasthan and West Bengal during the last three years and current year, region-wise; and monument-wise;

(b) total expenditure incurred for the preservation and conservation of monuments/heritage sites during the above period;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to hand over these sites to private agencies for maintenance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance & conservation of the centrally protected monuments over the last 3 years and the allocation made so far in the current financial year, is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Circle	No. of protected monuments	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Allocation made so far in the current financial year
1.	Chennai Circle	414	117.14	125.76	178.53	31.74
2.	North Eastern Region	67	119.31	160.57	125.31	55.00
3.	Rajasthan (Jaipur Circle)	153	166.00	174.69	235.00	109.00
4.	West Bengal (Kolkata Circle)	113	84.69	77.70	148.73	40.90
5.	All A.S.I. protected monuments*	3606	2813.56	2917.65	4950.00	3700.00

* Figures are inclusive of 1 to 4 above.

*[English]***Scarcity of Water**

38. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Wrong Policies led to water scarcity" appearing in "The Hindu" dated May 29, 2002;

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

(c) whether an expert from Maharashtra had undertaken a survey in 12 States to prepare a basic treatise on land and water resources development;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government have accepted the suggestion made by the expert; and

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

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

(b) The figures and statements reported under the news items are not based on facts. As per the latest assessment made by Central Water Commission (CWC), the average annual water availability in the river-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Of which, 690 BCM of surface water and 432 BCM of groundwater is utilisable. Presently 605 BCM of water is being utilised for diverse purposes.

Through the concerted efforts of Central and State Governments, an irrigation potential of 99.76 million hectare (provisional) is expected to have been created by the end of 9th Five Year Plan with the construction of judicious combination of major, medium and minor irrigation projects including 3596 large dams. These large dams provide 177 BCM of storage of rainwater. Another 207.77 BCM of storage is likely to be created through ongoing and proposed projects. Besides, about 3,76,000 tanks (minor dams) and ponds have also been constructed to harness the water resources of the country.

To help the State Governments in their efforts to harness the water from natural resources and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation

Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97. Under the programme, financial assistance in the form of central loan is being extended to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing irrigation projects in a time bound manner so that the benefits could accrue at the earliest. Accordingly, the Central Loan Assistance (CLA) amounting to Rs.8480 crore to the State Governments have been provided under AIBP upto end of 2001-02. The National Water Policy-2002 provides for private sector participation in water resources sector to augment the financial resources for its development and management.

There are total 14,22,664 rural habitations in the country. Out of which 12,65,093 habitations are fully covered and 1,40,208 habitations are partially covered by rural water supply and remaining 17,363 habitations are not covered. Besides, 88% of the urban population has presently been covered under urban water supply.

The per capita water availability is 1820 cubic metre per year (2001) on a national level. However, due to the spatial variability of rain in the country and also because of variation in population density, per capita average annual availability of water in different basins presently varies from 16,990 cubic metre in Minor River Basins Draining into Bangladesh & Myanmar; 13,636 cubic metre in Brahmaputra-Barak basin to 298 cubic metre in Sabarmati basin. About 216 million people are having the per capita water availability of less than 1000 cubic metre annually.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting (the traditional water harvesting systems) through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis, under which 174 schemes have been approved in various parts of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan.

For meeting future requirements of water, as a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins which will accrue benefits of drinking water supply, irrigation, hydro-power, flood control, navigation, fisheries, salinity and pollution control etc.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any survey conducted by an expert from Maharashtra as quoted in the question.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

Commission to Travel Agents

39. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 495 dated April 29, 2002 and state the reasons for reducing the Commission of Travel Agents from 9 to 7%.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): In order to affect some savings in the high distribution costs and also in view of the fact that several airlines operating in India having decided to reduce the commission, as agreed in IATA meeting. Air India and Indian Airlines have also reduced the commission level from 9% to 7%.

Rehabilitation of Evicted Forest Land Encroachers

40. DR. JAYANT RONGPI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court in recent months has pronounced judgement for evictions of encroachers from the forest land in certain States;

(b) if so, the name of States where such eviction operations are going on;

(c) the number of families evicted so far, State-wise;

(d) the time by which such eviction operation are likely to be completed, State-wise;

(e) the total number of families who are dwelling in reserve forest area, State-wise; and

(f) the policy of the Government in respect to rehabilitation of evicted families?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) Yes Sir. The Supreme Court in their order dated 23-11-2001, and further order dated 7-5-2002, has restrained the Central Government from regularization of encroachments and directed to evict the encroachers from forest lands in the country. Accordingly, the Government of India had issued instructions to all the States

for taking up eviction of encroachers in a time bound manner in compliance with the directives of the Supreme Court and also in conformity with the provisions of the National Forest Policy, 1988. Central Government, inter-alia, has issued further guidelines for monitoring the process of eviction of encroachers at State and Circle level. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to manage and protect the forests at operational level and therefore, the eviction of the encroachers is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Recently, the Government of India has been intimated by the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Shillong, that Government of Assam has taken up steps to evict the encroachers. The question of rehabilitation of encroachers is the concern of State Governments.

Express Highway to Decongest Traffic in Vishakhapatnam

41. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to lay an Express Highway from Convent Junction to Ayyappa temple junction in order to de-congest traffic in the city of Visakhapatnam;

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

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

(d) whether more Express ways are also to be laid there; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) Yes. Sir. A four-lane link road is being developed. Cost of the civil works is Rs.80 crores. The contract has been awarded and the project is scheduled to be completed by December, 2004.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of National Highways

42. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have sent any proposals regarding construction of National Highways to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of proposals related to tribal areas of Gujarat during last three years;

(c) the latest position of the said proposals;

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (e) This Ministry does not construct new National Highways. It only converts and develops certain State Roads into National Highways. During the Ninth Plan Period the Ministry had declared 23,814 km. of new National Highways in different States in the country. The proposals for conversion of State roads into National Highways received from all States including 8 proposals received for tribal areas of Gujarat have been returned to the respective State Governments in June 2002 for review based on the revised criteria for declaration of new National Highways. There is no proposal to declare any new National Highway in the country at present due to fund constraints. The Government may however, consider declaration of a few State Highways as National Highways during the course of the 10th-Five Year Plan from amongst the modified proposals to be received from various States keeping in view the traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

[English]

Vacant Post in Food Processing Industries

43. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of posts lying vacant in his Ministry/ Departments and subordinate offices under SC/ST category as on March 31, 2002 alongwith the dates from which these are lying vacant particularly in Punjab;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has no offices in Punjab. As on March 31, 2002, one vacancy for SC at Group 'A' level and one vacancy each for ST at Group 'B' & 'C' level existed. The first vacancy arose on 13th April 1999 and the other two vacancies arose on 23rd February 2002 and 30th April, 2001, respectively.

(b) The vacancy in Group 'A' post could not be filled up as no eligible candidate was available on that date. The other two posts being under Direct Recruitment Quota, the procedure envisaged by the UPSC and SSC had to be followed.

(c) The Group 'A' post has already been filled up with an SC candidate. Recruitment action has already been initiated in so far as Group 'C' post is concerned. However, in the case of Group 'B' post, the matter has been referred to Department of Personnel and Training for conversion of the vacancy from ST to SC quota, as per post-based roster.

[Translation]

Decline in Foreign Tourists Arrival due to Indo-Pak Tension

44. PRCF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

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

(a) whether there is decline in foreign tourists visiting India due to prevailing Indo-Pak tension;

(b) if so, the number of foreign tourists visited India particularly Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise/ country-wise;

(c) the percentage reduction in foreign tourists and the foreign exchange earnings and revenue earned therefrom during the said period;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase foreign tourist traffic;

(e) whether the Government propose to organise tourism fairs to boost tourism in the country;

(f) if so, the States/Cities selected for the purpose;

(g) whether private participation has been encouraged in the fairs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The decline in foreign tourist arrivals to the country during the years 2001 and 2002 so far is due to the terrorist attack on World Trade Centre, war in Afghanistan and negative perception about the security in the South Asian region.

(b) The number of foreign tourists from the top ten

Year	Foreign Tourist Arrivals	%Change	Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rs. In crores)	% Change
1999	2481928	-	12951	-
2000	2649378	6.7	14238	9.9
2001	2537282	- 4.2	14344	0.7

(d) Various steps taken to increase foreign tourist traffic to India includes the following:-

- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;
- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;
- Creation of world class infrastructure;
- Developing sustained and effective marketing plans and programs;
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism; and

countries who visited India during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 is given in the enclosed statement.

The number of visits of foreign tourists to the State of Rajasthan for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 is 562685, 623100 and 608283 respectively.

(c) The number of foreign tourists and foreign exchange earned through tourism for the last three years are as follows:

- Attention to civilisational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) to (h) The 4th International Travel and Tourism Mart (ITTM 2002) is scheduled to be held during September 2002 at New Delhi. ITTM 2002 will be a mega event drawing participation from various State Tourism Department and Government bodies, Travel Agents, Tour Operators, Hotels & Resorts, Airlines, Adventure Tour Operators, etc. The PATA Conference held in April 2002 at New Delhi was an another boost to the tourism industry in the country and it successfully conveyed the messages to the entire world that India, as a destination, is safe, convenient, inexpensive and above all, unique for leisure as well as business traveller.

Statement

Country of Nationality	Tourist Arrivals 1999	Country of Nationality	Tourist Arrivals 2000	Country of Nationality	Tourist Arrivals 2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
UK	345,085	UK	432,624	UK	405,472
USA	251,926	USA	348,292	USA	329,147
Sri Lanka	120,072	Sri Lanka	129,193	Sri Lanka	112,813

1	2	3	4	5	6
France	85,891	France	100,022	France	102,434
Germany	85,033	Japan	98,159	Canada	88,600
Canada	82,892	Canada	84,013	Japan	80,634
Japan	79,373	Germany	83,881	Germany	80,011
Australia	73,041	Malaysia	60,513	Malaysia	57,869
Singapore	53,310	Australia	53,995	Australia	52,691
Malaysia	52,613	Italy	50,419	Singapore	42,824

Export of Mango

45. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of yield of mango crop during the last two years;

(b) the names of the countries where Indian mangoes are being exported this year, State-wise; and

(c) the facilities developed by the Government for the transportation of said mangoes abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per available information, the production of mango in the country was 9781.80 and 10503.50 thousand metric tones during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively.

(b) India is exporting mangoes to about 49 countries in the world. Major countries where the mangoes are exported include Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, France, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, UAE, UK and USA etc.

(c) Government has set up cold storages and cargo handling facilities for export of perishable horticulture products including mango in International Airports at New Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Trivandrum, Chennai and Hyderabad. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, Ministry of Commerce has initiated transportation of mangoes in controlled atmosphere containers by sea to UK and Hong Kong.

[English]

Mongoose Killed to make Brushes

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that 50,000 mongooses have been killed to make brushes as reported in the Indian Express dated June 11, 2002;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken against the persons found guilty?

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

[Translation]

Low Budget Hotels

47. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

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

(a) The number of low budget hotels in the country at present, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the need of economy hotels for the domestic tourists of low income category; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to provide low budget hotels?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Department of Tourism, Government of India has a voluntary scheme of classification of hotels according to the star category. Information of classified hotels in 1 to 3 star category is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Though construction of hotels is a private sector activity, in order to encourage low budget hotels, the Government of India provides various fiscal and financial incentives such as Tax Exemptions, Concessional Customs Duty on Imports, Interest Subsidy (for 1 to 3 Star approved hotel projects) on loans sanctioned by designated financial institutions.

Statement

State/Place	Updated up to February 2002			
	3-Star	2-Star	1-Star	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
Anajpur	1	1		2
Adilabad	1			1
Cuddapah		1		1
Guntur	2	2		4
Hanuman Konda	1			1
Hyderabad	19	11	3	33
Kakinada	1	1		2
Kurnool	3	1		4
Mayiladuthurai		1		1
Nellore	3	1		4
Nirmal		1		1
Nizamabad		4		4
Puttaparthi		2		2
Rajamundry	1	1		2
Srikakulam		1		1
Tadapalligudam		1		1

1	2	3	4	5
Tirupati	6	1		7
Vijaywada	6	2	2	10
Visakhapatnam	3	3		6
Warangal		1		1
Total	47	36	5	88

Assam

Dibrugarh		1		1
Guwahati	3	2		5
Jorhat		1		1
Sibsagar		1		1
Silchar		1		1
Tinsukia	1	1		2
Total	4	7	0	11

Bihar

Bhagalpur		1		1
Bodhgaya	1			1
Bokaro	3	2		5
Dhanbad	1	2		3
Gaya	1			1
Jamshedpur	2	1	1	4
Patna	4	1		5
Ranchi	4	2		6
Muzaffarpur			1	1
Total	16	9	2	27
Delhi	11	17	9	37
Total	11	17	9	37
Goa	14	33	22	69
Total	14	33	22	69

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat				
Ahmedabad	10	1		11
Amipura	1			1
Ankaleshwar		1		1
Baruch		1		1
Bhavnagar	1	2		3
Bhuj			1	1
Gandhi Nagar	1			1
Jamnagar	1			1
Mehsana	1			1
Rajkot	1	2		3
Saputara		1		1
Surat	3	1		4
Vadodara	5	1	2	8
Vapi		1		1
Valsad		1		1
Total	24	12	3	39

Haryana

Bahadurgarh	1			1
Badshahpur	1			1
Faridabad	2			2
Gurgaon	4			4
Karnal	1			1
Manesar	1			1
Panipat	2			2
Panchkula	2			2
Rewari	1			1
Sikapur	1			1
Yamuna Nagar	1			1
Total	17			17

1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh				
Dalhousie	1	1		2
Katra	1			1
Manali	1			1
Parwanoo		2		2
Shimla	2			2
Solan		1		1
Total	5	4	0	9

Jammu & Kashmir

Gulmarg	1	1		2
Jammu		1		1
Katra		1		1
Pahalgaoon	1			1
Srinagar	2	3		5
Total	4	6	0	10

Karnataka

Bangalore	7	11	2	20
Hassan			1	1
Hubli			1	1
Mangalore	2			2
Mercara	1			1
Mysore	2	3	3	8
Total	12	14	7	33

Kerala

Alleppey		3	1	4
Alappuzha			1	1
Alwaye			1	1
Angamatty	1	1	1	3

1	2	3	4	5
Cannanore		1		1
Changanassery		2		2
Emakulam		1		1
Guruvayoor		3	1	4
Kannur		1		1
Kochi	10	10	5	25
Korsanyad		1		1
Trichur	2	1		3
Udyogmandal		1	1	2
Pothannedu		1		1
Kottarakkara	1			1
Kottayam	1	7	5	13
Kovalam		2	1	3
Kozicode		5	1	6
Kumili		2		2
Munnar		2		2
Palakad	3	1		4
Pararor	1		1	2
Quilon		1	1	2
Sullan Battery		1		1
Tellicherry		1	1	2
Thekkady	1	2	1	4
Thiruvananthapuram	4	3	1	8
Thadupuzha			2	2
Trissur	2	5	1	8
Waynad		1	1	2
Emakulam	1	1	1	3
Total	27	60	28	115

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh				
Bhopal	5	3		8
Gwalior	1		1	2
Indore	2	1		3
Jabalpur	1	3	1	5
Khajuraho	2			2
Khandwa		2		2
Mandla			1	1
Raipur	3		1	4
Bhilai	1			1
Total	15	9	4	28
Maharashtra				
Akola	1			1
Amravati			1	1
Aurangabad		2	2	4
Ahmad Nagar			1	1
Bilaspur			1	1
Mumbai	25	39	9	73
Bordi			1	1
Chanderpur	1	1		2
Chandid			1	1
Chiplon	1			1
Ellore			1	1
Jalgaon		1		1
Karad	1	1		2
Khandala	1	1	1	3
Khopoli		1		1
Kolhapur		2		2

1	2	3	4	5
Kabhapur		3		3
Lonavala	2	2		4
Manor			2	2
Mahabaleshwar		2		2
Matheran	3	2		5
Nagpur	2	4	2	8
Nasik	5	4	2	11
New Bombay	1	1		2
Panvel	1			1
Panchgani		3	1	4
Pune	5	11	15	31
Roha			1	1
Osmanabad		1		1
Shirdi	1		3	4
Sholapur	3	1	2	6
Thane		2	2	4
Vidyanagar		1		1
Vilhali	1			1
Wardha Road	1		1	2
Total	55	85	49	189

Meghalaya

Shillong	2		1	3
Total	2	0	1	3

Orissa

Angul		2		2
Bhubneshwar	5	1	1	7
Cuttack		2		2
Dhenkanal		2		2

1	2	3	4	5
Puri	1	2		3
Rourkela	1	1		2
Jeypore		1		1
Total	7	11	1	19

Punjab

Amritsar	2	2		4
Aibhor		2		2
Bhatinda	1	6		7
Dera Bassi		1		1
Faridkot			2	2
Gurdaspur		2		2
Hoshiarpur		1		1
Jalandhar	8	11		19
Ludhiana	7	10	2	19
Pathankot		1		1
Patiala	1	3		4
Rajpura		2		2
Malour		1		1
Mohali		2		2
Moga			2	2
Ambala		1		1
Total	19	45	6	70

Rajasthan

Ajmer	1			1
Alwar	1	1		2
Behror	1			1
Bikaner	1			1
Chittorgarh			1	1
Sri Ganga Nagar		1		1

1	2	3	4	5
Jaipur	6	6	2	14
Jaisalmer	4	1		5
Jhunjhunu	2			2
Jodhpur	1	4		5
Kumbhalgarh	1			1
Kota	2	3		5
Mount Abu	1	3		4
Udaipur	5	6		11
Total	26	26	2	54
Sikkim				
Gangtok	1			1
Total	1	0	0	1
Tamil Nadu				
Chidambaram			1	1
Coimbatore	3	1	4	8
Coonor	1	1		2
Dindigul			1	1
Erode			1	1
Gingee		1		1
Honganekkol			1	1
Kanchipuram	1		1	2
Karur		1	1	2
Kanya Kumari	1		1	2
Karaikudi			2	2
Kodai Kanal	2	1	1	4
Chennai	30	15	8	53
Madurai	3	1	2	6
Mamallapuram	3	2	1	6

1	2	3	4	5
Nagapatnam			1	1
Coorg		1	1	2
Tenali	1			1
Tiruvanamalai		1		1
Nellore	1			1
Mettupalayan	1	1		2
Nagarcoil		1		1
Namakkal	1	1	1	3
Neyveli		1		1
Palani		2		2
Pallachi			1	1
Rameshwaram			1	1
Salem		3	1	4
Thanjavur	2	1	1	4
Tiruchendur			1	1
Tiruchirapally	1		2	3
Tirunelveli	1		1	2
Tirupur	1			1
Udaghamandalam	4	2		6
Vellore	1	1		2
Yercaud		1	1	2
Total	58	39	37	134
Uttar Pradesh				
Agra	8	6		14
Aligarh		1		1
Allahabad		3		3
Balrampur		1		1
Gaziabad	2			2

1	2	3	4	5
Gajraula	1			1
Gorakhpur		2		2
Jhansi	1		1	2
Kushinagar	1			1
Kanpur			1	1
Lucknow	3			3
Mathura	2			2
Moradabad		1		1
Srawasti	2			2
Fatehpursikri		1		1
Noida	2			2
Rampur		1	1	2
Varanasi	5	2		7
Total	27	18	3	48

Uttaranchal

Almora		1		1
Dehradun	1	3	3	7
Haridwar		1		1
Haldwani	1			1
Mussoorie	4	2	1	7
Nainital	3	2	1	6
Narender Nagar	1			1
Ram Nagar	2			2
Ranikhet		1	1	2
Rishikesh			1	1
Roberts Ganj			1	1
Total	12	11	7	30

1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal				
Asansol	1			1
Bolapur		1		1
Kolkata	7	6	2	15
Darjeeling	5	3		8
Digha	1	1		2
Durgapur	1			1
Haldia	2			2
Malda		1		1
Siliguri	2	2		4
Shantiniketan	2			2
Total	21	14	2	37

Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Port Blair			3	3
Total	0	3	0	3

Chandigarh	2	7		9
Total	2	7	0	9

Daman & Diu	1			1
Total	1	0	0	1

Dadra & Nagar Haveli

Silvasa	1		1	2
Total	1		1	2

Lakshadweep

Bangaram			1	1
Total	0	0	1	1

Pondicherry	1		1	2
Total	1		1	2

G. Total	429	467	190	1086
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*[English]***National Seeds Policy**

48. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since adopted National Seeds Policy, 2002;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether the new policy would help to boost export of seeds;

(d) if so, whether the provision for more funds for research and development of quality seeds would be made in the policy; and

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

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

(b) The main features of the National Seeds Policy, 2002 include, inter-alia, development of new & improved varieties of plants, timely availability of quality seeds, compulsory registration of seeds, creation of infrastructure facilities, quality assurance, promotion of seed industry, abolition of licensing for seed dealers, facility for import of best quality seeds, encouragement for export of seeds and creation of Seed Banks and National Seed Grid.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Central Government is providing adequate funds to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities for research and development of quality seeds.

Tobacco Farmers

49. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking any measures to safeguard the Tobacco Farmers by assuring the Minimum Support Price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Tobacco Board endeavours to safeguard the farmers by regulating production in order that tobacco fetches remunerative prices.

(c) and (d) The Tobacco Board, Guntur has received requests for Market Intervention to procure the tobacco produce from the farmers at Minimum Support Prices (MSP). However, current prices being realized by the farmers in the Andhra Pradesh auctions have not justified the demand for Market Intervention.

Amendment in Employees Provident Fund Act

50. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Government propose to amend EPF Act" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated May 21, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this amendment is likely to be made and benefits given to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news item related to exempted trusts. There is a proposal for making various changes in the Scheme relating to exempted Trusts to protect the interests of the workers. These proposals have been discussed by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund. No time frame for carrying out the amendments can be given at this stage.

*[Translation]***Pancheswar and Kosi Dams**

51. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are serious differences between the Government of India and Nepal over Pancheswar and Kosi dams;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve the differences?

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

(a) to (c) There are no serious differences between the Government of India and Government of Nepal over Pancheswar and Kosi Dams. Discussions are however continuing on some technical issues, which would be required to be resolved for finalizing the Detailed Project Report of Pancheswar Dam.

Target of Kharif Production

52. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set any target for Kharif production during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total grant provided by the Central Government to the farmers during each of the last three years State-wise;

(d) the benefit accrued to the farmers from the above mentioned grant; and

(e) the provisions made by the Government for each State to provide financial assistance to the farmers during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of target for Kharif production during 2002-2003 are as under:

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	
Rice	78.64
Coarse Cereals	
Jowar	5.60
Bajra	6.68
Ragi	2.42
Small Millets	0.65
Maize	10.50
Total Coarse Cereals	25.85
Pulses	6.20
Oilseeds	15.90

(c) and (d) The details of funds released to States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-I. The benefits of Schemes implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation flow to farmers both directly and indirectly. The benefits accrued to farmers are in the form of assistance for various inputs like certified seeds, fertilizers, agriculture implements at subsidized rate, pesticides, integrated pest management, credit, technology transfer, training and demonstrations, market support, safety net through crop insurance, water management etc.

(e) The State-wise allocations made for 2002-03 under major Centrally Sponsored Schemes wherever possible by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of funds Released to States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	6175.51	3914.84	4235.45
2	Arunachal Pradesh	475.05	761.31	1216.81
3	Assam	386.91	1099.27	1798.80
4	Bihar	240.70	419.59	1851.15
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	963.00	1610.05
6	Goa	202.06	49.12	215.00
7	Gujarat	4789.31	4713.47	3108.33
8	Haryana	1648.80	1833.74	1934.50
9	Himachal Pradesh	1116.09	1338.17	1896.97
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1060.35	917.87	916.43
11	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	1175.49
12	Karnataka	8159.30	7180.52	7039.95
13	Kerala	2571.59	3724.72	2698.61
14	Madhya Pradesh	7696.70	5506.69	6813.06

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
15	Maharashtra	8324.33	10633.31	10598.78	23	Sikkim	541.89	825.29	1292.44
16	Manipur	984.03	935.68	938.27	24	Tamii Nadu	5513.83	5665.59	5416.38
17	Meghalaya	598.02	724.74	1784.59	25	Tripura	951.07	817.25	1609.1
18	Mizoram	894.94	1088.99	951.50	26	Uttar Pradesh	7603.00	7068.83	7938.75
19	Nagaland	1223.07	1489.72	1704.73	27	Uttaranchal	0.00	882.00	1515.35
20	Orissa	4594.78	1680.81	2073.05	28	West Bengal	1534.60	1537.09	2913.80
21	Punjab	1206.84	849.49	1063.00	Total		76963.131	74754.33	83073.49
22	Rajasthan	8470.36	8133.23	6763.15					

Statement-II

State-wise allocations of Funds under Major Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the year 2002-2003

(Rs. in Lakhs)

		Macro Management	National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP)	Accelerated Maize Develop- ment Progra- mme (AMDP)	Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)	Technology Mission on Cotton	Technology Mission for Horticulture Development in NE States	On farm Water Management	Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	3800.00	50.00	420.00	12.05	210.00	174.00	0.00	0.00	4666.05
2	Arunachal Pradesh	440.00	10.00	21.00	11.15	0.00	0.00	1735.00	173.00	2390.15
3	Assam	700.00	12.00	57.00	8.20	2.00	0.00	1400.00	897.00	3076.20
4	Bihar	2500.00	30.00	15.00	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	4140.00	6685.95
5	Chhattisgarh	1400.00	30.00	40.00	14.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	537.00	2021.91
6	Goa	200.00	1.00	3.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	209.00
7	Gujarat	3200.00	60.00	425.00	1.15	20.00	244.00	0.00	0.00	3950.15
8	Haryana	1600.00	20.00	50.00	0.57	0.00	77.00	0.00	0.00	1747.57
9	Himachal Pradesh	1600.00	5.00	10.00	32.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1647.27
10	Jharkhand	1200.00	5.00	10.00	11.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	1225.00	2451.72
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1600.00	9.00	10.00	1.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1620.05
12	Karnataka	5800.00	66.00	284.00	19.85	45.00	166.00	0.00	0.00	6380.85

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	Kerala	3000.00	3.00	18.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3031.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	4500.00	132.00	500.00	10.40	0.00	170.00	0.00	0.00	5312.40
15	Maharashtra	8200.00	134.00	485.00	31.88	0.00	410.00	0.00	0.00	9260.88
16	Manipur	600.00	20.00	36.00	3.09	0.00	0.00	1220.00	173.00	2052.09
17	Meghalaya	600.00	9.00	12.00	2.79	0.00	0.00	1470.00	0.00	2093.79
18	Mizoram	800.00	9.00	24.00	7.96	0.00	0.00	1590.00	138.00	2568.96
19	Nagaland	1000.00	20.00	45.00	7.96	0.00	0.00	1575.00	0.00	2647.96
20	Orissa	2500.00	20.00	30.00	1.15	7.00	64.00	0.00	1380.00	4002.15
21	Punjab	1700.00	5.00	5.00	1.05	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	1761.05
22	Rajasthan	6700.00	162.00	500.00	8.18	0.00	163.00	0.00	0.00	7533.18
23	Sikkim	500.00	5.00	25.00	8.01	0.00	0.00	1420.00	0.00	1958.01
24	Tamil Nadu	4200.00	63.00	300.00	10.75	50.00	138.00	0.00	0.00	4761.75
25	Tripura	800.00	20.00	30.00	3.84	3.00	13.00	1365.25	0.00	2235.09
26	Uttar Pradesh	6885.00	30.00	50.00	29.77	0.00	16.00	0.00	1917.00	8927.77
27	Uttaranchal	1400.00	9.00	15.00	10.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1434.65
28	West Bengal	2400.00	9.00	80.00	10.65	0.00	15.00	0.00	920.00	3434.65
	Total	69825.00	948.00	3500.00	262.00	352.00	1700.00	11775.25	11500.00	99862.25

*[English]***Extinction of Fish Species**

53. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of species of fish are on the verge of extinction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to protect the species which are on the brink of extinction?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No species of fish is reported to be on the verge of extinction. However, Sea horses, Giant Grouper and a few species of elasmobranch, which include

sharks, rays and skates are reported to be endangered. The details are given in the enclosed statement. The endangered species of fish have been included in the Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby giving it highest degree of protection. Hunting and trade of such species and their parts and products is prohibited.

Statement

List of species that have been included in the Schedule-I of the Wild Life Act 1972

1. Rhincodon typus
2. Anoxypristis cuspidata
3. Carcharhinus hemiodon
4. Glyphis gangeticus

5. Glyphis glyphis
6. Himantura fluviatilis
7. Pristis microdon
8. Pristis zijsron
9. Echinobatus djiddensis
10. Urogymnus asperrimus
11. All Sygnathidians
12. Giant Grouper

[Translation]

Privatisation of Water Supply Services

54. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to assign the water supply services in the country to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Water being a state subject, schemes are planned, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Assigning of water supply services to private sector falls in the purview of the State Governments.

Encroachment on National Highways

55. SHRI RAM RATI BIND: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of petrol pumps located along the National Highway No. 24 and the National Highway between Delhi and Jaipur location-wise;

(b) the number of places where petrol pump owners have indulged in encroachment;

(c) the action taken to remove encroachment; and

(d) the time by which the entire encroachment are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Amendment in Trade Union Act, 1926

56. KUNWARAKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend Trade Union Act, 1926;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have stopped the registration of Central Trade Union;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to re-start the registration of General Trade Union; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Certain amendments have been made in the Trade Unions Act, 1926, vide the Trade Unions (Amendment) Act, 2001 (31 of 2001). The provisions of this Act have been enforced, vide Notification dated 9.1.2002. The main amendments were made under Section 4, 6, 9A, 11 and 22 of the Act which are as under:

(i) No trade union of workmen shall be registered unless at least 10% or 100, whichever is less, of workmen engaged or employed in the establishment or industry with which it is connected, are the members of such trade union on the date of making of application for registration. In no case a union shall be registered without a minimum strength of 7 members.

(ii) A registered trade union of workmen shall at all times continue to have not less than 10% or 100 of the workmen, whichever is less, subject to a minimum of 7 persons engaged or employed in the establishment or industry with which it is connected as its members.

(iii) A provision for filing an appeal before the Industrial Tribunal/Labour Court in case of non-registration/restoration of registration has been provided.

(iv) All Office bearers of a registered trade union, except not more than one third of the total number

of office bearers or five, whichever is less, shall be persons actually engaged or employed in the establishment or industry with which the trade Union is connected.

- (v) Minimum rate of subscription of members of the trade union is proposed to be revised as one rupee per annum for rural workers, three rupees per annum for workers in other organized sectors and 12 rupees per annum in all other cases.

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

[English]

Status of Golden Quadrilateral Road Network

57. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Golden Quadrilateral Road Network in various parts of the country, State-wise;

(b) the amount spent thereon so far; and

(c) the target set for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) An amount of Rs. 5180 crore has been spent on the project upto 31.5.2002.

(c) The Golden Quadrilateral project is targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	Upgradation to 4/6 lanes (length in km)		
		Length in Km	Completed	In progress
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1014	43	971
2.	Bihar	206	0	206
3.	Delhi	25	25	-
4.	Gujarat	485	167	318

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Haryana	152	152	-
6.	Jharkhand	192	43	149
7.	Karnataka	623	98	525
8.	Maharashtra	488	153	335
9.	Orissa	440	28	412
10.	Rajasthan	725	172	553
11.	Tamil Nadu	342	0	342
12.	Uttar Pradesh	753*	113	556
13.	West Bengal	401	80	321
Total		5,846	1,074	4688

* Contracts for 84 km long Allahabad bypass are yet to be awarded.

[Translation]

Pending Projects of I.A.R.I.

58. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IARI had fixed a target for completing 402 projects during 1995-2001;

(b) if so, the number of completed projects, the number of incomplete projects and the projects yet to take off;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay in completing the said projects; and

(d) the cost overrun due to the inordinate delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir. However, there are currently 402 in house projects were under implementation during 1995-2001. Of this, 210 projects were started from April, 1994 and 192 new projects were added from April 1999 onwards and these are continuing.

(b) Out of 210 projects started from 1994, 180 projects were completed and their final report (RPF-III) have been received. Another 23 projects were not even started or midway terminated.

(c) In few cases projects were extended beyond 5 years to complete the new research leads and in some cases

the interesting research findings were to be confirmed through few more years of observation.

(d) The extended life span of few projects did not cost more. And confirmation of the observation saved the expenditure made in such programmes.

[English]

Sharing of Ravi-Beas Water

59. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for Interpretation of Clause I & II of Ravi-Beas Agreement of 1981 and non-finalisation of formulation of Distribution of Ravi-Beas river water between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government propose to call another meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss this long outstanding issue and take a final decision in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As the subject of the proposal viz. restoration of 0.6 MAF of Rajasthan's total share of 8.6 MAF could not be resolved in the meetings of the Bhakra Beas Management Board, not could a draft agreement made by the Central Government containing decisions on various water related issues including restoration of 0.6 MAF as taken in the meetings of the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan convened during July/August, 1992 be signed by the Chief Ministers, the Government is continuing its endeavour to convene another meeting of the Chief Ministers while the Bhakra Beas Management is distributing Ravi-Beas waters according to an ad hoc arrangement decided in its meeting held in December, 1982.

Death of Farmers due to Pesticide Exposure

60. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH:

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "500 farmers die of pesticide exposure in Andhra Pradesh" appearing in the Times of India dated April 29, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any enquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to educate the farmers in handling toxic pesticide?

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

(b) to (d) As per the report received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, a few incidents of hospitalization were reported on account of repeated use of high doses and improper methods of spraying of pesticides under high temperature. These cases might have happened due to over exposure particularly due to non-observance of safety measures by farmers/farm labourers and sprays being undertaken during hot periods of the day.

(e) The Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 approves label and leaflet for all pesticides which include directions for use. If the pesticides are used as per the prescribed directions, they do not pose any harm to human beings, animals and the environment. Further, Government is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce consumption of chemical pesticides. Farmers are provided training on safe and judicious use of pesticides by organizing farmers field schools. Training is also imparted to medical doctors on diagnosis and effective management of pesticide poisoning cases.

High Alert in Jim Corbett National Park

61. SHRI KALASA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether high alert has been sounded in the Jim Corbett National Park following recovery of explosive devices in the reserve forests;

(b) if so, the number of explosive devices recovered;

(c) whether any enquiry has been held to nab the culprits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 17 number of crude explosive balls have been recovered on 14.6.2002 in the reserve forest (buffer area) on the southern periphery of Corbett Tiger Reserve. These balls are generally used to kill small mammals like wild pigs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Support of police has been sought to strengthen patrolling in the Tiger Reserve.

Illegal Trading of Endangered Birds

62. **SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite laws and rules the bird catchers in India are still trading in many endangered and rare birds; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken so far to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Trade in rare and endangered species of birds is prohibited. However, some incidences of illegal trade of birds are detected from time to time and are dealt with as per the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Following steps have been taken to make the implementation of the Act more effective.

(1) Steps taken at the State level :

- (i) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in states to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (ii) Regular checking of the stocks of dealers in birds is done by the officers of State Wildlife Wing.

(2) Steps taken at National level :

- (i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.
- (iii) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(3) Steps taken at International level.

- (i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

Funds Crunch for Rice Research Programme

63. **SHRI SURESH KURUP:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds crunch has hit the rice research programme in the country;

(b) if so, the key areas of research that are affected; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The fund crunch has not hit the rice research programme in the country.

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

Plight of Cotton Growers

64. **SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area and productivity of cotton recorded during each of the last five years; State-wise;

(b) the details of Minimum Support Price fixed for cotton during the said period;

(c) the quantum of cotton procured during each of the last five years with price, State-wise, alongwith the name of the procuring Agency;

(d) whether the cotton growers of Kalahandi, Nuapara and Bolangir districts of Orissa are facing difficulties for cotton being not procured timely and directly by Government agencies;

(e) if so, the remedial measures being planned for its future procurement;

(f) the details of suicide cases committed by cotton growers during each of the last five years, State-wise; and

(g) the remedial steps being taken to save the farmers from indebtedness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The State-wise estimates of area and productivity of cotton during last 5 years viz. 1996-97 to 2000-01 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for basic varieties of cotton like F-414/H-777/J-34 and H-4 for the years 1996-97 to 2001-2002 fixed by the Government are given in enclosed statement-II.

(c) The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is the sale agency of Government of India for undertaking price support operations whenever the prices of cotton fall to the MSP level. The State-wise details of procurement of cotton by CCI under MSP operations for the years 1996-97 to 2001-02 are given in the statement-III.

(d) and (e) The details of centre-wise/district-wise procurement of kapas made by CCI in Orissa during 2001-2002 under MSP operations is as under:

(Kapas in quintals)	
Centre/District	Procurement under MSP
Raigada	46599
Kesinga	41142
Umarkot	6612
Total	94353

Since the processing facilities are restricted to three places namely Raigada, Kesinga and Umarkot, CCI has opened procurement centres at these three places in the State. However, Kapas produced in all the districts of the State is brought for marketing to the above three centres.

As per the information received from the CCI, the farmers in Orissa did not face any difficulty in selling their cotton to CCI.

(f) No information on this is available.

(g) The Government have taken steps to increase flow of credit to the agriculture sector including to cotton growers. As per the Budget speech of the Finance Minister for the year 2002-2003, the total credit of agriculture sector through institutional channels is being increased from Rs. 64,000 crores in 2001-2002 to Rs.75,000 crores in 2002-2003. Delivery of agriculture credit is also being further improved. A total of 2.32 crores kisan credit cards were issued by cooperatives, regional rural banks and commercial banks as at the end of 31.03.2002, covering a sanctioned amount of Rs.5093 crores. These steps are likely to improve credit to farmers including cotton growers.

Statement-I

Area and Productivity of Cotton during 1996-97 to 2000-01 in Major Cotton Producing States

States	Area: '000 Hectares					Productivity: Kgs. per hectare				
	Area					Productivity				
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	1015.2	906.1	1280.9	1039.0	1022.0	315	248	202	261	277
Gujarat	1484.1	1519.0	1658.5	1539.3	1615.3	304	356	400	230	122
Haryana	652	638.0	582.0	544.0	555.0	393	301	255	408	424
Karnataka	668.1	499.0	636.5	545.7	560.0	237	246	261	207	298
Kerala	12.3	11.7	14.6	4.8	4.8	279	291	282	273	290
Madhya Pradesh	519.5	515.3	497.2	487.7	505.8	139	168	147	145	80
Maharashtra	3084.7	3139.2	3199.1	3254.0	3076.9	173	95	139	162	100
Meghalaya	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.3	123	127	127	126	179

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Orissa	15.7	22.0	29.0	38.1	40.4	327	278	311	272	275
Punjab	742	724.0	562.0	476.0	474.0	441	220	180	340	430
Rajasthan	654.2	644.7	644.6	583.2	510.1	354	229	230	287	268
Tamil Nadu	252.2	227.8	218.6	178.3	193.9	222	267	316	324	285
Uttar Pradesh	7.8	9.0	7.5	7.0	5.7	159	157	18	146	146
All India	9120.5	8868.4	9342.4	8709.7	8576.5	265	208	224	225	191

Statement-II

*Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Cotton
during 1996-97 to 2001-02*

(Rs. per Quintal)

1	2	3
1997-98	1330	1530
1998-99	1440	1650
1999-2000	1575	1775
2000-01	1625	1825
2001-02	1675	1875

Year

Variety

F-414/ H-777/ J-34

H-4

1

2

3

1996-97

1180

1380

Statement-III

*State-wise Purchases of Cotton under MSP Operations by Cotton Corporation of
India during 1996-97 to 2001-02 (October to September)*

('000 Bales of 170 kgs. each)

State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	453
Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	222
Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	-	-	-	-	-	100
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	62
Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	11	-	-	8	-	44
Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	18
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	-	-	8	-	899

* As on 11.7.2002

- Nil/Negligible

*[Translation]***Child Labour in Acid Based Industries**

65. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether child labour is being used in task where acid is used in various parts of the country especially in Madhya Pradesh and Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding skin disease arising out of contact with acid; and

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

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

*[English]***Milk Production in U.P.**

66. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of milk produced in Uttar Pradesh during 2000-2001 and till date in the current year;

(b) whether production of milk and dairy products have increased rapidly in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The quantum of milk produced in U.P. (excluding Uttaranchal) during 2000-01 and till date is as under:

Year	Milk Production ('000 Tonnes)
2000-2001	13858
2001-2002*	15487
2002-2003* (April-June)	3753

* Provisional

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

According to the latest available estimate, value of output from the milk group (at current prices), has increased from Rs.11801.2 crores during 1997-98 to Rs.15757.4 crores during 1999-2000.

Paucity of basic facilities in Delhi Zoo

67. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the paucity of basic facilities like cold drinking water, cafeterias, guides and transport to move about in the Delhi Zoo which have been highlighted many times; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) National Zoological Park is the only place in Delhi where the visitors can have communion with nature; walking on foot around zoo facilitated the process. Battery operated trolleys are available to facilitate children and infirm people to go around the park. For supply of drinking water several water taps have been provided. Water coolers have also been fixed at four places. Ministry of Environment and Forests does not encourage eating houses and cafeterias inside the zoo because of the fact that in past there have been deaths of animals due to consumption of half eaten food in polythene bags. However one cafeteria has been allowed inside the zoo. Also, apart from a Zoo Canteen, there are several cold drinks and tea shops outside the gate of the zoo. Trained guides are available to take the visitors around.

*[Translation]***Pench Tiger Project**

68. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of yearly establishment expenditure (State and Central) in Pench Sanctuary and Pench Tiger Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Pench Tiger Project is a project for limited period and wholly financed by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof:

(d) whether the fencing of Pench Sanctuary has been completed;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and whether smuggling of fish and wild animals is on the increase in absence of fencing;

(g) if so, whether the Government have received any complaints regarding connivance of sanctuary employees in smuggling of fish and wild animals, particularly the skin of lions; and

(h) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The details of establishment expenditure of Pench Sanctuary and Pench Tiger Reserve for the year 2001-02 are Rs. 18.56 lakhs and Rs. 67.60 lakhs respectively.

(b) and (c) Project Tiger is an ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Government of India. Assistance is provided to State Governments for carrying out protection and developmental works in Tiger Reserves. 100% funds are provided for Non recurring items while 50% funds are provided for Recurring items of work.

(d) and (e) To maintain genetic continuity fencing in national parks and sanctuaries normally is not done.

(f) Effective patrolling and protection measures have considerably reduced illegal fishing in Pench Tiger Reserve. Moreover compensation totalling to an amount of Rs. 72.00 Lakhs have been paid to the fishermen.

(g) and (h) State Government has reported that no complaints regarding connivance of sanctuary employees in smuggling of fish and wild animals has been received. Moreover, there are no lions in Pench Tiger Reserve.

[English]

Construction of Bridges on National Highways

69. SHRI RAMSHEETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for construction of bridges on National Highways (NHs) received by the Union Government from various States during the last three years;

(b) the number of bridges constructed in each State during the said period;

(c) the number of proposals pending with the Union Government for approval as on June 30, 2002; State-wise;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared;

(e) whether the construction work on most of the bridges and NHs is lagging behind the scheduled;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) A statement is giving details is enclosed.

(d) All pending proposals would be considered based on technical soundness and availability of funds during the year 2002-2003.

(e) to (g) Construction work on some of the bridges is delayed due to reasons like delay in land acquisition, change in design due to site conditions, problems in foundations and contractual problems etc. Quarterly review of works, detailed project preparation and extensive sub-soil investigation are being undertaken to expedite the works.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	No. of Proposals received during last three years	No. of Bridges constructed during the last three years.	No. of proposals pending as on 30.06.2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	18	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	2	1	1
4.	Bihar	13	3	8
5.	Chandigarh	1	-	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	12	5	3
7.	Delhi		-	-
8.	Goa		3	-
9.	Gujarat	2	10	1
10.	Haryana	2	1	1
11.	Himachal Pradesh	16	-	1
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
13.	Jharkhand	7	3	1
14.	Karnataka	6	2	3
15.	Kerala	7	2	-
16.	Madhya Pradesh	12	2	
17.	Maharashtra	16	30	3
18.	Manipur	-		1
19.	Meghalaya	9	4	1
20.	Mizoram	1	-	2
21.	Nagaland	-	-	-
22.	Orissa	6	7	1
23.	Pondicherry	-	-	
24.	Punjab	7	-	2
25.	Rajasthan	20	15	2
26.	Sikkim	-	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	16	14	-
28.	Tripura	-	-	-
29.	Uttar Pradesh	5	-	-
30.	Uttaranchal	11	-	-
31.	West Bengal	7	2	4

Setting up of Model ESI Hospital

70. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a model ESI Hospital in each State;

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

(c) the names of the States thus selected in the first phase; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The ESI Corporation has decided in principle to set up one model hospital in each State.

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

(c) and (d) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Pondicherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh have given their consent in principle for converting the existing ESI Hospitals into Model Hospitals.

These Hospitals will be taken over in a phased manner, after finalizing all arrangements for transfer to assets, staff etc.

Statement*Proposed Existing ESI Hospitals Conversion into Model Hospital*

Sl.No.	State	Hospitals proposed by ESIC
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nacharam 200 beds
2.	Assam	Beltola 50 beds
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi 50 beds
4.	Goa	Margao 50 beds
5.	Gujarat	Bapu Nagar 600 beds
6.	Haryana	Gurgaon 100 beds (to be newly constructed)
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Parwanoo 50 beds

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	Indiranagar 300 beds
9.	Kerala	Udyogmandal 155 beds
10.	Orissa	Rourkela 50 beds
11.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry 75 beds
12.	Punjab	Jalandhar 100 beds + 90 beds (new block)
13.	Rajasthan	Jaipur 236 beds
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Sahibabad 100 beds
15.	Bihar	Phulwari Sharif 50 beds
16.	Chandigarh	50 beds

Note: In States of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh where ESIC is already running hospitals cum ODCs directly, the same will be further upgraded to Model Hospitals in consultation with the State Governments.

Permission to EPFO for Investment in Government Securities

71. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has approached the Government to grant permission to allow its investment in Central and State Government Securities;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether return on such investments are lower in comparison to private investments; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the returns affect the functioning of the EPFO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The funds with the EPFO are being invested in accordance with the investment guidelines issued by the Government and the investments are being made in the Central Government Securities/State Government Securities. As per the decision of the Central Board of Trustees (EPF), the investments are not being made in Private Sector bonds/securities keeping in view the aspect of safety of the hard-earned savings of the workers.

*[Translation]***River Cruise**

72. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch river cruise on River Ganga on the lines of River Cruise on Thames in London and Nile in Egypt; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) UP State Tourism Development Corporation has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Vomsi for starting river cruise between Varanasi and Chunar on river Ganga. River Cruises are not taken up directly by the Government. Government will act as a facilitator and catalyst.

*[English]***National Highway Nos. 9 and 13**

73. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways (NHs) 9 and 13, passing through and alongside Solapur district are proposed to be strengthened, upgraded, widened and four-laned;

(b) if so, the details and estimated cost thereof;

(c) whether any of the sectors are to be developed under the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Improvement works other than four-laning are being carried out in a phased manner as per traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

(b) NH-9 has a length of about 340 km in Maharashtra. Improvement of 227 km has already been completed. Following improvement works on NH-9 are proposed to be taken up under current Annual Plan 2002-2003:

Section	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)
Km.115/0 to 118/0 & Km. 138/0 to 144/400 (Length = 9.4 Km.)	173.72
Km.144/400 to 155/0 (Length = 10.6 Km.)	184.35
Km.278/0 to 288/0 (Length = 10.0Km.)	168.80
Km.322/0 to 327/0 and Km.339/0 to 348/720 (Length = 14.72 Km.)	257.51

NH-13 has a length of about 30 km in Maharastra and same has been improved.

(c) and (d) Following three proposals for taking up on BOT basis are under consideration:

- (i) Four laning of Km.14/0 to 40/0 of NH-9.
- (ii) Four laning of Km. 209/580 to 241/0 including Solapur bypass (0/0 to 4/580) of NH-9.
- (iii) Four laning of Km. 2/400 to 13/800 of NH-13.

Beach and Garden Tourism

74. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to promote 'beach tourism' and 'garden tourism' abroad through their tourism offices located in various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have printed and distributed pamphlets and other promotional materials in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (d) Promotion of various tourism products of India including beaches and gardens in the overseas markets is an on going activity. This exercise is undertaken by the India Tourism Offices through advertising in the print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, departmental stores promotions, workshops and seminars, internet advertising, dissemination of information, brochure support, road shows etc.

Licence for Producing and Marketing of Drinks

75. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permit/licence for Coca-Cola (India) or Coke for producing and marketing of ready-to-drink tea, coffee, milk and juice in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Most food processing industries are delicensed and do not require Industrial Licence. Ministry of Food Processing Industries administers Fruit Products Order, 1955, which regulates condition of production of fruit products including fruit juices defined in the Order. The Fruit Products Order does not deal with tea, coffee and milk. MFPI has issued various licences to M/s Coca-Cola (India) under the Fruit Products Order but no licence has been issued for production or marketing of fruit juice in India.

International Flights to USA and UK

76. SHRI AMBAREESHA:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the International Airports in the country from where direct flights are available for UK and USA;

(b) whether the Government propose to operate direct flights from the some other International Airports also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the ongoing discussion in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Direct flights to UK are available from Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai. Flights to USA are operated from Mumbai and Delhi.

(b) to (d) Besides direct flights from Mumbai to UK and USA, Air India has convenient seamless connections over Mumbai to these countries from Ahmedabad, Bangalore,

Chennai, Kochi, Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram. Allowing foreign airlines to operate direct international flights from different airports to UK and USA is an ongoing process and reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand and reciprocal benefits accruing to the Indian carriers.

Job Opportunities in FPI

77. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any annual estimate of the job opportunities created by the Food Processing Industries in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the achievements of Food Processing Industries in generating employment has been satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take to make this industry truly employment-oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) Food Processing Industries are both in the organized and un-organized sectors and the annual estimate of job opportunities created is not Centrally maintained. However, a study was got conducted recently through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). As per the finding of the study total employment in FPI in 2001-02 is estimated at 69.85 lakhs. Further, during the 10th five year plan, as per the study growth of direct employment is expected to be 2.61% per annum if GDP grows at 8% per annum. The indirect employment generation envisaged in this sector is 3.64 times the direct employment.

According to the report of Annual Survey of Industries for 1997-98, employment generation in the Food & Beverages sector is the highest compared to Heavy Industry, Cotton textiles and Paper Products.

Financial Assistance to Karnataka

78. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government for release of Rs.8,667 crore to complete 41 irrigation projects in the State by 2005;

(b) if so, the total financial aid provided to the State Government so far;

(c) the amount earmarked by the Government to the State during 2002-2003; and

(d) the extent to which it has been utilised by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Units of KVIC

79. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) established in Gujarat and West Bengal during the last three years along with the financial assistance provided to them;

(b) the details of progress made with regard to rural industrialization and employment to the rural youths under various schemes in these States;

(c) the details of programmes prepared under the KVIC and facilities/incentives proposed to be provided along with the targets fixed for these States for the current financial year; and

(d) the details of changes proposed to be made in the current schemes along with new proposals to be initiated in these States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYAMUNDA): (a) The number of projects financed under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and financial assistance provided to Gujarat and West Bengal are given as under:

Year	No. of projects		Rs. in lakhs			
	Gujarat	West Bengal	Gujarat		West Bengal	
			Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan
1998-1999	20	1513	2823.52	72.47	5655.30	523.98
1999-2000	169	6230	1598.81	19.38	332.14	14.92
2000-2001	356	781	1167.46	19.71	225.30	101.81

(b) and (c) For the development of KVI sector, the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) throughout the country including Gujarat and West Bengal. Under this scheme, the KVIC provides margin money assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for projects above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women/Physically Handicapped/Ex-Servicemen and Minority Community beneficiary/institution and for hill border and tribal areas, North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs. 25 lakhs it is 30% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the remaining cost

of the project. Under this scheme, the beneficiary's contribution is at least 10% of the project cost. In case of SC/ST and other weaker sections, beneficiary's contribution is 5% of the project cost. This scheme is being implemented through Public Sector banks, Regional Rural Banks etc.

Moreover, a package for the development and promotion of KVI sector, announced on 14.5.2001, is under various stages of implementations. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisan, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc. The target set under REGP for financing projects during current financial year in Gujarat and West Bengal are 928 and 1044, respectively.

(d) No changes are contemplated at present in the current schemes during the current financial year.

Increase in Production of Fodder

80. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central scheme is being implemented for increase in the production of fodder in Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any appraisal of the success of this scheme in these States;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the other measures being taken by the Central and State Governments for increasing the production of fodder in the States especially in the areas deficient in fodder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Central Government implements a scheme "Central Fodder Development Organisation" for the development of feed and fodder in the States. Regional Station for Forage Production and Demonstrations located in Jammu and Gandhinagar (Gujarat), take care of the Feed and Fodder Programme in the States of J&K and Maharashtra respectively. These stations are engaged in multiplication of good quality seeds of newly evolved fodder varieties. They also organize training programmes, field days/farmers fair and conduct fodder demonstrations at the farmer's field showing latest know-how on fodder production adopting new varieties evolved by Universities/ICAR Institutions. Besides, there is also a "Central Minikit Testing Programme on Fodder Crops", under which fodder minikits are provided to the State Governments for onward supply to the farmers free of cost in both the season i.e. Kharif and Rabi.

(c) and (d) The monitoring of the progress is being continuously done by the Government of India.

(e) A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Enhancement of Feed and Fodder Production including Improvement of Common Property Resources" has been proposed for 10th Five Year Plan for implementation in the

country as a whole. The EFC memo of the Scheme is under formulation.

Scheme for Agriculture and Allied Rural Industries

81. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR and other institutions have proposed certain schemes for promoting agriculture and allied rural industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India is far behind in foodgrains production in comparison to other countries; and

(d) if so, the efforts made to improve the competitiveness of India in agriculture and allied sectors?

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

(b) ICAR and SAUs are involved primarily in R&D in agriculture for increasing production of agriculture and horticulture crops, fisheries and animal products through its different Institutions. This is being done through 96 ICAR Institutes/NRCs/PDs/Bureaus, 77 AICRP's, 34 SAUs, 1 CAU and 5 Deemed Universities.

(c) No, Sir. India is not far behind in food production as compared to other countries. As per Agricultural Research Data Book 2001 published by IASRI/ICAR, New Delhi, the ranking of India in production of different commodities is as under:

Item	Rank	Next to
Cereals	Third	China, USA
Wheat	Second	China
Rice	Second	China
Total pulses	First	

(d) Efforts are being made in the ICAR Institutes & SAUs to develop hybrids high yielding and genetically improved varieties of seeds and other planting material, improved breeds of animals and fisheries for higher production, inputs and farm equipment that will lead to development of precision farming to increase further production, productivity with quality in agricultural produce at reduced cost of production.

Efforts are also being made to intensify research on the development of commercially viable technology for achieving higher yield thresholds in various crops/agro-ecologies.

Biotechnology is also being developed and applied to Agriculture to make it more competitive.

[English]

Area of National Highways

82. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the total area of the National Highways in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind the length of National Highways in each of these States. The details are as under:

Name of the State	Length of National Highways (in Km.)
Maharashtra	3626
Uttar Pradesh	4942
Uttaranchal	1075
Bihar	3502
Jharkhand	1413
Orissa	3301
West Bengal	1951

Infrastructure for Hotel Industry

83. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANANATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment made by Hotel Industry in building-up infrastructure in tourism and hospitality sector for providing world class hotel facilities;

(b) whether low capacity utilization of hotels in India is due to lack of co-ordination between the Central and State Governments;

(c) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation; and

(d) the details of Luxury Tax and Sales Tax being levied by various State Governments on hotels, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Hotel and hospitality industry is a private sector activity. For augmenting investment in the tourism sector, foreign direct investment amounting to Rs.48611.47 million has been approved by the Government in Hotel and Tourism Sector from August, 1991 to April, 2002.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The information of various States is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Taxes applicable to hotel guests in various States in India

State	Luxury Tax	Sales Tax
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Room Rates Below Rs. 300/-: Nil Above Rs. 300/-: 5% On: Published Tariff	On F & B: 8%
Assam	Room Rates Rs. 100/- to 200: 10% Rs. 201/- to 300: 15% Rs. 300/- & above: 20% On: Published Tariff On: Room Rates only	Food: 8.8% Beverage: Nil
Bihar	Room Rates All hotels: 7%	Food: 8% + (Turnover Tax: 1%) Turnover Tax on Soft drinks, Juice & Ice creams : 1 %

1	2	3
	On: Actuals On: Room	Liquor: 25%+2%
Chhattisgarh	Room Rates Rs. 150/- to 300/-: 5% Rs.300/- & above: 10% On: Actuals On: Room Only	Food and Mineral water: 9.2% Soft drinks: 10% Beer, Indian liquor: Nil Imported liquor: Nil
Delhi	Room Rates Upto Rs. 500/-: Nil Above Rs.500/- : 12.5% On: Actuals On: room	Food, Juice, Mineral water, Cigars: 8% Preserved food: 12% Hard liquor: 20% Tobacco & Soft drinks: Nil
Goa	Room Rates Upto Rs. 100/-: Nil Tariff below Rs.1500/- : 8% Tariff Rs. 1500/- and above: 8% During June to August 2.5% & 4% respectively On: Actuals On: Room + telephone & health club services, banquets exhibitions	Food: 10.5% Foreign Liquor: 21%
Gujarat	Room Rates Upto Rs. 200/-: Nil Rs.201/- to 400/-: 7.5% Rs. 401/- to 600/-: 10% Rs.600 & above: 15%	Food and beverages: 0-Rs.75 per person Nil Above Rs. 75 per person 12%
Haryana	Nil	Food 12 % Soft drink and liquor Nil
Himachal Pradesh	Room Rates All slabs: 10% On: Actuals On: Rooms	On Food 8 % Soft drink and Bev. Nil
Jammu & Kashmir	Lodging Tax: 4.2%	Food: 8.4% Beer & Liquor: 31.5%
Kerala	Room Rates Non A/c: 7.5% A/c: 15% On: Actuals	Food: 9.2% Imported Liquor: 100% Turnover Tax on local liquor: 10%
Karnataka	Room Rates Upto Rs. 150/-: Nil Rs. 151/- to 250/-: 5% Rs. 251/- to 400/-: 10% Rs. 401/- & above: 12.5% On: Published Tariff On: Room + telephone & laundry On Banquet/Health Club/Conference 20% Rentals.	On Food & Confectionery: 15.75% Soft drinks: 4.2% Indian Liquor: 25% Imported Liquor: 63% Indian wine, cigr. and mineral water: Nil

1	2	3
Maharashtra	Room Rates Upto Rs. 199/-: Nil Rs.200 -1199: 4 % Rs.1200/- & above: 6 % On: Actuals On: Room only	Food and non alcoholic drinks Four star & above: 20% Others: 13% Country liquor, IMFL: 10% Slab rate system for turnover upto Rs. 50 lacs.
Madhya Pradesh	Room Rates All hotels: 10% On: Published tariff On: Room Only	Food and: 9.2% Mineral water Soft drinks: 10% Beer, Indian liquor: Nil Imported liquor: Nil
Orissa	Nil	Food: 8% Soft drinks & Indian liquor: Nil Surcharge on ST: 10%
Punjab	Nil	Food: 8.8% Ice Creams Soft Drinks: 4.4% Beer and IMFL (Hard Liquor): Nil
Rajasthan	Room Rates Upto Rs.1200/-: Nil Above Rs.1200 - 10% from August to March & 5% from April to July. On - Actuals On - Room only On Hall/Lawn Hire 10%	8% + Surcharge on Sales Tax @ 15%
Uttar Pradesh	Room Rates Upto Rs. 1000/-: Nil Rs.1000/- & above: 5% On: Actuals On: Rooms and other Services on which Sales Tax is not Paid	Food: 8% Liquor imported from Out of State: 32.6%
Tamil Nadu	Room Rates Below Rs. 1000/-: 20% Above Rs. 1000/-: 25% On: Published Tariff On: Room only	Food: 8% Foreign Liquor: 70% Liquor form Other States: 50%
West Bengal	All Room Rates Rate: 10% On: Only air-Conditioned rooms On: Actuals On: Room only	Food (A/c): 15% Food (Non A/c): Nil Imported Liquor Imported: 30% Cigarettes, Chocs: 15% Mineral Water: 7% Sales in Shopping Arcade: 12-15% Applicable only on hotels & restaurants with annual turnover of over Rs. 5.00 lacs.

**Reconstruction of NHs in Andhra Pradesh
and Uttaranchal**

84. SHRIA. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of ROAD
TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways passing

through Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal and the latest
position thereof;

(b) the number of National Highways which require
urgent repairs;

(c) whether the Government propose to reconstruct these National Highways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) There are twelve number of National Highways (total length-4038 km) passing through Andhra Pradesh and nine number of National Highways (total length-1075 km) passing through Uttaranchal. All National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within available resources.

(c) and (d) Improvement of National Highways being taken up in phases depending upon traffic needs, inter se priority and availability of funds.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Tourist Centres

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

(a) whether any proposal for modernisation and expansion of tourist centres in the country during the current year or the Tenth Five Year Plan is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open new hotels and Paryatak Yatri Niwas in the States with the assistance of the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides funds to the State Governments/ UT Administrations every year for identified projects for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in consultation with them. During the 10th Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism proposes to identify six tourism circuits in the country on annual basis and develop the facilities in these circuits to international standards. In addition to that the Department of Tourism proposes to identify tourist destinations in States/UTs in consultation with State Governments and take up integrated development at these places.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

National Culture Policy

86. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM and CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the approach paper to the National Culture Policy was presented about ten years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for not finalizing the national policy of culture so far; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The formulation of a National Policy on Culture is under consideration of the Government. As such, no specific details can be given at this stage.

Linking of Highways with National Highways

87. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to link the Highways and National Highways in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of highways which have been linked with National Highways in each State, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the extent to which the inter-linking of the highways has facilitated the movement of heavy traffic in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only and development of all other roads falls within the purview of the respective State Governments. The Ministry, however, allocates funds to State Governments for development of State Roads i.e. State Highways and Major District Roads under Central Road Fund (CRF). Planning and identification of the projects to be undertaken under CRF is dealt by respective State Governments.

*[Translation]***Raising of Grounds Water Level**

88. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister for WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding raising the ground water level by harvesting additional rain water Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such experiment has been done in any other State and proved successful; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to raise the ground water level in other States?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Ground Water Board has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore. Under this scheme, a total number of 174 projects have been identified in 27 States and Union Territories, including in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh. So far, the assessment has been made in the States of Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Karnataka, Punjab, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh, the result of which have been found to be successful.

(d) The Government has proposed a scheme of Recharge to Ground Water with a provision of Rs. 150 crore, during the X Five Year Plan, to raise ground water level in other States.

*[English]***Sterilization of Lions**

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

(a) whether Akhil Bhartiya Lions Sangharash Samiti has expressed horror over sterilization of the lions in forests, National Parks and reserves of the country;

(b) if so, whether the birth rate of lions in India is distressingly low which is only 4.2 per thousand against 9.7 per thousand as in East Africa; and

(c) if so, the population of lions in Assam and other

North Eastern forests as per last three censuses and the steps being taken to promote and preserve the lions?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Animal Welfare activists have been representing from time to time against sterilization of lions. No sterilization of Asiatic Lion has been done in this country. In certain zoos number of hybrid lions has gone beyond carrying capacity. In such cases sterilization of males is done for controlling population within the carrying capacity of the zoo. Lions are found only in Gir forests of Gujrat. No sterilization of lions has ever been done in the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary. The population of lions in Gir National Park and Sanctuary in 1995 and 2000 was 304 and 320 respectively registering a growth of 5.26%. The reason for declined in population growth rate is because of fact that the population of lions has already gone beyond the carrying capacity of the park. The report of more than 70 lions living outside the Gir National Park and Sanctuary are there.

*[Translation]***National Highways in West Bengal and Gujarat**

90. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the National Highways in West Bengal where widening, extension and repair work had been started since February, 1997 till date;

(b) whether the Government propose to start such work on the National Highways passing through Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the time by which the said works are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Seventeen numbers of widening and new construction works on National Highways at a cost of Rs.2171.68 crore have been taken up in the state of West Bengal since 1997-98. Maintenance and repair of National Highways is an ongoing activity and an expenditure of Rs. 243.104 crore has been incurred on maintenance/repairs of National Highways in the State of West Bengal since 1997-98.

(b) to (e) Seven numbers of widening and new

construction works at a cost of Rs.67.50 crore are proposed to be taken up in the current annual plan in the State of Gujarat. The proposals are yet to be sanctioned and it is too early to indicate the date of start. An allocation of Rs.21.57 crore has been made for maintenance and repairs of National Highways in the State of Gujarat for the year 2002-03.

[English]

Support Price for Copra and Rubber

91. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from State Governments recently to declare/increase support price for copra and rubber; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of India received proposals from certain State Governments to announce the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra for 2002 season. The Price Policy for copra for 2002 has since been announced.

As regards rubber, the Government has not received any request in the recent past from State Governments to declare/increase support price for Rubber. However, the Government has fixed and notified Minimum price for trading in the two most commonly used classes of Rubber namely Ribbed Smoked Sheet - 4(RSS-4) and Ribbed Smoked Sheet - 5(RSS-5) at Rs. 32.09/Kg and Rs.30.79/kg. respectively under the provisions of the Rubber Act, 1947.

[Translation]

Unemployed Youth

92. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the educated unemployed youth in various States are not getting employment under new liberalisation policy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of employment being given to the educated unemployed youth in States particularly in Himachal Pradesh under various schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The data

obtained through National Sample Surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) indicate that unemployment rate among the educated youth has come down from 18.5% in 1993-94 to 14.8% in 1999-2000.

Under the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana Scheme implemented since October 1993, it is estimated that during 1993-94 to 2001-2002, employment opportunities for 23.31 lakh persons were created under this programme in the country. Of these, around 25,000 educated unemployed youth belong to Himachal Pradesh.

[English]

Decline in Investment in Irrigation Projects

93. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether public investment in major and medium irrigation projects has declined;

(b) if so, whether most of the projects are surviving on subsidy from the States as revenue recovered hardly commensurate with the water supplied for irrigation;

(c) if so, whether the low user charges have led to the severe financial pressure on the States;

(d) if so, the extent to which the irrigation has been subsidised by the State Governments during the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring about changes in the existing system through corporatisation and tapping the potential of the private sector to mobilise funds for irrigation projects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (f) There has been a consistent increase in the Plan-wise outlays (in absolute terms) for the irrigation sector over the successive plan periods. However, percentage share of public investment in the irrigation sector in relation to the total investment has consistently declined from 23% in the First Plan to about 6% in the Ninth Plan.

As per the Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) adopted by the Government of India, fall in Public investment in irrigation sector over successive plan periods is largely due to the resource constraints with the governments, which in turn meant that subsidies have

"crowded out" public investment. The policy approach to agriculture, particularly in the 1990s, has been to secure increased production through subsidies in inputs such as power, water and fertilizer.

Irrigation subsidy is an indirect subsidy that depends on recovery of working expenses of irrigation projects through water charges from the users. As data on working expenses and recovered water charges take time to arrive from the States, the State-wise details of indirect irrigation subsidy figures estimated in respect of river valley projects for the year 1993-1994 to 1995-96 are given in the enclosed statement.

The National Water Policy, 2002 provides for private sector participating in planning, development and management of water resources. The para 13 of the Policy reads: "Private sector participation should be encouraged in planning, development and management of water resources projects for diverse uses, wherever feasible. Private sector participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users. Depending upon the specific situations, various combinations of private sector participation, in building owning, operating, leasing and transferring of water resources facilities, may be considered.

Statement

State-wise Details of Estimated Indirect Subsidy in River Valley Projects for Irrigation

Sl.No.	Name of State	Estimated indirect irrigation subsidy in Rs. crore		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	428.1	510.0	617.2
2	Bihar	50.9	58.0	52.7
3	Gujarat	484.8	534.7	694.5
4	Haryana	156.6	421.2	206.4
5	Jammu & Kashmir	7.6	6.8	6.2
6	Karnataka	243.6	285.3	327.0
7	Kerala	25.9	31.2	32.0
8	Madhya Pradesh	109.3	97.0	134.6

1	2	3	4	5
9	Maharashtra	674.4	812.3	984.9
10	Orissa	20.5	37.7	34.0
11	Punjab	95.3	74.4	81.7
12	Rajasthan	262.3	276.1	314.2
13	Tamil Nadu	117.9	122.6	145.3
14	Uttar Pradesh	366.9	491.4	507.6
15	West Bengal	66.3	73.5	83.3

[Translation]

Amount Spent by ITDC in Maharashtra

94. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount spent by the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) on its establishments in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) whether India Tourism Development Corporation propose to develop or expand its units in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) During the last three years, ITDC has incurred establishment expenditure of Rs. 13.04 crores on its establishments in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) ITDC's Annual Plan 2002-2003 does not envisage any specific plan provision for setting up any new unit or expanding existing ones.

Employment Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

95. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Employment Exchanges presently working in the country especially in U.P.;

(b) the number of persons registered in each employment exchanges as on date, profession-wise; and

(c) the number out of them belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

*Number of educated, uneducated, SC & ST job
seekers on the Live Register of Employment
Exchanges as on 31.12.1999*

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Number of employment exchanges as on 31.12.1999 in actual number	Number of Live Register (in thousands)					
			Below Matric including illiterate	10+2 Passed	Graduate Including Post Graduate	Total Col. 4 to 6	Scheduled Castes Included in Total	Scheduled Tribes Included in Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(A) States								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	673.1	1994.6	558.1	3225.7	592.8	106.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	13.0	2.3	0.5	15.9	0.3	6.4
3.	Assam	53	444.7	900.7	144.9	1490.3	92.5	162.0
4.	Bihar	68	763.8	2030.2	385.9	3179.9	375.6	227.5
5.	Goa	1	27.0	66.2	13.2	106.5	2.0	-
6.	Gujarat	41	282.3	526.2	127.9	936.4	196.4	93.9
7.	Haryana	95	191.9	511.8	106.8	810.5	144.9	1.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15	321.0	462.7	76.5	860.2	155.6	23.2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	84.5	52.8	25.1	162.5	8.0	2.4
10.	Karnataka	40	625.6	1012.5	253.2	1891.4	266.8	62.4
11.	Kerala	81	800.5	2809.8	273.5	3883.8	420.5	25.4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	73	578.3	1670.4	368.9	2617.6	346.7	280.5
13.	Maharashtra	42	1115.5	2687.1	378.9	4181.5	605.2	140.3
14.	Manipur	11	104.3	228.6	52.7	385.6	5.9	113.5
15.	Meghalaya	10	16.5	16.0	3.6	36.1	0.2	28.7
16.	Mizoram	3	50.3	36.1	7.2	93.6		78.9
17.	Nagaland	7	15.5	16.9	3.1	35.5	0.2	34.9
18.	Orissa	39	233.7	574.3	182.3	990.3	149.2	95.7
19.	Punjab	43	181.0	290.7	78.4	550.1	166.4	0.2
20.	Rajasthan	38	246.2	416.9	176.8	840.0	125.4	64.3
21.	Sikkim*							

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22.	Tamil Nadu	37	1572.5	2280.8	514.4	4367.8	965.9	11.5
23.	Tripura	5	187.6	60.3	37.9	285.8	43.4	38.2
24.	Uttar Pradesh	103	590.2	1542.6	452.9	2585.1	496.4	12.3
25.	West Bengal	75	2335.5	2565.3	700.4	5601.2	605.5	120.1
(B) Union Territories								
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	19.3	6.8	1.7	27.8		0.7
27.	Chandigarh	2	42.7	50.8	12.0	105.4	27.6	0.1
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	2.9	1.0	0.2	4.1	0.2	0.9
29.	Delhi	14	142.1	602.6	210.6	955.3	143.4	25.0
30.	Daman & Diu	2	3.1	2.5	1.1	6.7	0.5	0.5
31.	Lakshadweep	1	8.0	1.6	0.1	9.7		6.4
32.	Pondicherry	1	38.4	77.5	13.1	129.0	10.4	@
Total		955	11711.1	23498.8	5161.5	40371.4	5948.0	1762.4

Note: * No employment exchanges is functioning in this State Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

@ Less than fifty.

- Nil

Profession-wise information is not maintained

Maintenance of Daulatabad Fort

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

(a) whether the Government have any comprehensive programme for the renovation of 'Daultabad Fort' located at Aurangabad;

(b) if so, the budgetary allocation made for the purpose in 2002-2003;

(c) whether any efforts have been made by the Government for the renovation of watermill in "Bibi ka Maqbara" located in Aurangabad City; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Archaeological Survey of India is aware of the conservation requirements of Daultabad fort. An allocation of Rs. 16.50 lakhs has been made for the

conservation & maintenance of the fort for the current year.

(c) and (d) The water mill known as " Panchakki" is not within the "Bibi ka Maqbara Complex" Aurangabad. The water mill is a State protected monument & therefore, does not come within the purview of the Archaeological Survey of India.

[English]

Reservation for Handicaps

97. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for disabled/ physically handicapped persons under his Ministry, during the last three years, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise;

(b) the number of posts out of them lying vacant as on March 31, 2002;

(c) the number of disabled/physically handicapped

persons given employment on such posts, year-wise/post-wise/category-wise during the above period; and

(d) the time by which the remaining posts are likely to be filled up?

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

Privatisation of Airports

98. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airport Act, 1934 provides for 100 per cent control of infrastructure by the Government;

(b) whether leasing out of Airports by the Government to private parties is in violation of the Act;

(c) whether leasing of Airports will compromise the security aspect; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) There is no such Act as the Airport Act 1934, but there is an Act viz. Aircraft Act 1934. This Act provides for the control of the manufacture, possession, use, operation, sale, import and export of aircraft, but the Act does not provide for 100 per cent control of infrastructure by the Government.

(b) to (d) Government on 12-01-2000 has given 'in-principle' approval to take up the task of restructuring of Airports of the Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long term leasing route. In this connection, Ministry has introduced the Airports Authority of India (Amendment) Bill 2000 in Lok Sabha to enable leasing of airports, which is currently pending before the Department Related Standing Committee of Transport and Tourism. Final decision on leasing of airports will be undertaken through a transparent global bidding process subject to approval of requisite legislation by Parliament. Security of the airports will not be compromised at any cost.

[Translation]

Assistance to Loss Incurring Rural Industries

99. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural industries set up by, Khadi Gramodyog Commission in villages of the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh and the number of persons working therein;

(b) the number of registered rural industries/institutions, State-wise;

(c) the present financial condition of these industries and the number of industries out of them earning profit/incurring losses;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated to provide assistance to loss incurring industries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) As on 31st March 2001, a total number of 1,19,714 projects have been financed by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and 11 lakhs jobs have been created under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). 458 projects have been financed and 4176 jobs generated upto 31.03.2001, in Himachal Pradesh under the REGP.

(b) The information in respect of State-wise registered rural industries/institutions is not maintained centrally.

(c) to (e) Information in respect to profit/ loss of individual units is not maintained centrally. However, the Government had announced a package for promotion and development of KVI sector on 14.5.2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc.

Augmentation of Agricultural Export by ASSOCHAM

100. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ASSOCHAM (Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry) of India has given certain suggestions to the Government for augmentation of agricultural export;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

[English]

Population of Tigers

101. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) whether the population of tigers in the country is declining at an alarming rate as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 15, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any latest census have been made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/ National Park-wise/ Zoological Park-wise;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase the population of tigers in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The article dated 15.6.2002 in Hindustan Times mentions that the population of tigers in Rajasthan has been constant since 1997. According to reports received from State Government the population of tigers in Rajasthan is in around 58.

(c) and (d) During 2001-02 all Tiger estimation has been conducted so far reports from only 10 States have been received. The estimated population of tigers in these States is given in the enclosed Statement-I. Estimation of tiger

population national park wise is not available. The number of tigers in zoological parks is given in enclosed statement-II.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The steps taken by Government of India are as follows:

- i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the states under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.
- iii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary (Environment and Forests), Government of India for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- v) In the recent meeting of Indian Board on Wildlife, it was resolved to declare the wildlife and forest as a priority sector and fill up all the vacant posts of the frontline staff immediately and also to provide basic infrastructure necessary for efficient discharge of duties by them.

Statement-I

Population of Tigers in the Country as reported by the States

S. No.	Name of the State	2001-02
1	Tamil Nadu	60
2	Maharashtra	238
3	West Bengal	349
4	Assam	354
5	Rajasthan	58
6	Uttar Pradesh	284
7	Andhra Pradesh	192
8	Mizoram	4
9	Orissa	173
10	Uttaranchal	251

Statement-II*Tigers Status during the year 2001-2002*

Name of Zoo	Location	State	Animal Name	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Alipore Zoological Garden	Calcutta	West Bengal	Tiger Bengal (White)	5
Alipore Zoological Garden	Calcutta	West Bengal	Tiger Bengal	9
Arignar Anna Zoological Park	Vandalur	Tamil Nadu	Tiger Bengal	13
Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden	Guwahati	Assam	Tiger Bengal	3
Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden	Guwahati	Assam	Tiger Bengal (White)	1
Aurangabad Municipal Zoo	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal (White)	8
Aurangabad Municipal Zoo	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	0
Bellary Children Park-cum-Zoo	Bellary	Karnataka	Tiger Bengal	3
Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park	Ranchi	Jharkhand	Tiger Bengal	0
Bikaner Zoo	Bikaner	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal	4
Gandhi Zoological Park	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	4
Indira Gandhi Zoological Park	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	8
Itanagar Zoological Park	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	5
Jaipur Zoo	Jaipur	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal (White)	2
Jaipur Zoo	Jaipur	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal	4
Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park	Bokaro	Jharkhand	Tiger Bengal	6
Jodhpur Zoo	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal	2
Kamla Nehru Prani Sanghralalay Zoo	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	4
Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal	4
Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal (White)	1
Kanan Pandari	Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh	Tiger Bengal	2
Kanpur Zoological Park	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	3
Kota Zoo	Kota	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal	8
Lucknow Prani Udyan	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Tiger Bengal (White)	4
Lucknow Prani Udyan	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	3

1	2	3	4	5
Maharaja Shahaji Chhatrapati Zoo	Kolhapur	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	2
Mahatma Gandhi Rashtriya Udyan Zoo	Solapur	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	2
Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park	Chhatbir	Punjab	Tiger Bengal	27
Maitri Baagh Zoo	Bhilai	Chhattisgarh	Tiger Bengal (White)	10
Maitri Baagh Zoo	Bhilai	Chhattisgarh	Tiger Bengal	8
Mini Zoo, Pipli	Pipli	Haryana	Tiger Bengal	1
Nandankanan Biological Park	Bhubaneswar	Orissa	Tiger Bengal	20
Nandankanan Biological Park	Bhubaneswar	Orissa	Tiger Bengal (White)	14
National Park, Bannerghatta Zoological Garden	Bannerghatta	Karnataka	Tiger Bengal	27
National Zoological Park	Delhi	Delhi	Tiger Bengal (White)	7
National Zoological Park	Delhi	Delhi	Tiger Bengal	4
Nehru Zoological Park	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	14
Nehru Zoological Park	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	Tiger Bengal (White)	6
Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Centre	Wildlife Research Centre	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal (White)	3
Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Centre	Wildlife Research Centre	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	4
Rajkot Municipal Corporation Zoo	Rajkot	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal	5
Rohtak Zoo	Rohtak	Haryana	Tiger Bengal	1
Sakkarbaug Zoo	Junagarh	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal	4
Sakkarbaug Zoo	Junagarh	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal (White)	1
Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	Patna	Bihar	Tiger Bengal (White)	1
Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	Patna	Bihar	Tiger Bengal	2
Sanjay Gandhi National Park	Borivali (East)	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal (White)	6
Sanjay Gandhi National Park	Borivali (East)	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	0
Sayaji Baug Zoo	Vadodara	Gujarat	Tiger Bengal	2
Sepahijala Zoological Park	Sepahijala	Tripura	Tiger Bengal	0
Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens	Mysore	Karnataka	Tiger Bengal (White)	4

1	2	3	4	5
Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens	Mysore	Karnataka	Tiger Bengal	6
Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	6
Tata Steel Zoological Park	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand	Tiger Bengal	4
Thiruvananthapuram Zoo	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	Tiger Bengal	5
Tiger & Lion Safari, Thyayarekoppa	Shimoga	Karnataka	Tiger Bengal	21
Tiger Safari	Ludhiana	Punjab	Tiger Bengal	6
Udaipur Zoo	Udaipur	Rajasthan	Tiger Bengal	4
V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	Tiger Bengal	1
Van Vihar International Park	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	Tiger Bengal (White)	2
Van Vihar International Park	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	Tiger Bengal	9
Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan & Zoo	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Tiger Bengal	2
Grand Total				346

Fire in Shoe Factory at Agra

102. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of workers died in a shoe factory fire at Agra, Uttar Pradesh on May 24, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of workers injured or died in accidents in various factories in other parts of the country during last three years, State-wise and accident-wise;

(d) the measures taken in handling the inflammable material by the clusters of shoe factories and the child labour engaged therein in and around the Taj;

(e) whether these factories also present a grave environmental hazard to the Taj and other historical buildings; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken to prevent child labour exploitation and to rehabilitate workers affected thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, 43 workers have died and 11 were injured due to fire in a shoe factory at Agra. The State Labour Department has made an enquiry which revealed prima-facie negligence of the factory owner who had not taken due care in the storage of inflammable material used in the factory. The fire was caused due to a spark which ignited the inflammable material placed adjacent to the door. The Department has filed four prosecution cases in the Court under the various provisions of the Factories Act, 1948 for the different violations. The State Administration has already paid Rs. 50,000/- to the dependants of every worker who died and Rs. 10,000/- to an injured worker. A notice to the management has also been issued for the payment of a sum of Rs. 84,71,307/- computed as compensation under the Workmen Compensation Act, 1923 for payment to the identified workers.

(c) A statement giving state-wise details of fatal and non-fatal injuries for last three years is enclosed.

(d) to (f) In the Factories Act, 1948 in addition to the general duties of the occupier under Section 7A for ensuring provisions for safety in their factories, specific provisions

have also been made under Chapter IV A for the factories where processes require handling of highly flammable liquids and gases. Handling of highly flammable liquids and gases is included in the First Schedule of then Factories Act. These provisions are applicable to shoe factories also where such materials are used in the process of manufacturing soles of shoes.

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have made three state level surveys during 1997-2000, for identification of child labour working in industries. In the Agra region during

these surveys and regular inspections, 165 child labour in prohibited processes/occupations and 626 child labourers in other employments were identified. Out of the total 791 child labourers so identified, 728 have already been enrolled in the schools. As against the 142 families of 165 child labour identified in the prohibited processes/occupations, 18 families have been given alternate employment, 48 families are already employed, 32 families refused to take employment and 41 families are immigrants. Three families are still to be employed.

Statement

Sl.No.	States/Union Territory Administrations	1999		2000		2001	
		Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2427	127	2969	212	N.A.	N.A.
2.	Assam	126	7	137	5	125	15
3.	Arunachal Pradesh*	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar & Jharkhand	352	12	530	31	262	31
5.	Chhattisgarh	14	30	25	25	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Goa	185	5	159	6	138	4
7.	Gujarat	10440	196	8107	179	N.A.	N.A.
8.	Haryana	337	44	397	42	N.A.	N.A.
9.	Himachal Pradesh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
10.	J&K	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
11.	Karnataka	3799	52	2086	54	N.A.	N.A.
12.	Kerala	1067	23	1020	14	889	16
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4870	66	3051	47	N.A.	N.A.
14.	Maharashtra	14073	152	11831	173	N.A.	N.A.
15.	Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
16.	Meghalaya	1	0	2	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram*	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Orissa	1027	22	996	35	774	20
20.	Punjab	775	4	768	5	N.A.	N.A.
21.	Rajasthan	1098	59	1255	44	N.A.	N.A.
22.	Sikkim*	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Tamil Nadu	2472	38	2039	38	N.A.	N.A.
24.	Tripura	2	1	7	3	8	0
25.	Uttaranchal	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1248	55	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
27.	West Bengal	34652	46	34710	57	39710	50
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	98	7	83	6	N.A.	N.A.
29.	Chandigarh	1	2	12	1	N.A.	N.A.
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	13	1	9	1	N.A.	N.A.
31.	Lakshadweep*	-	-	-	-	-	-
32.	Delhi	64	7	34	5	43	2
33.	Pondicherry	860	4	854	2	531	4

Source: Correspondence with State Chief Inspector of Factories.

* Factories Act, 1948 not introduced/No registered Factories/No major factories

N.A. Not Available.

[Translation]

Allotment of Forest Land on Lease Basis

103. PROF. DHUKHA BHAGAT:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

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

(a) whether the Government have allotted any forest land to the Adivasis on lease for construction of houses;

(b) if so, the area of land allotted on lease in this regard till date, State-wise; and

(c) the number of the people likely to be benefited from this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, any non-forestry use of the forest land requires prior permission of the Central Government. As a matter of policy the forest land is not diverted for non-site specific activities including construction of houses. Therefore, the question of allotment of any forest land to the Adivasis on lease for construction of houses does not arise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Central Manpower Export Promotion Council

104. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council to regularise process of sending Indian workers abroad;

(b) if so, the functions and jurisdiction contemplated for the Council;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to workers with the setting up of the said Council;

(d) whether exploitation by private travel agents is likely to be curbed as a result thereof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The Government has decided to set up the Central Manpower Export Promotion Council by amending the Emigration Act, 1983.

(b) to (e) The details are being finalised.

[English]

Vaccination of Cattle Around National Park

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to vaccinate the cattle living around National Parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such programmes undertaken around each national park during 2001-2002; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to vaccinate such cattle population on a regular basis so that no disease could be transmitted to wild animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Department of Wildlife, Ministry of Environment and Forests undertakes vaccination of cattle living around the National Parks.

As per the information provided by the Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), financial assistance is provided for vaccination of the cattle around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries as per the proposals received from the State Governments. Vaccination of cattle around the Protected Areas (National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries) is an important activity identified in the Management Plans prepared for the

management of these areas. Financial assistance from the Central Government is one among the resources available with the State Governments for this purpose.

The Forest Departments in coordination with the Animal Husbandry Departments in the States undertake vaccination programmes duly taking advantage of the subsidy available for this purpose.

[Translation]

India as Tourist Centre at International Level

106. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any draft policy for promoting India as a most liked tourist centre at International Level;

(b) if so, the features of the said draft;

(c) whether the Government propose to launch a 'Tourist Card' scheme for foreign tourists; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Department of Tourism, Government of India has announced a National Tourism Policy-2002 which, apart from others, attempts to position India as a global brand to take advantage of the burgeoning global travel and trade and the vast untapped potential of India as a destination.

(b) The National Tourism Policy broadly aims at the following:

- Position tourism as a major engine of economic growth;
- Harness the direct and multiplier effects of tourism for employment generation, economic development and providing impetus to rural tourism;
- Focus on domestic tourism as a major driver of tourism growth;
- Acknowledges the critical role of private sector with government working as a pro-active facilitator and catalyst;
- Create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilization, heritage, and

culture in partnership with states, private sector and other agencies;

- Ensure that the tourist to India gets physically invigorated, mentally rejuvenated, culturally enriched, spiritually elevated and "feel India from within".

(c) There is no proposal to launch a "Tourist Card" scheme for foreign tourists.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of Horticulture in Bihar

107. SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI SUBODH ROY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes formulated for development of horticulture in the country, particularly in Bihar;

(b) the present status of the each scheme; and

(c) the further steps being taken by the Government for promotion of horticulture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government of India implemented Horticulture Developmental schemes during 8th and 9th Plan in all the States and Union Territories including Bihar. Since October, 2000, the schemes of Horticulture have been subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on macro management of Agriculture - supplementation/complementation of States' efforts through work plans. The programmes of the scheme are now implemented by the States through work plan. Under this scheme the States have greater flexibility to priorities their needs as per the requirement of the States.

Under the macro management scheme, funds amounting to Rs.261.07 lakhs and Rs.1800 lakhs have been made available to the State during the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively. Development of Horticulture is a priority area in Bihar under this scheme.

Besides, National Horticulture Board is also implementing Horticultural Development programmes including post-harvest management in all the States/UTs. National Horticulture Research and Development Foundation has

also taken up promotion of vegetables including onion and potato in Bihar.

[English]

Travel Trade Mission to Gulf Countries

108. SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Travel Trade Mission headed by the Minister to Gulf Countries;

(b) whether there is possibility to attract more Arab tourists to India as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the details of Marketing and Package plan therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) A delegation led by the Minister for Civil Aviation recently visited Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Muscat and Bahrain for promotion of India's various tourism products. This delegation included Tourism Ministers from some States, Government officials and private sector representatives. Seminars, workshops, interviews and India Evenings were organised as a part of this promotional exercise. A number of new packages have been launched to give further impetus to flow of traffic from this region.

Setting up of Regional Training Centres for Farmers

109. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps envisaged to revitalize the extension services in States;

(b) whether the Government would consider supporting the setting up of regional/district agriculture training centres for farmers and extension works by funding through a special programme for the purpose;

(c) if so, whether the States spend a large amount on salaries of extension personnel but they lack infrastructure which has reduced the effectiveness of the extension services;

(d) if so, the remedial steps the Government proposes to take;

(e) whether a special central scheme is being considered in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Though Agricultural extension is a State subject, the Ministry of Agriculture has taken a number of steps; the details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) A State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute (SAMETI) has been/is being established in each of the 7 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and Jharkhand under Innovations in Technology Dissemination (ITD) component of World Bank aided National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) for improving technical and management competency of senior/middle level functionaries. A system for Information supports to the farmers is also being established. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) at district level. ICAR also is re-mandating 53 Zonal Research Stations (ZRSs) to take up functions of KVKs. The activities of KVKs include technology validation/refinement, front line demonstrations and training of farmers and extension functionaries.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) As indicated in the statement enclosed.

(e) Yes Sir. A Re-structured Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Support to the States' extension efforts and reforms is proposed to be operationalised during Xth Plan (2002-2007).

(f) The proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme envisages revamping the extension service to make it pluralistic, multi-agency system, harnessing the strengths of public sector, private sector, media and information technology. Further, it proposes innovative and decentralized institutional arrangements with greater emphasis on group approach, farmer participatory methodologies, and bottom-up/ strategic planning procedures, making the system more demand-driven and farmer-accountable. These reform measures in agricultural extension are proposed to be operationalised during Xth Plan (2002-07) through "State-Extension-Work-Plan (SEWP)."

Statement

Details of Steps taken with a view to revitalize agricultural extension services

- A Policy Framework for Agricultural Extension has been formulated. It envisages revamping extension service, to make it pluralistic, multi agency system harnessing the strengths of public sector, private sector, media and information

technology. Further it proposes innovative and decentralised institutional arrangements with greater emphasis on group approach, farmer participatory methodologies, bottom-up/strategic planning procedures making the system demand driven and farmer accountable. The reforms in agricultural extension are proposed to be operationalized during Xth Plan through State Extension Work Plans.

- Innovations in Technology Dissemination (ITD) Component of the World Bank funded National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) is being pilot tested in 7 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab wherein new institutional arrangements and innovative approaches are being applied in technology dissemination process.
- A Central Sector Scheme on 'Human Resource Development in Horticulture' is in operation through State Departments of Horticulture/ Agriculture and the selected State Agriculture Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras etc. for conducting training programmes for Departmental staff, Supervisors, Entrepreneurs and Gardeners.
- Animal Husbandry Extension Programme, a centrally sponsored scheme, is being implemented to cater to the needs of promoting Animal Husbandry activities in the States.
- Central Sector Scheme, Women in agriculture and Externally (Denmark, Dutch and UNDP) Aided Farm Women support programmes have been implemented with a view to improve extension services for farm women.
- Farm Information Communication efforts are being augmented by providing support to the States/ State Agricultural Universities for promoting vernacular/electronic media, production of agricultural films and organization of kisan melas/ exhibitions. Farmers exposure visits, interface with the scientists, NGOs and Farmers. Organizations are also being supported.
- The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept is being promoted through 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) located in 22 States and 1 Union Territory for capacity building of extension functionaries and farmers.

Passenger Facilities at Airports

110. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger facilities are yet to be upgraded at various airports in the country by Airports Authority of India;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. All airports and civil enclaves where scheduled flights are operated, have been provided with suitable passenger facilities. These facilities are upgraded on a continuous basis keeping in view the traffic requirements and also availability of space. Whenever new terminals are constructed, all modern passenger facilities including flight display boards, conveyor belts, X-ray baggage equipments, restaurants and snack bars, STD/PCO counters, Travellers Requisites stalls etc. are provided there.

[Translation]

Survey of Rainfall

111. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of rainfall in the agriculture sector and also to do away with dependence of this sector on rain for irrigation;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) India Meteorological Department of Government of India regularly monitors the rainfall in the country which is assessed on the basis of 35 hydro-meteorological sub-divisions. At the time of independence only about 17% of cultivated area of the country was irrigated and the rest of 83% cultivated area depended on the rainfall.

In order to avoid dependence of agriculture on rainfall, an irrigation potential of 99.76 million hectare (provisional) have been created by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan

(1997-2002) and irrigation facilities have been provided to 57.03 million hectare (provisional) by the year 1998-99, which constitute about 40% of the cultivated area. This has been possible through the development of water resources by means of major, medium and minor irrigation projects. As per the latest assessment made by Central Water Commission, with the 1132 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of utilizable water resources in the country, an irrigation potential of 139.9 million hectare can be ultimately created. Storage of 177 BCM has already been created to meet the water requirement during the lean seasons and another 207 BCM storage is likely to be created with the completion of projects which are under construction or in planning stages. In order to accelerate the accrual of benefits from the ongoing irrigation projects, Government of India launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 by providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the States in order to supplement their resource requirement and enable them to complete identified ongoing major & medium irrigation projects in advance stages of construction. Under the programme, Rs. 8480.03 crore of CLA has already been released by the end of March 2002. The programme has been further re-oriented to provide 100% loan assistance to those identified major & medium projects in the advance stage, which can be completed in one year (two working seasons) under the Fast Track Programme with effect from February 2002.

In order to save the agriculture in rainfed areas, from the vagaries of monsoon, Government of India started National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA) in 1990-91 with the objectives of enhancement of agriculture productivity in such areas. An area of 22.16 lakh hectare has been treated upto 2000-01 during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.

[English]

Decline in Foreign Tourists's Arrival

112. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether there has been decline in foreign tourists arrival in India during the last six months;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of External Affairs had issued a directive to its consulates in the countries that they have issued travel advisories against travel to India;

(c) if so, whether the directive has been requested to be withdrawn;

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to infuse confidence amongst the foreign tourists intending to visit India;

(e) whether the Ministry has allocated funds to improve Jain Temple Complexes in the country;

(f) if so, whether various old Jain Temple Complexes of Karnataka have been included in the list; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There has been a decline of 14.9 per cent in foreign tourist arrivals to the country during the year 2002 (January to June) as compared to the same period of the year 2001.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected from the Ministry of External Affairs.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) An amount of Rs.299.39 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Department of Culture to Archaeological Survey of India and Central Public Works Department for the developmental activities in and around various Jain Temples in Karnataka. Various Jain temples/complexes for which assistance has been given include Shri Digamber Jain Sahastrakuta Jinalaya, Arasikeri, Distt. Hassan (Karnataka), Adinath Jain Temple at Raibag (Karnataka), Kunthanatha Basadi (Hampi), Chaturmukha Basadi at Gerusoppa, Bahubali statue at Karkala (Hampi), Jaina Temple, Pattadakal, Chaturmukha Basadi at Gerusoppa and group of temples at Panchkuta Basti (Mandya), Hassan (Sravanbelgola) Hemakuta Hills (Hampi) and Hellebid (Hassan).

Shortfall in Gratuity Fund of ITDC

113. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

(a) whether the Government have detected a

shortfall of Rs.23.00 crores in the gratuity funds of 11 hotels of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the erring officers?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The status of corporate gratuity fund including all Hotels/Duty Free Shops and allied businesses of ITDC is as under:

Particulars	(Rs. in Crores)	
	As on 31.03.2001	As on 31.03.2002 (Provisional)
Gratuity provision	32.28	31.61
Fund Available with LIC	20.23	16.80
Shortfall	12.05	14.81

(c) As per audited account of ITDC for the financial year 2000-2001 the gratuity was provided on actuarial basis as per accounting standard 15 issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountant of India. ITDC was having sufficient fund to pay to the retiring employees in normal course of its activities. The normal payments in the past years had been to the extent of Rs.3 to 4 crores per annum. No enquiry was therefore held.

(d) Does not arise.

Decline in Ground Water Level

114. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether level of ground water in some parts of the country has gone down rendering hand-pumps and tube-wells useless;

(b) if so, the names of affected places State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any action plan to overcome this problem to maintain required level of ground water;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in water level in some localized pockets of 222 districts in the country covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Pondicherry. In some such areas, hand-pumps and tubewells are reported to have become defunct.

(c) to (e) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. Various measures as initiated in the country, by the Central Government to arrest decline in ground water and to harness it are indicated below:

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill in the Year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and 1996 to all the State/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" in the country during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore.
- (v) Formulation of a Central Sector Scheme of Recharge to Ground Water at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore for inclusion in the X Five Year Plan.
- (vi) Organisation of mass awareness and training programmes on water harvesting and recharging of ground water all over the country.

Development of Modern Fair Grounds for Cattle

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

- (a) whether the Government have any plans to develop modern fair grounds for marketing cattle all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the existing schemes to develop cattle markets;
- (d) the funds allocated for the purpose during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and
- (e) the funds spent during 2001-2002 and till date during the current year?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) There is no scheme being implemented by this Department.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise.

Protection of Natural Resources

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

- (a) whether eminent environmentalists have expressed concern over excessive and unscientific exploitation of natural resources in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have recently announced on the World Environment Day some programmes to protect the depleting greens in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the other steps the Government propose to take to protect the fast depleting natural resources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Harvesting of forests is permitted strictly as per the prescription of Working Plan prepared on the principle of sustainable management. Ministry of Environment and Forests through Forest Survey of India.

Dehradun has been assessing the forest cover in the country biennially since 1987. As per the State of Forest Report, 1999 prepared by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, there is an increase in forest cover by 3896 sq. km. compared to the previous assessment.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, various measures have been undertaken for conservation and development of forests. The important ones are:

- i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by States/UTs from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from the Government of India.
- ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.
- iii) Guidelines to all States/UTs to involve village communities in protection and re-generation of degraded forests have been issued.
- iv) Ministry has prepared a National Forestry Action Plan to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered development through improvement in investment for conservation and development of forest resources.
- v) National guidelines for prevention and control of forest fire have been issued to all States/ UTs.

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds

117. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms for appointments on compassionate grounds in his Ministry and departments;

(b) the number of appointments made on compassionate grounds during the last three years; and

(c) the number of dependants of deceased employees not given appointment during the said period?

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

(a) According to instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training compassionate appointments can be made upto a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under Direct Recruitment quota in any Group 'C' or 'D' post.

(b) During the last three years (1999-2001) two appointments were made on compassionate grounds.

(c) Six dependants of deceased employees could not be given appointment on Compassionate grounds during 1999-2001 due to non-availability of vacancies in the quota prescribed for this purpose.

Super Highway Connecting Major Ports

118. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Super Highway connecting ten major ports in the country has been under construction;

(b) if so, the details of each port, the total length of the highway and the project cost; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) It is proposed to develop adequate road connectivity to ten major ports in the country through four-lane National Highway/State Road.

(b) and (c) The details of each port, the total length of the highway, Project cost and likely date of completion are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Port Connectivity Projects

Sl.No.	Port	Stretches for development	Length in Km.	Cost Rs. in crores	Target for completion:
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Paradip	NH-5A (from km 0 to km 74)	74	350	Sept. 2005
2.	Haldia	NH-41 (from Kolaghat on NH-6 to Halidial)	53	220	April 2005
3.	Vishakapatnam	State Road	12	80	Dec. 2004

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Chennai & Ennore	Chennai-Ennore Expressway	6	140	Dec. 2005
5.	Tuticorin	NH-7A (Tuticorin-Tiruvallur section)	51	175	Sept. 2005
6.	Cochin	NH-47 (from Km. 348/382 to Km. 358/300) including 5 major bridges	10	100	June 2005
7.	New Mangalore	NH-17 (Kasaragodu-Mangalore-Udupi section & NH-48 (Mangalore-Bantwal section)	37	140	Sept. 2005
8.	Mormugao	NH-17B (from Port to Verna Junction on NH-17)	18	53	Sept. 2003
9.	JNPT	Package-I NH-4B + NH 4	30	143	April 2004
		Package-II SH-54 + Amra Marg + Panvel Creek bridge	16	130	April 2005
10.	Kandla	NH-8A (Samkhiali-Gandhidham)	56	191	Completed
Total			363	1722	

[Translation]

Grant to Rajasthan for Water Resource Projects

119. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants provided to Rajasthan Government for water resources projects during the last three years and the total amount actually spent thereon;

(b) whether the State Government has submitted any report in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) Amongst the various funding programmes/schemes under the Ministry of Water Resources, the funding in form of grant is provided for Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme. Accordingly, the amount of grants released to Govt. of Rajasthan by Ministry of Water Resources and the actual total expenditure as informed by the State Government is given below:

Year	Amount of grant Released (Rs. in lakhs)	Actual total expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1999-00	2700.00	6943.67
2000-01	1592.19	6295.37
2001-02	2654.66	3977.48 (upto Jan. 2002)

(b) and (c) Physical and Financial progress reports & release proposals Project wise are submitted by the State Government on regular basis against which grants are released.

[English]

Diversion and Encroachments of Forest Land

120. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from Kerala has been received to allow forest land use to Adivasis of the State;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have noticed encroachments of forest land in Wynad district of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the action taken to prevent the encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala submitted a proposal to this Ministry during the year 1999 for diversion of 8000 ha. of private forest vested in Government in various districts of Kerala for distribution to landless tribals. The proposal was not in the prescribed format and therefore the Government of Kerala was requested to submit the proposal in proper format.

This year, a proposal involving diversion of 12196.1829 ha. of forest land in Kasargode, Kannur, Wayanad, Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode districts of Kerala for resettlement of tribals has been received from the Government of Kerala. The proposal was found lacking in compensatory afforestation scheme and, therefore returned to the State Government.

(c) and (d) Government of Kerala have informed that there were attempts of encroachment of forest land in Wayanad district during the months from March to June, 2002. Forest Department was on high vigil and most of the encroachments were summarily evicted. There were attempts to re-encroach the forest area as a protest against non-implementation of resettlement of landless tribals in Kerala. Thereafter settlement was arrived upon and it was agreed to withdraw the strike by the Adivasi people and vacate the forest land encroached by them. Withdrawal of the encroachers has been completed in most of the areas.

Stockholm Convention

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

(a) whether the Stockholm Convention identifies the incineration of waste as a major source of dioxins and furnace and recommends the use of alternate technology;

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether the Government are aware that dioxins and furnace are still manufactured in abundance in our country;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to phase out PVC which is known to be toxic throughout its life cycle, and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As per the Stockholm Convention, waste incinerators have been identified as one of the potential sources of release of dioxins and furans. The Convention has prescribed several measures to reduce or eliminate the unintentional release of these emissions. The Government has formulated a project on enabling activities with United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to be funded by Global Environment Facility (GEF), for assessing the status of Persistent Organic Pollutants in the country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Meats for Wild Animals

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

(a) whether wild animals in various zoos are not being fed properly due to ban on slaughter of certain animals;

(b) if so, the alternative meat being provided to the animals;

(c) the monthly expenditure incurred on non-conventional meat as compared to conventional meat for wild animals;

(d) whether conventional meat is proposed to be imported; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) It has come to the notice of the Central Government that supply of meat for zoo animals in Nandan Kanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar has been disrupted because of the closure of the slaughter house from which they were obtaining cow meat.

(b) Nandan Kanan Zoological Park has been advised to give buffalo meat to the zoo animals. Most of the zoos in the country feed zoo animals on buffalo meat only.

(c) Monthly expenditure (6.6.02 to 5.7.02) on non-conventional meats was approximately Rs 5.08 lakhs as against approximately Rs 1.34 lakhs on conventional meats.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Industrial Units Sponsored by KVIC

123. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units sponsored by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), State-wise;

(b) the number of such units located in tribal areas of the country;

(c) the details of the works undertaken by these units during each of the last three years; and

(d) the number of such co-operative and private sector units to which State KVIC provided assistance during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The State-wise industrial units assisted by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) as on 31.12.2001 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Separate data/information for tribals areas is not maintained centrally.

(d) 1,29,653 units have been assisted by the KVIC under REGP till 31.12.2001.

Statement

*State-wise number of projects as on
31.12.2001 under REGP*

S.No.	States/Union Territories	Projects under REGP
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9487
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	314
3.	Assam	310
4.	Bihar	514
5.	Goa	1654
6.	Gujarat	662
7.	Haryana	3189
8.	Himachal Pradesh	698
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4964
10.	Karnataka	9848
11.	Kerala	4712
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16397
13.	Maharashtra	15094
14.	Manipur	612

1	2	3
15.	Meghalaya	2633
16.	Mizoram	723
17.	Nagaland	4503
18.	Orissa	898
19.	Punjab	6860
20.	Rajasthan	19464
21.	Sikkim	18
22.	Tamil Nadu	3404
23.	Tripura	34
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10999
25.	West Bengal	9982
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	113
27.	Chandigarh	122
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	07
29.	Daman & Diu	0
30.	Delhi	201
31.	Lakshadweep	08
32.	Pondicherry	897
33.	Chhattisgarh	139
34.	Jharkhand	83
35.	Uttaranchal	110
Total		1,29,653

**National Highways in Madhya Pradesh
and Chhattisgarh**

124. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways passing through Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether these Highways have not been developed in accordance with the norms laid down for National Highways;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in future for the development of these roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)

B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The details of National Highways passing through the State of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are given in the enclosed statement-I & II.

(b) to (d) Present priority is for providing improvement of riding quality of National Highways. Strengthening of the weak pavement, widening, improvement of geometrics and reconstruction of major and minor bridges required as per laid down norms of National Highways will be taken up in a phased manner depending upon traffic needs, inter-se priority and the availability of funds.

Statement-I

There are in all 18 National Highways passing through the State of Madhya Pradesh with a total length of 4734.00 kms as per details given below:

S.N.	NH No.	Description	Important Cities in Madhya Pradesh	Length Km.
1	2	3	4	5
1	3	Mumbai-Agra	Gwalior-Shivpuri-Indore-Sendhwa	695.8
2	7	Varanasi-Kanyakumari	Mangawan-Rewa-Katni-Jabalpur-Lakhanadon-Seoni-Khawasa	590.10
3	12	Jabalpur-Jaipur	Jabalpur-Bhopal-Biaora-Rajgarh-Khilchipur	484.57
4	12A	Jabalpur-Chilpi-Simga	Jabalpur-Mandala	189.00
5	25	Lucknow-Shivpuri	Karera-Shivpuri	80.00
6	26	Jhansi-Lakhanadon	Sagar-Deori-Kareli-Lakhanadon	272.64
7	27	Allahabad-Mangawan	Katra-Mangawan-Chakghat	51.65
8	59	Ahmedabad-Indore	Jhabua-Rajgarh-Dohad-Dhar-Indore	168.80
9	59A	Indore-Betul	Indore-Chapra-Kannod-Khatagaon-Harda-Muafi-Sodalpur-Chicholi-Kheri-Betul	277.20
10	69	Nagpur-Obaidullaganj	Chicholi-Multai-Betul-Shahpur-Kesia-Itarsi-Hoshangabad-Budhni-Obaidullaganj	255.30
11	75	Gwalior-Rewa	Gwalior-Datia-Alipura-Nowgong-Chhatrapur-Panna-Nagod-Satna-Rewa	308.80
12	75 Extn.	Rewa-Ranchi	Rewa-Churhat-Sidhi-Jiawan-Sohsr-Bargwa-Waidon-Mehrooli	211
13	76	Pindwara-Allahabad	Shivpuri	41.40
14	78	Katni-Gumla	Katni-Shahdol-Gumla	233.6
15	79	Ajmer-labod junction	Nayagaon-Neemuch-Mandsaur-Jaora-Rattlam-Badnawar	240.00
16	86	Kanpur-Sagar	Chhatarapur-Banda-Sagar	185.60

1	2	3	4	5
17	86 Extn.	Sagar-Dewas	Sagar-Rahatgarh-Gyaraspur-Vidisa-Bhopal-Raisen-Dewas	340.00
18	92	Gwalior-Bhongaon	Gwalior-Mahgawan-Phup Kalan	108.00
Total				4734.01

Statement-II

State: Chhattisgarh

There are in all 9 National Highways passing through the State of Chhattisgarh with a total length of 1827.3 km as per details given below:

Sl.No.	NH No.	Description	Important Cities in Chhattisgarh	Length Km.
1.	6	Hajira-Calcutta	Rajnandgaon-Durg-Bhilai-Raipur-Pithara-Suraipali	318.40
2.	12A	Jabalpur-Simga	Chilpi-Kawardha-Bemetara-Simga	126.60
3.	16	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur	Bhopalpatnam-Bijapur-Jagdalpur	217.00
4.	43	Raipur-Vizianagaram	Raipur-Dhamtari-Kanpur-Kandagaon-Jagdalpur-Kotpad	313.60
5.	78	Katni-Gumla	Manendragarh-Bovipurthapur-Surajpur-Ambikapur-Puthalgaon-Jashpurnagar	350.30
6.	200	Raipur-Chandiknol	Raipur-Simga-Bilaspur-Tanjgir-Supta-Raigarh	313.00
7.	202	Hyderabad-Bhopalpatnam	Bhopalpatnam	36.00
8.	216	Raigarh-Saraipali	Raigarh-Sarangarh-Saraipali	86.80
9.	217	Raipur-Gopalpur	Ghorari-Mahasummund-Suarmar	65.60
Total				1827.30

[English]

Production and Expansion of Coir

125. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by the Government to increase the production and expansion of Coir alongwith the achievements to be made in this regard during the Tenth Plan;

(b) whether Coir Board is taking any steps in that regard in every State where Coir is available in plenty; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYAMUNDA): (a) In order to increase the production and expansion of coir in the country, the Coir Board acts as

a promoter and facilitator. It undertakes various promotional programmes like Research & Development, Training & Extension, Technology upgradation, Modernisation, Domestic & Export Market promotion and extends financial assistance for setting up new coir industrial units in the non-traditional areas.

The Xth Five Year Plan has just started with effect from 1.4.2002.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The efforts made by the Coir Board, inter alia, include manpower development programmes, entrepreneurship development programmes, quality improvement programmes, financial assistance for setting up new coir industrial units, Market Development Assistance, Market promotion and demonstration of new applications of coir products etc.

[Translation]

**World Bank Loan for Completion of
National Highway Project**

126. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank loan has been taken to complete the National Highway Project; and

(b) if so, the amount of loan provided by the World Bank for the purpose to various States particularly Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total amount of loan provided by World Bank is US \$ 1611 million. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of World Bank Loans

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Loan amount	Loan opening/ closing	States Covered
1.	First National Highway Project	US \$ 200.0 Million	1986/1993	Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal
2.	Second National Highway Project	US \$ 306.0 Million	1992/2001	Punjab, Haryana, Orissa, West Bengal, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh
3.	Third National Highway Project	US \$ 516.0 Million	2000/2006	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand
4.	Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project (GTRIP)	US \$ 589.0 Million	2001/2006	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand

[English]

Rate of Interest on EPF

127. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a communication from the Ministry of Finance to reduce the interest rate on EPF from 9.5% to 9%;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Employees Provident Fund's Central Board of Trustees has agreed to the said proposal;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether this decision is likely to be reviewed in the interest of lakhs of workers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its meeting held on 22nd Jan., 2002 considered the issue of declaration of rate of interest in respect of EPF subscribers for the year 2002-03 and has recommended continuation of 9.5% rate of interest pending further consideration of the matter. The CBT (EPF) in its special meeting held on 12th April, 2002 has again desired

that the rate of interest of 9.5% recommended on interim basis in the last meeting should continue. The recommendation of the CBT (EPF) is under consideration of the Government.

International Flights by Foreign Airlines

128. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of foreign airlines have evinced interest to start international flights from India;

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

(c) whether the Government have also requested reciprocal arrangements with these countries so that Indian Airlines and Air India could operate flights to these countries;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSONAIK): (a) to (e) Air Seychelles of Seychelles, China Airlines of Taiwan, China Eastern Airlines of China, Ariana Afghan Airlines of Afghanistan, Mahan Air of Iran, Cyprus Airways of Cyprus and Cross Air (now Swiss International Airlines) of Switzerland have commenced/evinced interest to start international flights from India in recent past. Reciprocal traffic rights are also available to the Indian carriers for operating to these countries.

[Translation]

Promotion of Tourism in Sikkim

129. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in foreign/ domestic tourists in India particularly in Sikkim during the last one year;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to develop tourist places to promote domestic/ international tourism in the country particularly in Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) There has been a positive growth of 6.2% in the visits of domestic tourists in the country during the year 2001 as compared to the year 2000. However, a negative growth of 8% was registered in the visits of foreign tourists in the country during the year 2001 as compared to the year 2000. The number of visits of domestic and foreign tourists in the State of Sikkim during the year 2000 and 2001 are as follows

Year	Number of visits	
	Domestic tourists	Foreign tourists
2000	143105	10409
2001	203306	31028

The decline of visits of foreign tourists during the year 2001 is due to terrorist attack on World Trade Centre, war in Afghanistan and negative perception about the security in the country.

(c) Development of tourism infrastructure including development of tourist places is a continuous process. The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance to all the State Governments/UTs for the tourism related projects. Various steps taken to develop tourism in the country include:

- Positioning tourism as a national priority.
- Enhancing India's competitiveness as a tourist destination.
- Improving and expanding product development.
- Creation of world-class infrastructure.
- Strategies for Effective marketing.

During the year 2001-2002, 5 projects for an amount of Rs.108.93 lakh have been sanctioned for the development of tourism in the State of Sikkim.

Works Undertaken by Aurangabad Forest Department

130. KUNWARAKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the works undertaken by the

Department of Forest in regard to world famous Ajanta and Ellora caves in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra during the last five years and the total expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the total mandays work created therefrom and the site-wise details thereof;

(c) the programme-wise details of the total expenditure incurred for the development of forests during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 by the Aurangabad Forest Department; and

(d) the scheme-wise details of the expenditure incurred by the Aurangabad Forest Department and mandays work done during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) During the last five years an amount of Rs.160.80 lakh have been incurred for afforestation works in Ajanta and Ellora caves in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra. Year-wise details of expenditure and mandays generated are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of afforestation works undertaken in Ajanta and Ellora Caves in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Mandays Generated (in lakhs)
1997-98	30.33	0.26
1998-99	Nil	Nil
1999-2000	66.46	1.06
2000-01	21.99	0.34
2001-02	42.02	0.61
Total	160.80	2.57

[English]

Funds for National Watershed Development Project

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

(a) the details of funds released by the Government under National Watershed Development Project for the rainfed areas during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise, especially for Rajasthan;

(b) whether all the States have properly utilised the Central Assistance and the progress achieved has been commensurate with the amount incurred;

(c) if not, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government contemplate to review the NWSDP scheme and formulate comprehensive guidelines to be followed/implemented by all the States in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA) was being implemented as an independent Centrally Sponsored Scheme till November, 2000, after which it has been subsumed under macro-management mode of operation. Statement showing the details of funds released for the years 1998-99 to 2000-01 before subsuming the scheme is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The NWDPA has been radically restructured for implementation during IX Plan in conformity with the Common Approach for Watershed Development jointly adopted by the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development. To bring about uniformity in programmes being implemented by various agencies, the WARASA - Jan Sahbhagita guidelines have been brought out by this Ministry. These guidelines inter-alia have main focus on people's participation and allow flexibility in choice of technology to encourage location specific and low cost indigenous technologies.

Statement

Funds released from 1998-99 to 2000-01 under NWDPA during IX Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	900.000	900.000	300.000
2	Arunachal Pradesh	31.000	17.000	10.000
3	Assam	125.000	0.000	10.000

1	2	3	4	5
4	Bihar	125.000	0.000	7.000
5	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000	474.840
6	Goa	8.000	3.000	2.000
7	Gujarat	2000.000	2000.000	1000.000
8	Haryana	220.000	35.000	25.000
9	Himachal Pradesh	175.000	200.000	245.000
10	Jammu & Kashmir	38.000	15.000	2.000
11	Jharkhand	0.000	0.000	0.000
12	Karnataka	2000.000	1700.000	1100.000
13	Kerala	1434.000	350.000	175.000
14	Madhya Pradesh	1609.000	2650.000	1230.160
15	Maharashtra	3060.000	800.000	1290.000
16	Manipur	200.000	300.000	30.000
17	Meghalaya	200.000	250.000	30.000
18	Mizoram	700.000	466.000	100.000
19	Nagaland	500.000	500.000	80.000
20	Orissa	550.000	200.000	205.000
21	Punjab	45.000	8.000	16.000
22	Rajasthan	4000.000	3700.000	2310.000
23	Sikkim	150.000	200.000	40.000
24	Tamil Nadu	1650.000	1700.000	1160.000
25	Tripura	300.000	350.000	80.000
26	Uttar Pradesh	1750.000	1512.000	1400.000
27	Uttaranchal	0.000	0.000	0.000
28	West Bengal	600.000	750.000	124.000
29	Dadra&Nagar Haveli	1.000	0.000	2.000
30	A & N Islands	65.000	34.000	23.000
Total		22436.000	18640.000	11471.000

*[Translation]***Funds to Maharashtra**

132. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested for Rs. 500 crore from the Union Government to resolve the water crisis in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Memorandum to the Ministry of Agriculture seeking assistance of Rs. 500 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought conditions in the State. The same is under different stages of process in the Ministry of Agriculture.

Relief to Farmers

133. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated by the Government to provide relief to the farmers against the loss suffered by them due to excessive rains, hailstorm, drought and pests etc., State-wise;

(b) the extent of loss suffered by the farmers due to the above reasons during the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have introduced cattle insurance scheme to compensate the farmers for the loss occurred; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In accordance with the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, relief assistance for natural calamities is provided from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and further assistance, for natural calamities of severe nature is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

(b) In the current financial year, the State

Governments of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have so far reported that parts of the State have been affected by heavy rains and floods, during South-west monsoon, resulting in loss of 199 human lives and more than 1100 cattle, besides causing damage to cropped area in 0.13 lakh ha.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. According to information supplied by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, a Central Sector Cattle Insurance Scheme was launched in the year 2000 on a pilot basis in eight selected districts of the country. The Planning Commission has not approved the scheme for continuation in the Tenth Plan.

[English]

Selling of Trees Situated along Highways

134. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that thousands of seasoned trees off Delhi-Sonepet Highway are going to be sold off by the Haryana Government; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps the Union Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Haryana Forest Department has intimated that the trees on the Delhi-Sonepet Highway have been felled in the six-laning work of National Highway no.1 by the National Highway Authority of India with necessary approval. The National Highway Authority of India has deposited necessary funds with the Government of Haryana for carrying out compensatory afforestation.

[Translation]

Development of Tourists Places

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to attract tourists to the ancient pilgrim sites and historical tourist places in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on the development of these places during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) With a view to increase tourist

traffic, promotion of identified travel circuits covering places of pilgrimage, historical and cultural significance forms component of the scheme for integrated development. The activities would include preparation of Master Plans in association with the State Governments, improvement in accessibility, decongestion, improvement in environment around the destination, illumination of the destination, lighting of the approaches etc. In addition to infrastructural development the sites are promoted, through field offices in India and abroad, to attract tourists.

(c) During the year 2002-2003, an allocation of Rs. 41.50 crores has been made for this purpose.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism in U.P.

136. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of monuments/sites of historical importance in the country including Uttar Pradesh which attract a large number of tourists; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the promotion of domestic/international tourism in the States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) A large number of monuments/sites of historical importance in the country including Taj Mahal and Red Fort of Agra, Buddhist sites of Sarnath and Kashinagar, ancient ghats of Varanasi etc. in Uttar Pradesh attract both domestic and foreign tourists.

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has formulated the following short term and long term plans to attract the foreign as well as domestic tourists:

- 1) Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity.
- 2) Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination.
- 3) Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements.
- 4) Creation of world class infrastructure.
- 5) Developing sustained and effective market plans and programmes.
- 6) Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism.

- 7) Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

[Translation]

Extinction of Trees Species in the North East

137. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that important species of trees are on the verge of extinction in Arunachal and Nagaland;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to save and protect the said species?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata has listed the endangered and threatened plant species of the country in the RED DATA BOOK Volume 1-3, published by them. Several endangered tree species of Arunachal and Nagaland are included in the list.

(c) Steps have been taken by the Government of India for in-situ and ex-situ conservation of rare, endangered and threatened plants. Multiplication and introduction of these species are going on in the experimental gardens of different institutes, universities and the Botanical Survey of India. Government of India has a project on Assistance to

Botanic Gardens for this purpose only. Central assistance will also be provided to all the States under the 'Integrated Forest Protection Scheme' during the tenth five year plan for strengthening of forestry infrastructure for forest protection.

[English]

Impact on Pollution in Delhi due to Ban on Diesel Vehicles

138. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding change in air/noise pollution in Delhi after ban on plying of diesel run public transport buses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the agency through which the impact of the ban of diesel vehicles on air pollution has been assessed along with its findings on the issue; and

(d) the number of buses fined for running on diesel and the amount thus collected so far ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The ambient air quality monitoring carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) at traffic intersection of Bahadurshah Jaffar Marg, Delhi before and after the Supreme Court imposed restriction on 5.4.2002 on plying of diesel run public transport buses indicated the following levels of air pollution:

S.No.	Period	Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM)	Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)
Quarterly average data in micrograms per cubic meter				
1.	January to March, 2002	315	78	10
2.	April to June, 2002	265	73	9

No assessment has been made regarding change in noise pollution in Delhi after ban on plying of diesel run public transport buses.

(d) According to the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, in compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court dated 5th April, 2002, diesel driven buses are permitted to ply on day to day basis only after depositing the requisite costs. Since the cost is being realised from the diesel buses on day to day basis, the

number of such buses keep on varying from day to day, Rs.17,03,50,500/- (Rupees Seventeen crore three lakh fifty thousand and five hundred only) has been realised as cost from diesel buses.

New Agriculture Policy

139. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have unveiled a new Agriculture Policy on June 10, 2002; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Forests in Delhi

140. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "What's a city without a forest or two?" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated July 1, 2002;

(b) if so, the quantum of money released to various departments of Delhi to develop forests during each of the last five years and the manner in which this money has been utilized, Department-wise; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to remove all non-forest activities from the forest areas in Delhi and the time by which these are likely to be removed/cleared to pave way for the development of forest?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per the State of Forest Report, 2000, the forest cover of Delhi has increased from 26 sq km to 88 sq km. Various agencies like Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Council, Central Public Works Department, Public Works Department and other Development Departments are engaged in increasing the tree cover in Delhi. Expenditure incurred by the Forest Department, Government of NCT of Delhi under Plan and Non-Plan during the last 5 years is as follows:

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1997-98	963.24 lakhs
1998-99	878.21 lakhs
1999-2000	1137.54 lakhs
2000-2001	1281.17 lakhs
2001-2002	1543.08 lakhs

The amount has been spent on plantation on forest and non-forest areas in the NCT of Delhi, establishment, publicity measures and wildlife sanctuary etc. Other departments like CPWD, NDMC, PWD, MCD, DDA have also taken up plantation activities in their respective areas.

(c) No non forest activities are permitted in forest areas except by prior permission under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (FCA). In case encroachments and or violation of FCA are observed, measures under the relevant statutory provision are taken to remove these.

Development of Jog Falls in Karnataka

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

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has started developing Jog falls as an attractive tourist spot;

(b) if so, the amount the Government propose to provide to the State Government for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/ UT Administrations. However, the Department of Tourism Government of India provides funds for the identified projects in consultation with them every year. The following projects have been sanctioned by the Department of Tourism for the development of Jog Falls:

- (1) Expansion of additional tourist facilities at Jog for Rs. 24.80 lakhs in 1998-99.
- (2) Provision of public conveniences at Midway to Jog during 1999-2000 for Rs.8.00 lakhs.
- (3) Feasibility study report of Jog Falls for Rs.10.00 lakhs during 1999-2000.

(c) Implementation and execution of the project is the responsibility of the State Government of Karnataka.

[Translation]

National Highways in Maharashtra

142. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways in Maharashtra on which work of widening, extension and maintenance has

been started from February 1997 till date alongwith the time by which the similar work on other National Highways passing through Maharashtra is likely to be started; and

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred and the amount actually spent thereon as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) There are in total 14 number of National Highways in Maharashtra. Works of widening, extension and maintenance are undertaken in a phased manner for all National Highways as per traffic needs, inter-se priority and availability of funds. The names of 14 National Highways passing through Maharashtra are as under:

1	NH No.3	Mumbai-Agra
2	NH No.4	Thane (Mumbai)-Chennai
3	NH No.4B	Palaspe-JNPT
4	NH No.6	Surat-Kolkata

5	NHNo.7	Varanasi-Kanyakumari
6	NH No.8	Delhi-Mumbai
7	NH No.9	Pune-Hyderabad
8	NHNo.13	Solapur-Mangalore
9	NHNo.16	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur
10	NH No.17	Panvel-Cochin
11	NH No.50	Nashik-Pune
12	NH No.69	Nagpur-Obedullaganj
13	NH No.204	Kolhapur-Ratnagiri
14	NH No.211	Dhule-Solapur

(b) Allocation and expenditure for development and maintenance of National Highways in Maharashtra are as under:

Year	Development		Maintenance	
	Allocation (Rs. in crs.)	Expenditure (Rs. in crs.)	Allocation (Rs. in crs.)	Expenditure (Rs. in crs.)
1997-98	80.62	80.62	51.58	57.57
1998-99	113.83	116.59	49.58	49.58
1999-2000	217.98	204.19	46.55	47.69
2000-2001	214.66	198.61	40.65	40.65
2001-2002	173.26	172.01	52.01	52.00

Setting up of New Industries in Rajasthan

143. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by the Union Government to encourage rural industries and establish new industries in Rajasthan during the last four years since April 1, 1998 alongwith the results achieved therefrom;

(b) whether any economic assistance, loan and subsidy are being provided by the Union Government and Khadi and Village Industries Commission for industrial development of rural areas;

(c) if so, the details indicating the number of beneficiaries thereof;

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted any scheme to the Union Government and Khadi and village Industries Commission to provide strong economic base to rural industries and for the establishment of new industrial units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (c) To encourage rural

industries and establish new industries in rural areas, the Government through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) throughout the country including the State of Rajasthan. Under the scheme, the KVIC provides margin money assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs. For projects above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women etc. and for hill border and tribal areas, North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs. For project costs greater than Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, it is 30% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% of the remaining cost of the project. Under the REGP, the beneficiary's contribution is 10% of the project cost. In case of SC/ST and other weaker sections, beneficiary's contribution is 5% of the project cost. This scheme is being implemented through Public Sector banks, Regional Rural Banks etc. A statement showing the projects financed and jobs created as on 31.03.2001, under this scheme in the country including Rajasthan is enclosed.

Moreover, for the development and promotion of KVI sector, the Government has announced a package on 14.5.2001. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover the Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc. This package is under various phases of implementation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise projects financed and jobs created as on 31.03.2001 under REGP

S.No.	States/Union Territories	No. of projects	Persons in lakhs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8933	81985
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	310	2747
3.	Assam	205	1865
4.	Bihar	417	3736

1	2	3	4
5.	Goa	1446	13188
6.	Gujarat	596	5385
7.	Haryana	2993	27475
8.	Himachal Pradesh	458	4176
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4964	45498
10.	Karnataka	8937	81985
11.	Kerala	4141	37915
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15666	144249
13.	Maharashtra	14165	130486
14.	Manipur	612	5604
15.	Meghalaya	2562	23518
16.	Mizoram	723	6594
17.	Nagaland	4500	41212
18.	Orissa	777	7033
19.	Punjab	6225	57038
20.	Rajasthan	17454	160124
21.	Sikkim	18	219
22.	Tamil Nadu	2886	37374
23.	Tripura	21	220
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9809	89681
25.	West Bengal	8305	77160
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	112	989
27.	Chandigarh	99	879
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	07	68
29.	Delhi	172	1538
30.	Pondicherry	893	8132
31.	Chhattisgarh	79	659
32.	Jharkhand	06	56
33.	Uttaranchal	44	330
Total		119714	1099118

*[English]***Conversion of National Library**

144. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:

SHRI S.P. LEPCHA:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the National Library, Kolkata into a Autonomous institution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Library worked without a Librarian from 1995-2001;

(d) whether the Director of the library was appointed either on part-time basis or ad-hoc basis during the last few years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The National Library Act, 1976 provides for giving autonomous status to the National Library, Kolkata. No decision has been taken so far regarding enforcement of the Act.

(c) Yes Sir. A regular Principal Library and Information Officer is in place since July, 2001.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) The person appointed as Director, National Library in 1998 left the organization abruptly within 6 months of his joining. The post has since been filled on ad hoc basis. Efforts made to fill the vacancy on regular basis through UPSC have not been successful so far.

Fire in Forests

145. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated forest area affected by annual fires in India;

(b) whether frequent fires occur in Uttaranchal;

(c) if so, the name of the areas affected by fires in Uttaranchal during the last two years and thereafter;

(d) whether the causes of forest fires, their impact and the policy issues relating to Prevention and Management of Forest Fires in our country have been well researched and documented by the department;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) It is estimated that more than 3 million hectares of forest area is affected annually by forest fires.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Forest fires occur frequently in the forest areas of the country during the fire season including Uttaranchal. The hilly areas of Uttaranchal particularly the coniferous forests of chir pine are prone to repeated forest fires due to human interference. According to the Uttaranchal Forest Statistics 2001, published by the Uttaranchal Forest Department, it is estimated that during the last two years 13.76 sq.km forest area was affected by forest fire.

(d) to (f) Yes Sir. The forest fire studies are undertaken by the various research institutes and forest department research wings. Based on the experience gained through them, the Government of India has prepared a National Master Plan for prevention and control of forest fires, which incorporates the causes and impacts of forest fires and methods for their prevention and control. National Forest Fire Guidelines were also issued to all the States by the Government of India in June 2000 for prevention and control of forest fires. An 'Integrated Forest Protection Scheme' with a strong component on forest fire prevention and control will be implemented during the 10th five year plan.

Construction of Inter-City Expressways

146. SHRI Y. V. RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct 2000 kms Inter-City Expressways in the country;

(b) if so, the details of each such proposal under consideration;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.))

B.C. KHANDURI): (a) At present there is no proposal to construct inter-city expressways in the country.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Submergence of Telli Wildlife Sanctuary Area

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

(a) whether any part of the Telli Wildlife Sanctuary is likely to be submerged with the implementation of the Subansiri Power Project;

(b) if so, the extent and percentage of the Sanctuary area likely to be submerged;

(c) the manner in which the diversion of the river under the project is likely to disturb the ecology of the reserve area: and

(d) the steps taken by the government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With the implementation of the Subansiri Power Project 42 hectare area of the Talle Wildlife Sanctuary is likely to be submerged which is 0.1% of the total area of the Sanctuary.

(c) and (d) Submergence area is on the fringe of the Sanctuary. River course is not affected by the project. Ecological Impact Assessment of the project is mandatory condition for approval of such projects.

Establishment of Wildlife Crime Intelligence Cell

148. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established Wildlife Crime Intelligence Cell;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) A Wildlife Crime Cell under the charge of a Joint Director in the Ministry of Environment & Forests has been established by the Government. The Wildlife Crime Cell is responsible for intelligence gathering on wildlife, poaching and illegal trade from various Non Governmental Organisations in the field of wildlife conservation and various enforcement agencies and intelligence

organizations of Government of India and take up with the most appropriate agency for enforcement action in consultation with Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife).

(c) Does not arise.

Promotion of Tourism by IA

149. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Indian Airlines to meet competition from the private airlines in the matter of synergising tourism promotion efforts;

(b) whether any memorandum of understanding has also been signed with the Government of Maharashtra in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the places of tourists interest in the State have been identified for providing new links, additional flights and tourism promotion programmes;

(d) whether Nagpur has been identified for tour packages providing additional flights etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) Indian Airlines has taken a number of sales and marketing initiatives for promotion of tourism such as Special Fares in USD for foreign tourists, Special Scheme on INR fares both for Indian nationals and foreigners residing in India, APEX Fares - an Advance Purchase Scheme on select domestic sectors etc.

(b) to (e) Indian Airlines has signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation. Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding, Indian Airlines and Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation are developing details of packages including ground arrangements for important destinations in Maharashtra where Indian Airlines flights operate namely Nagpur, Pune, Aurangabad, Mumbai and also covering satellite towns.

[Translation]

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

150. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers of Uttar Pradesh

benefited from the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) till date, district-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to make this scheme more popular in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The State of Uttar Pradesh implemented National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) from Kharif 2000 season onward. A statement showing District-wise details of farmers benefited in Uttar Pradesh is enclosed.

(b) The following steps were taken to make the scheme popular.

- At the time of introduction of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), National and Regional level Seminars/workshops were organized.
- Adequate budget provision was made for the publicity of the scheme.
- The Implementing Agency (IA) used widely the electronic and other Media to make NAIS popular among the farmers.
- Pamphlets in vernacular languages were printed for the information of the farmers.

Statement

No. of Farmers Benefited in each Season

District	Kharif 2000	Rabi 2000	Kharif 2001*
1	2	3	4
1. Saharanpur	500	110	321
2. Muzaffarnagar	1252		
3. Meerut	3065		
4. Baghpat		14	
5. Buland Shahar	2538	4732	716
6. Ghaziabad	13	631	
7. G.B. Nagar	441	571	
8. Aligarh			538
9. Hathras			568

1	2	3	4
10. Mathura	5466		888
11. Ferozabad	97	3278	
12. Mainpuri	298		
13. Etah	468	826	2736
14. Bareilly	5330	97	
15. Badaun	616	4	123
16. Shahjahanpur	5059		4817
17. Peelibhit	754	14	
18. Bijnaur	748	734	
19. Muradabad	5961	35	2866
20. Jyotibaphule Nagar	1445		
21. Rampur		169	
22. Farrukhabad			13
23. Kannauj	404		
24. Etawah	2309	1479	3372
25. Auraiya	5474		
26. Kanpur Nagar	33	44	13
27. Kanpur Dehat		100	417
28. Fatehpur		698	144
29. Allahabad	1219	2402	1052
30. Kaushambi		208	
31. Pratapgarh	4684	1624	361
32. Banda	3610	1614	125
33. Chitrakoot	855	2116	446
34. Varanasi	59	3548	
35. Chandouli	2938	2216	1
36. Ghazipur	9644		877
37. Jaunpur			1842

1	2	3	4
38. Mirjapur	553	1016	1397
39. Sonebhadar	308		
40. Sant Rabidas Nagar	4	987	
41. Azamgarh	4212	8934	391
42. Mau		1203	
43. Balia	1970	2369	
44. Gorakhpur	691	1103	1452
45. Maharajganj	1		193
46. Deoria			191
47. Kushinagar		2	127
48. Basti	602	3418	
49. Siddharthanagar	635	855	
50. Sant Kabir Nagar		5440	246
51. Lucknow	1568		
52. Unnao	6185	632	
53. Rai Bareilly	1587	1060	44
54. Seetapur	16692	52	87
55. Hardoi	1436	2455	222
56. Kheri			
57. Faizabad		377	
58. Ambedkarnagar		171	16
59. Sultanpur	1607	3020	221
60. Barabanki	60	620	657
61. Gonda			
62. Balrampur			
63. Bahraich	582	585	
64. Sravasti		1490	
65. Agra		4069	

1	2	3	4
66. Jhansi		410	3
67. Lalitpur		705	556
68. Jalaon		8320	
69. Hamirpur	4971	715	405
70. Mahoba	2099	5639	210
Grand Total		111093	82911
		28656	

* The claims for Kharif 2001 have not yet been disbursed due to non-receipt of State's Share.

Promotion of Tourism in the Gulf

151. SHRI C. N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether the Government had recently sent a delegation to the Gulf Countries for promotion of Indian Tourism Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

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

(b) The delegation was led by the Minister for Civil Aviation and visited Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Muscat and Bahrain. It included Tourism Ministers from some States, Government officials and private sector representatives. With a view to promote Tourism to India from the region, a number of seminars, workshops, interviews and India Evenings were organised. As a result of this promotional exercise, a number of new packages have been launched to give further impetus to flow of traffic from this region.

[English]

Production of Milk

152. SHRI JOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the 3,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder manufactured by Karnataka Milk Federation has been lying unutilised for the past nine months as reported in the Asian Age dated May 26, 2002;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the total quantum and value of milk produced by each State and Union Territory during each of the last three years;

(e) the requirement and the per capita availability of milk and total value of milk going waste each year in each State/UT during the said period; and

(f) the steps taken to preserve and store milk and milk products to prevent wastage of milk and its products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Karnataka Milk Federation and its member Milk Unions had a stock of 1875 MT of skimmed milk powder in May, 2002 and not 3000 MT.

(b) and (c) The dairy plants of Milk Unions in Karnataka

utilise part of SMP for reconstitution and rest is sold. The stock of skimmed milk powder as in July, 2002 is 1816 MT including 800 MT of skimmed milk powder produced during May and June, 2002. Karnataka Dairies would be able to consume part of stock internally and sell the balance quantity within the expiry date.

(d) The quantity and value of milk produced by each State and Union Territory during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) The per capita requirement of milk is about 250 gms per day as per recommendations of World Health Organisation. The estimated per capita availability in the country is 226 gms per day for the year 2001-02.

The Government of India has not received any report from any State/UT of milk going waste during the said period. The surplus milk available with the various States/UTs is converted into milk powder, ghee and other value added dairy products to utilise the surplus milk available with them.

(f) Under the National Dairy Development Programmes like Operation Flood and Integrated Dairy Development Programme country has build up sufficient infrastructure for processing, preservation and storage of milk and milk products.

Statement

Estimates of Milk Production and Estimated value of Milk

State/UTs		Milk Production and Estimated Value					
		99-2000*		2000-01*		2001-02**	
		Production (000' Tonnes)	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)	Production (000' Tonnes)	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)	Production (000' Tonnes)	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5122	578427	5521	623487	5145	581025
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	5082	45.5	5138	55	6211
3.	Assam	733	82778	738	83342	894	100959
4.	Bihar	3740	422358	3878	437943	4068	459399
5.	Goa	43	4856	44	4969	47	5308
6.	Gujarat	5255	593447	5317	600449	5573	629359
7.	Haryana	4679	528399	4849	547598	4976	561940

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	741	83681	760	85827	810	91473
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1286	145228	1037	117108	1088	122868
10.	Karnataka	4473	505136	4598	519252	5357	604966
11.	Kerala	2673	301862	2771	312929	2907	328288
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5600	632408	5806	655672	6091	687857
13.	Maharashtra	5706	644379	5850	660641	6024	680290
14.	Manipur	67	7566	68	7792	73	8244
15.	Meghalaya	62	7002	64	7228	71	8018
16.	Mizoram	18	2033	14	1581	11	1242
17.	Nagaland	49.5	5590	50	5647	54	6098
18.	Orissa	847	95652	875	98814	865	97684
19.	Punjab	7700	869561	7984	901633	8375	945789
20.	Rajasthan	7260	819872	7455	841893	6330	714847
21.	Sikkim	35	3953	35.5	4009	46	5195
22.	Tamil Nadu	4574	516542	4899	553244	4629	522753
23.	Tripura	49	5534	51	5759	53	5985
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14153	1598298	14840	1675881	16506	1864023
25.	West Bengal	3465	391302	3470	391867	4079	460641
26.	A&N Islands	23	2597	24	2710	25	2823
27.	Chandigarh	42	4743	44	4969	46	5195
28.	D&N Haveli	1	113	1	113	1	113
29.	Daman & Diu	10	1129	10	1129	11	1242
30.	Delhi	290	32750	292	32976	321	36251
31.	Lakshadweep	1	113	1	113	1	113
32.	Pondicherry	36	4065	37	4178	38	4291
	All India	78779	8896456	81430	9195890	84570	9550490

* Provisional

** Anticipated

[Translation]

Contract Farming

153. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased

(a) whether contract farming has been started in the country after approval to this effect was accorded by the Government;

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

(c) the area of land on which contract farming is being undertaken in each State; and

(d) the names of the multinational companies which have ventured into contract farming?

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

Preservation of Monuments in Bihar

154. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Union Government for the protection of monuments situated especially in Patna, Mungher, Vaishali and Jumai in Bihar; and

(b) the funds spent on these monuments during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There are in all 14 centrally protected monuments/sites in the districts of Patna, Vaishali and no monument/sites are protected by the Centre in Mungher and Jumai in the State of Bihar.

Centrally protected monuments/ sites in Bihar State receive adequate measures by way of day-to-day maintenance, structural repairs, chemical preservation and environmental development as per archaeological principles.

(b) During the last 4 years following expenditure has been incurred on monuments of national importance in Patna and Vaishali.

1998-99	Rs. 77,310
1999-2000	Rs. 17,81,508
2000-01	Rs. 7,11,987
2001-02	Rs. 17,64,974

[English]

Development of Animal Husbandry in Andhra Pradesh

155. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented for the development of animal husbandry sector in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the funds released to the State for the purpose during each of the last three years, scheme-wise;

(c) the criteria laid down to release the funds to the States; and

(d) the results achieved in that sector during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying provides grant in aid to the State Governments, mainly for infrastructure building to supplement their efforts for the development of Animal Husbandry sector. The funds are released to the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh on the basis of viable proposals received from them. A statement indicating the scheme-wise details of funds released for the development of Animal Husbandry in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Year-wise release of funds to Andhra Pradesh (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	National Project on Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	10.48	891.25	741.75

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	5.71	0.18	25.27
3.	Professional Efficiency Development	18.00	7.50	0.00
4.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	13.66	40.00	20.00
5.	Modernisation/Improvement of Slaughter Houses/CUC	0.00	0.00	63.00
6.	Integrated Sample Survey for Estimation of Livestock Production	11.00	10.33	10.00
Total		58.85	949.26	860.02

Scheme to Promote Tourism*[Translation]*

156. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "New Scheme to boost tourism" appearing in the 'Hindu' dated June 30, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to formulate new scheme which would be comprehensive in all aspects to give new directions to the tourism sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides funds to the State Governments/UT Administrations every year for identified projects for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in consultation with them. During the 10th Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism proposes to identify six tourism circuits in the country on annual basis and develop the facilities in these circuits to international standards. In addition to that the Department of Tourism proposes to identify tourist destinations in States/UTs in consultation with State Governments and take up integrated development at these places.

Maintenance of Monuments

157. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of historical monuments in different parts of the country are on the verge of extinction in the absence of proper maintenance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether taking cognisance of some petition, the High Court of Delhi issued notice to the Central Government and the Archaeological Survey of India in June 2002;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have submitted their reply to the High Court of Delhi; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is the constant endeavour of the Archaeological Survey of India to maintain the centrally protected monuments in a proper shape. The maintenance and conservation of all protected monuments is an ongoing process.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The United Communist Party of India has filed a Public Interest Litigation in the Hon'ble HIGH COURT OF DELHI, alleging neglect and poor maintenance of the historical monuments and theft of antiquities.

(e) The Court has given the Union of India time up to 13.8.2002 to file a reply.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

**Release of Water to Tamil Nadu
by Karnataka**

158. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN:

SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Karnataka is not abiding by the interim orders of Cauvery River Water Dispute Tribunal to release 205 tmcft water to Tamil Nadu every year;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to intervene into the matter; and

(c) if so, the steps initiated in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Central Government has published the Interim Order dated 25th June, 1991 of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) in the Official Gazette on 10.12.1991 under Section 6 of the Inter State Water Dispute (ISWD) Act, 1956 thus making it final and binding on the parties to the disputes. Party States are now required to give effect to the Interim Order. Further, the Central Government has notified a Scheme under Section 6A of the ISWD Act, 1956 on 11th August, 1998 consisting of Cauvery River Authority and a Monitoring Committee to give effect to the implementation of the interim order dated 25th June, 1991 of the Tribunal and all its related subsequent orders. The Cauvery River Authority has so far held three meetings and the Monitoring Committee has held 12 meetings. Barring the water years 1995-96 and 2001-2002, when the rainfall has been inadequate, the yearly inflows received in Mettur Reservoir of Tamil Nadu in all the water years since the operation of Interim Order have been more than 205 TMC ft. On the direction of Cauvery River Authority, Central Water Commission prepared a distress sharing formula. The State of Tamil Nadu has expressed that the matter regarding sharing of distress is under consideration of the Tribunal and therefore subjudice. Karnataka stated that in view of the stand taken for Government of Tamil Nadu, the discussion in the matter would not serve any purpose.

[Translation]

User Fees from Private Airlines

159. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government charges fees from the private airlines for the use of airports owned by it; and

(b) if so, the details and rules thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India charges fees from all airlines for the use of various facilities at airports owned by it. These charges are levied in accordance with Section 22 of the Airports Authority of India Act. The charges are categorized into traffic and Non-traffic charges which include Landing and Parking charges, Housing charges, Airport charges including Route Navigational Facilities charges, X-Ray Baggage charges, Terminal Navigational Landing charges, Counter/Space/Hangar facilities Licence fee etc. These charges vary depending upon the space provided, weight of the aircraft, weight of cargo, Domestic/International airport and flights and period of utilization of these facilities etc.

Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables

160. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Scientists have developed any genetically modified technique to preserve the fruits and vegetables for longer time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the technique is likely to be made available in the market?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Irrigation Schemes in Rajasthan

161. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation schemes in Rajasthan for which World Bank sanctioned financial assistance during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;

(b) the total amount provided by the World Bank for the purpose; and

(c) the total amount spent thereon?

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

(a) to (c) An agreement has been signed on 15.3.2002 for credit of SDR 110 million equivalent to US\$ 143 million for Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project which among others, includes rehabilitation works of 90 major, medium and minor irrigation schemes in 23 districts covering a command area of 6,20,000 ha. The credit closing date for the project is 31.03.2008. So far an amount of US\$ 5 million has been disbursed to the Government of Rajasthan against the estimated disbursement of US\$ 12.76 million planned during the years 2002 and 2003.

[English]

Protection of Coconut Trees

162. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken so far to protect Coconut trees from Coconut Spite, disease affecting the productivity of Coconuts;

(b) whether the Government propose to promote organic farming to prevent such diseases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The action taken by the Government to protect coconut trees from eriophyid mite of coconut is given below:

(a) Coconut Development Board sponsored a research project costing Rs.3.00 lakh through Project Directorate of Biological Control (PDBC), Bangalore for developing bio-agents for control of mite through biological measures. A bio-agent called "MYCOHIT" has been developed. This is being tested in the field for its efficacy and bio-safety. The Board has also released Rs.6.65 lakhs to PDBC for further research on this aspect;

(b) Awareness campaigns/seminars/group discussions among farmers were organized by Coconut Development Board in association with Central Plantation Crops Research Institute and State Agricultural Universities;

(c) Coconut Development Board has conducted trainings for departmental staff and farmers and developed website to access information on mite on the net;

(d) An amount of Rs.142.45 lakh has been provided under National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) for research work on coconut mite;

(e) A Steering Committee was constituted to review and coordinate efforts in developing suitable control measures on management of coconut mite. The committee is reviewing the progress periodically and the last meeting was held on 14.6.2002. The committee has recommended holistic approach including improvement of nutrient status, use of botanical and bio-pesticides for managing mite affected coconut gardens.

The central assistance provided during 1998-99 to 2000-2001 through Coconut Development Board, to States for control of coconut mite is given below:-

State	Assistance provided (Rupees in Crores)
Kerala	30.09
Karnataka	13.50
Tamil Nadu	10.54
Andhra Pradesh	3.70
Orissa	0.16
Total	57.99

(b) and (c) The Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India being implemented by the Coconut Development Board include a component "Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement" under which an incentive of Rs.20,000/- is provided for establishment of organic manuring units. For management of mite affected coconut gardens, holistic approach including improvement of nutrient status and use of botanical and bio-pesticides, such as, neem cake, neem oil mixture and growing of compatible inter/mixed crops are recommended with emphasis on lesser use of pesticides.

Release of Poisonous Chemicals in Yamuna

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the flow of poisonous chemicals in Yamuna resulting in the death of thousands of fish;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified the erring companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken against each such company; and

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the incident of fish deaths in river Yamuna on 13th and 17th June, 2002 in the stretch from Agra to Bateshwar. Mathura Refinery is the only major industry located in the stretch besides some small scale industries. The Refinery already has an effluent treatment plant which discharges the effluent as per prescribed standards.

- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

Shortage of Water

164. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many parts of the country are facing acute shortage of water;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken to make available water in these areas;

- (c) whether the Government have undertaken any new projects for rain water harvesting and storing flood water; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) As per the latest assessment made by Central Water Commission (CWC), the average annual water availability in the river-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). The per capita water availability is 1820 cubic metre per year (2001) on a national level. However, due to the spatial variability of rain in the country and also because of variation in population density, per capita average annual availability of water in different basins presently varies from 16,990 cubic metre in Minor River Basins Draining into Bangladesh & Myanmar; 13,636 cubic metre in Brahmaputra-Barak basin to 298 cubic metre in Sabarmati basin. Further, the temporal variability in the rainfall also creates temporary scarcity of water in certain years.

In order to augment the availability of water for various uses and their efficient use, schemes are planned, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Through the concerted efforts of State Governments, an irrigation potential of 99.76 million hectare is expected to have been created by the end of 9th Five Year Plan. This has been possible due to construction of 3596 major and medium

projects providing 177 BCM of storage of rain water. Another 207.77 BCM of storage is likely to be created through ongoing and proposed projects. To help the State Governments in their efforts to harness the water from natural resources and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97. Under the programme, financial assistance in the form of central loan is being extended to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing irrigation projects in a time bound manner so that the benefits could accrue at the earliest. Accordingly, the Central Loan Assistance (CLA) amounting to Rs. 8480 crore to the State Governments have been provided under AIBP upto end of 2001-02. An outlay of Rs. 2800 crore has been provided for the year 2002-03.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water of roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis, under which 174 schemes have been approved in various parts of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan. The scheme has been proposed to be extended during the Tenth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 150.00 crore.

For meeting future requirements of water, as a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins which will accrue benefits of drinking water supply, irrigation, hydro-power, flood control, navigation, fisheries, salinity and pollution control etc.

Bamboo Plantation

165. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that there is a vast scope to promote Bamboo Plantation in the Eastern States;

- (b) if so, the details of proposals submitted by respective states in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on each such proposal?

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

(b) and (c) A total of 22 projects submitted by the States

were sanctioned with an outlay of Rs 21.06 crores for treating an area of 30579 hectares during the last three years of the 9th Plan.

State-wise details showing funds released and utilized and physical targets and achievements of the projects sanctioned are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(a) Financial: Rs. in lakh

Sl.No.	State	9th Plan	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002		Total 9th Plan	
		San.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	258.40			60.00	163.04	150.00	70.14	210.00	233.18
2	Assam	72.90			30.00	26.67	20.00		50.00	26.67
3	Bihar	102.63			30.00				30.00	0.00
4	Chhattisgarh	143.23			20.52	90.10	90.00	48.94	110.52	139.04
5	Goa	16.84			7.83	3.90	4.00	7.93	11.83	11.83
6	Gujarat	119.70			50.00	48.38	45.00	49.73	95.00	98.11
7	Haryana	34.85			10.14	0.00	24.71	34.09	34.85	34.09
8	Himachal Pradesh	17.85			8.85	5.24	9.00	11.03	17.85	16.27
9	J&K (SF)	120.25			15.00	15.00	30.00	40.48	45.00	55.48
10	Kerala	100.50			30.00	32.30	40.00	53.55	70.00	85.85
11	Madhya Pradesh	163.50			49.48	56.83	50.00	18.49	99.48	75.32
12	Maharashtra	49.42			30.00	29.72	14.00	14.55	44.00	44.27
13	Manipur	104.30			73.37	30.00			73.37	30.00
14	Meghalaya	24.75			10.00	9.78	5.00	5.00	15.00	14.78
15	Mizoram	101.64	10.00		32.00	32.06	59.64	69.58	101.64	101.64
16	Nagaland	148.20			40.00	40.00	30.00		70.00	40.00
17	Orissa	170.40	9.02		30.00	28.34	45.00	67.78	84.02	96.12
18	Rajasthan	82.50			39.00	24.10	40.50	42.63	79.50	66.73
19	Sikkim	95.92	15.00		48.45	63.45	32.47	32.47	95.92	95.92
20	Tripura	47.80	8.00		10.00	10.91	4.32	10.00	22.32	20.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21	Uttar Pradesh	90.50			20.00	19.99	17.87	16.78	37.87	36.77
22	West Bengal	39.60			15.00	12.54	20.00	20.52	35.00	33.06
Total		2105.68	42.02		659.64	742.35	731.51	613.69	1433.17	1356.04

San = Sanction Rel = Released Uti - Utilised

(b) Physical: Area in ha.

Sl.No.	State	9th Plan	2000-01		2001-02		Total 9th Plan	
		Tar	Tar	Ach	Tar	Ach	Tar	Ach
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	4000	1500	1500	2500	2834	4000	4334
2	Assam	1126	0	0	1126	0	1126	0
3	Bihar	1500	0	0	1500	0	1500	0
4	Chhattisgarh	2125	0	0	2125	2125	2125	2125
5	Goa	240	120	0	120	120	240	120
6	Gujarat	1500	0	0	1500	1500	1500	1500
7	Haryana	325	100	0	225	325	325	325
8	Himachal Pradesh	262	0	0	262	262	262	262
9	J&K (SF)	1400	0	0	1400	700	1400	700
10	Kerala	750	0	0	750	760	750	760
11	Madhya Pradesh	2100	0	0	2100	1900	2100	1900
12	Maharashtra	791	0	0	791	791	791	791
13	Manipur	1800	600	0	1200	0	1800	0
14	Meghalaya	400	0	0	400	250	400	250
15	Mizoram	1500	0	0	1500	1500	1500	1500
16	Nagaland	2400	900	900	1500	0	2400	900
17	Orissa	3000	1000	0	2000	2245	3000	2245
18	Rajasthan	1000	0	0	1000	1000	1000	1000
19	Sikkim	1300	800	800	500	500	1300	1300
20	Tripura	900	450	70	450	399	900	469

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21	Uttar Pradesh	1600	400	0	1200	752	1600	752
22	West Bengal	560	0	0	560	560	560	560
	Total	30579	5870	3270	24709	18523	30579	21793

Tar = Target Ach = Achievement

[Translation]

Decline in Tourists

166. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in tourists in Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to attract tourists in the said States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) On the basis of information provided by the State Government, there has been a decline of 27.9% in the tourist visits to the State of Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2002 (January-June) as compared to the corresponding period of the year 2001. The Number of tourist visits to the State of Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2002 is as follows:

State	Number of tourist visits during		% Change
	2001	2002	
Jammu & Kashmir (January-June)	2665705	1921256	-27.90
Himachal Pradesh (January-March)	1142273	1320682	15.62
Uttaranchal (January-February)	909861	976704	7.34

(b) The decline in flow of tourist traffic to the State of Jammu & Kashmir has been due to the prevailing conditions in the State.

(c) Various steps being taken to attract more tourists include positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity, enhancing and

maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination, improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements, creation of world class infrastructure, developing sustained and effective marketing plans and programs, special thrust to rural and small segment tourism and attention to civilisational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

[English]

Missing of Government Securities

167. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that audit of exempted funds done by the Employees Provident Funds Organisation (EPFO) has revealed that Government securities in physical form worth Rs.2.33 crore are missing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the action taken to fix responsibility for the loss and bring the culprits to book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The total number of exempted establishments is 2,588. The Audit Reports in respect of 1,827 establishments which have been analysed have revealed that securities worth Rs.23,07,78,785/- are not available physically with the trusts though the allotment letters and other proof of investments are available.

(c) and (d) As the proof of investment exists with the exempted trusts, there is no cause for concern. In case any loss is detected, action against those responsible will be taken as per law.

[Translation]

Deposits in Employees Provident Fund

168. KUNWARAKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deposits made under Employees Provident Fund during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the details of the amount deposited in respect of Government employees and the employees of the public undertakings, separately State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government employees are not covered under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Similarly, the employees of Public Undertakings whose pension contributions are regulated by Section 16(2) of the above Act are also excluded from the purview of the Act. As per the audited accounts of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, the details of the deposits during the last three years, region-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Receipt of EPF Contribution from 1998-1999 to 2000-2001

(All figures in Lakh of Rupees)

Sl.No.	Regional Office (State)	Employees's Provident Fund		
		1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	30,718.52	35,768.31	39,645.34
2	Bihar	7,038.17	6,979.73	7,692.68
3	Delhi	33,304.15	39,402.87	46,285.81
4	Gujarat	39,206.79	45,375.57	46,722.27
5	Haryana	17,109.94	23,115.11	22,571.65
6	Himachal Pradesh	3,198.30	3,718.17	4,104.58
7	Karnataka	37,887.00	45,469.11	54,723.21
8	Kerala	20,105.20	23,663.68	26,011.88
9	Madhya Pradesh	21,412.58	25,465.50	25,771.47
10	Maharashtra & Goa	1,23,359.90	1,41,951.11	1,58,706.67
11	States of North Eastern Region	3,083.85	3,552.58	4,285.89

1	2	3	4	5
12	Orissa	6,851.93	7,979.15	8,890.14
13	Punjab & Union Territory of Chandigarh	24,361.15	28,155.59	29,833.33
14	Rajasthan	16,130.69	19,411.32	20,460.22
15	Tamil Nadu	58,965.54	67,811.32	77,216.22
16	Uttar Pradesh	29,199.19	30,882.34	33,992.85
17	West Bengal & Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26,980.80	31,903.33	34,354.24
Total		4,98,913.71	5,80,605.42	6,41,268.46

[English]

Promotion of Tribal/Rural Art and Culture by Voluntary Organisations

169. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received applications from Voluntary Organisations and Institutions seeking grants for the promotion of Tribal and Rural Art and Culture in various States including Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal during each of last three years and current year;

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

(c) the names of such Voluntary Organisations and Institutions alongwith the amount of grants provided during the said period and the details of achievements made by them, till date, organisation-wise;

(d) whether allocated grants have been properly utilised by these organisations ;

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to make an assessment or hold a probe into it;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (g) The information is being compiled and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Construction and Repairing of NHs in Uttar Pradesh

170. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the amount allocated and spent for the construction of new National Highways (NHs) and repairing of existing highways in Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): Funds are allocated to State for development and maintenance of all National Highways including new National Highways in respective States. The details of the allotment of funds and expenditure incurred for the development and maintenance of National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002 are as under:

	Allocation (Rs. in lakh)	Expenditure
Construction/development	14662.88	11757.58
Maintenance	6619.14	4311.74

Commercialization of Forest Land in Madhya Pradesh

171. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the High Court orders prohibiting construction within a stretch of 1km. around the Nandan Kanan forest reserve;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the lands of tribals situated at the border areas of Pench Sanctuary (Pench Tiger Project) and other National Parks like Kanha in Madhya Pradesh have been commercialized in violation of the Court's orders; and

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

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

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

Central Road Fund

172. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will

the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for allotment of Central Road Fund to States;

(b) whether the Government propose to review the said criteria;

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

(d) the share of each State from the Central Road Fund during 2001-2002;

(e) whether any State have sought more funds;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the name of the States which have not properly utilized the said fund; and

(h) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The funds under revamped Central Road Fund are allotted to the State/Union Territories based on 60% weightage to fuel consumption and 40% weightage to the geographical area of the respective State.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The present criteria is considered reasonable.

(d) Details of accruals of Central Road Fund for the year 2001-2002 State-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The State of Mizoram was sanctioned an excess amount of Rs. 2 crore during the year 2001-02 which has been adjusted from their accrual of Rs. 2.96 crore for the year 2002-2003.

(g) The details of the percentage of utilization of Central Road Fund by the States are given in the enclosed statement.

(h) Initially the utilization of funds under Central Road Fund was slow. However, the matter has been pursued at various levels including at the level of Chief Ministers for expeditious progress and utilization of funds. With this the overall position of utilization has shown improvement.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	CRF accruals for the year 2001-02	Total accruals out of CRF from 2000-01 to 2002-03	Total funds released out of CRF	Balance (Col. 4-5)	%age of utilisation / release to the accruals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	162.49	243.94	125.969	117.9718	52
2	Arunachal Pradesh	21.93	32.79	7.4200	25.3708	23
3	Assam	29.81	45.21	24.8300	20.3808	55
4	Bihar	51.81	85.71	16.1100	69.6008	19
5	Chhattisgarh	45.59	62.87	37.4500	25.4208	60
6	Goa	7.73	11.82	1.3100	10.5108	11
7	Gujarat	137.92	206.05	79.7900	126.2608	39
8	Haryana	63.45	99.20	31.4100	67.7908	32
9	Himachal Pradesh	20.70	31.45	10.7044	20.7464	34
10	Jammu & Kashmir	60.57	91.62	21.2502	70.3706	23
11	Jharkhand	36.07	47.32	6.0700	41.2508	13
12	Karnataka	113.00	171.13	50.0100	121.1208	29
13	Kerala	53.83	81.54	9.2300	72.3108	11
14	Madhya Pradesh	124.42	191.01	50.8205	140.1903	27
15	Maharashtra	211.98	313.39	68.3500	245.0408	22
16	Manipur	6.50	9.74	2.2200	7.5208	23
17	Meghalaya	8.81	13.10	5.7385	7.3623	44
18	Mizoram	5.92	8.88	7.9200	0.9608	89
19	Nagaland	4.97	7.44	3.3700	4.0700	45
20	Orissa	57.71	87.53	9.7000	77.8308	11
21	Punjab	84.15	124.58	35.7300	88.8508	29
22	Rajasthan	151.66	228.37	84.4400	143.9308	37
23	Sikkim	2.19	3.29	0.7400	2.5500	22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	Tamil Nadu	133.46	200.68	82.3400	118.3408	41
25	Tripura	3.80	5.73	2.0770	3.6530	36
26	Uttaranchal	21.78	29.37	8.2000	21.1708	28
27	Uttar Pradesh	176.46	272.89	30.5568	242.3340	11
28	West Bengal	72.00	108.88	32.5605	76.3203	30
UT's						
29	A&N Islands	3.52	5.35	0.5833	4.7667	11
30	Chandigarh	5.39	7.60	1.0100	6.5900	13
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.51	3.58	0.8134	2.7666	23
32	Daman & Diu	1.76	2.52	0.3000	2.2200	12
33	Delhi	58.62	85.67	10.6834	74.9866	12
34	Lakshadweep	0.15	0.20	0.0233	0.1767	12
35	Pondicherry	4.37	6.56	0.9900	5.5700	15

High Yielding Rice

173. DR. MANDAJAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have developed high yielding variety of "Super Rice" strain; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Not applicable.

Usage of Space by IA at Airport

174. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANANATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dedicated Terminal Space for Indian Airlines at all major Airports are being utilised fully; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Indian Airlines has been allotted dedicated terminals for its domestic flights at Mumbai and Delhi. These are fully utilised. There are no dedicated terminal space allotted to Indian Airlines at Kolkata and Chennai and Indian Airlines is sharing the terminal with other airlines.

Flood Control in Assam

175. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank team during its recent visit to Assam discussed the flood control problem with the Government.

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the decisions arrived at the meeting; and

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) As informed by the State Government of Assam, the Asian Development Bank, during its recent visit to Assam, had some discussions with State Government officials but no such direct discussion on Flood Control problem and this Sector was not considered to be accessible to Asian Development Bank.

Misbehaviour by Sky Marshals*[Translation]*

176. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sky marshal harasses air hostess" and "Marshals, the new terror in Indian skies" appearing in the 'Times of India' June 4, 2002 and the 'Hindustan Times' dated June, 23, 2002 respectively;

(b) if so, the total number of such incidence of misbehaviour reported so far in Indian Airlines and Alliance Air flights;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against those found responsible; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard to stop re-occurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The news-item mentioned various incidents of alleged misconduct by Sky Marshals.

A total of 6 cases have been reported. National Security Guard (NSG) from where the Sky Marshals are drawn, has its own in-built internal system of taking action in such cases. All these incidents have been promptly investigated and appropriate punishment meted out to the Sky Marshals against whom complaints have been lodged, and they have been repatriated out of NSG.

Mutual consultations are held between Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), NSG and the Airlines on an ongoing basis, and appropriate action taken jointly to pre-empt occurrence of such incidents.

Setting up of FPI by Multinational Companies

177. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Multinational companies have set up food processing units in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available 29 projects have been implemented during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 in the processed food sector. State-wise number of projects reported to be implemented is given below in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise number of food processing units envisaging foreign investment implemented in the processed food sector during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02.

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Gujarat	1
3.	Haryana	2
4.	Karnataka	2
5.	Kerala	3
6.	Maharashtra	7
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1
8.	Orissa	1
9.	Punjab	1
10.	Rajasthan	1
11.	Tamil Nadu	4
12.	Uttar Pradesh	3
Total		29

Security at Airports

178. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item under captions "2 breach IGI security, enter runway" and "IGI Se Udan Bharne Wale Viman Asani Se Atankwadion Ka Nisbana Ban Sakta Hain" appearing in 'Hindustan Times', May 20, 2002 and 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated June 22, 2002 respectively;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the safety of all the airports particularly IGI airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 19.5.2002 one Shamsher Singh Ghising, a Nepali national was caught by CISF personnel on the perimeter road in IGI Airport, Delhi. Preliminary interrogation suggested that the subject was of unsound mind. A case under section 447 IPC was registered against him and investigation is in progress.

On 19.5.2002 one Mohammad Amir a 13 year child was apprehended by CISF personnel when the subject fell over the perimeter wall while having a look at aircraft inside the operational area. He was arrested on 19.5.2002, but subsequently let off after questioning.

To ensure the safety and security of the aircraft at the IGI Airport, Government has issued orders prohibiting gathering/assembling of people/vendors/vehicles at a stretch of 250 mtrs. back and forth on both sides of national highway (NH)-8.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety of all the airports particularly IGI airport inter-alia include:

- (i) Surveillance and patrolling of the perimeter wall.
- (ii) Stricter access control and thorough pre-embarkation security checks
- (iii) Deployment of CISF and Quick Reaction Teams (QRT).

(iv) Screening of registered baggage.

*[English]***Harvesting of Rain Water**

179. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the technique of 'rain harvesting' offers a great potential for augmenting ground water resources for Delhi and other drought prone areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Authority has assessed the extent to which rain water can be harvested in Delhi and other States;

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

(d) the steps taken for effectively harvesting rain water for augmentation of ground water resources in Delhi and other States during the last two years;

(e) whether any Central aid for water harvesting in drought prone areas in the States has been sought from the Union Government; and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per assessment made by the Central Ground Water Board, it is estimated that 36453 MCM (Million Cubic Metre) of surplus rain run-off could be augmented to ground water annually in the country. State-wise availability of rain water for ground water recharge is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Central Ground Water Board has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on Study of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" during the IX Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 23.48 crore. Under this scheme, a total number of 174 projects have been approved for implementation in 27 States/Union Territories. During the last two years, the Board has taken up 155 pilot projects in various States of the country out of which, 15 projects were in Delhi. As per the assessment made so far in the States of Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab, NCT of Delhi and Rajasthan, 66690 cubic metre of rain water have been diverted for augmenting ground water resources through experimental studies.

(e) and (f) The Ministry of Water Resources has no

scheme to give Central aid to States for rain water harvesting in drought prone areas.

Statement

State-wise estimated availability of Rain Water for Ground Water Recharge

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Availability of Rain Water (in MCM)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1095
2.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	1120
3.	Chhattisgarh	258
4.	NCT of Delhi	444
5.	Goa	529
6.	Gujarat	1408
7.	Haryana	685
8.	Himachal Pradesh	149
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	161
10.	Karnataka	2065
11.	Kerala	1078
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2320
13.	Maharashtra	2318
14.	Orissa	406
15.	Punjab	1200
16.	Rajasthan	861
17.	Sikkim	44
18.	Tamil Nadu	3597
19.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	14022
20.	West Bengal	2664
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3
22.	Chandigarh	26

[Translation]

Promotion of Tourism in Rajasthan

180. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conducted any survey and prepared a Master Plan for promotion of tourism and allied industries in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for promotion of tourism industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has prepared a perspective plan for the next 20 years for sustainable tourism development in the State of Rajasthan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Cottage Industries

181. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any action plan or package for development of cottage industries in the country including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years, and current year, State-wise; and

(c) the present status of the cottage industry in each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme throughout the country for the development of Khadi and Village Industries including Agro and Rural

Industries. Under this scheme, the KVIC provides margin money assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the project above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women/ Physically Handicapped/Ex-Servicemen and Minority Community beneficiary / institution and for hill border and tribal areas, North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs. 25 lakhs it is 10% of the remaining cost of the project. Under this scheme, the beneficiary's contribution is at least 10% of the project cost. In case of SC/ST and other weaker sections, beneficiary's contribution is only 5% of the project cost. This scheme is being implemented through

Public Sector banks, Regional Rural Banks etc. Moreover, for the development and promotion of KVI sector, the Government had announced a package on 14.5.2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development. The State-wise funds disbursed by the KVIC as grant and loan during last three years are given in the enclosed statements-I and II.

(c) The state-wise performance, under KVI programme for the year 2000-01 is given in the enclosed statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise disbursement of grant by the KVIC during past three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/Union Territories	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Khadi	VI	Khadi	VI	Khadi	VI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	275.35	340.75	627.53	705.15	192.99	327.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-		5.40	0.50	3.08	20.10
3.	Assam	59.79	6.72	86.87	0.77	54.31	4.70
4.	Bihar	1196.53	33.96	305.36	44.48	323.90	2.38
5.	Goa	-	40.36	0.79		18.25	40.24
6.	Gujarat	2554.96	268.56	1585.85	12.96	1023.71	143.75
7.	Haryana	652.94	185.23	414.44	239.42	459.95	192.20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	76.51	272.94	445.99	26.37	191.40	25.92
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	182.50	352.13	112.96	20.77	66.64	152.90
10.	Karnataka	1008.73	1228.32	426.31	756.44	367.94	335.31
11.	Kerala	205.45	395.94	762.62	357.98	291.24	519.61
12.	Madhya Pradesh	178.49	1319.02	595.37	23.32	266.95	35.27
13.	Maharashtra	310.59	308.97	419.17	444.24	287.19	91.76
14.	Manipur	-	266.93	0.40	169.70	2.51	418.26
15.	Meghalaya	2.36	44.93	7.42	6.50	12.40	48.83

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Mizoram	0.02	344.39	0.99	155.74	0.11	0.50
17.	Nagaland	5.37	396.94	17.48	5.38	12.12	186.45
18.	Orissa	172.53	87.02	116.61	161.67	52.46	15.52
19.	Punjab	345.73	605.12	967.26	158.33	466.26	6.77
20.	Rajasthan	1490.71	461.80	879.73	319.85	608.82	99.43
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	2.70	0.50
22.	Tamil Nadu	2690.76	414.10	3874.13	262.07	1908.50	183.04
23.	Tripura	0.50	-	-	1.91	3.72	0.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4201.30	1454.00	5153.75	514.17	4310.44	412.70
25.	West Bengal	595.10	20.49	325.78	6.36	208.91	16.39
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.50
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	4.36	0.23	0.00
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Delhi	669.27	31.34	-	-	253.77	12.99
30.	Daman & Diu	-	-	354.06	72.96	0.00	0.00
31.	Pondicherry	-	26.23	-	-	24.11	1.12
32.	Lakshadweep	0.39	34.64	0.23	0.50	0.00	0.00
33.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		16875.88	8940.83	17486.50	4466.90	11860.09	20141.58

Statement-II*State-wise disbursement of loan by the KVIC during past three years*

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	State/Union Territories	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Khadi	VI	Khadi	VI	Khadi	VI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19.76	31.10	49.29	3.96	44.66	2.04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	0.79	2.00	106.17	13.02	44.65	1.47
4.	Bihar	53.83	7.02	26.37	-	112.68	0.04
5.	Goa	-	1.55	-	-	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	43.34	29.13	19.38	-	8.79	10.92
7.	Haryana	2.10	8.88	84.71	8.00	1.10	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.52	4.33	4.78		15.05	3.19
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.61	0.52	-		28.66	0.26
10.	Karnataka	102.75	61.58	43.16	0.68	31.24	11.77
11.	Kerala	35.48	13.68	15.49	-	50.06	7.59
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.18	12.11	14.75	-	62.18	12.32
13.	Maharashtra	7.62	41.96	8.77	15.66	4.55	11.85
14.	Manipur	-	0.34	11.86	0.42	4.10	0.49
15.	Meghalaya	-	0.86	0.23		4.96	0.26
16.	Mizoram	0.10	-	-	-	0.82	14.00
17.	Nagaland	-	-	15.41	-	12.14	0.95
18.	Orissa	6.10	8.34	3.20	2.30	18.10	35.87
19.	Punjab	11.45	1.21	60.94	5.00	0.36	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	19.70	23.60	34.69	1.49	6.27	0.95
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	0.29	1.54
22.	Tamil Nadu	42.27	37.41	22.45	8.06	25.54	5.47
23.	Tripura	-	-	-		3.60	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	332.88	191.10	64.25	36.54	131.15	53.69
25.	West Bengal	36.28	48.54	13.92	1.00	101.75	0.06
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-			0.00	0.00
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	0.23	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-		-
29.	Delhi	1.65	10.11	-	-	25.96	-
30.	Daman & Diu	-	-	5.00	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Pondicherry	-	1.29	-	-	-	-
32.	Lakshadweep	-	-	4.20	-	-	-
33.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		737.41	536.60	609.02	126.84	737.66	174.99

Statement-III*State-wise performance under KVIC programme during 2000-2001*

(Rs.in lakhs)

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Production (Rs. in lakhs)	Sales (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment (in lakh persons)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36119.30	37029.83	3.47
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	160.72	224.25	0.00
3.	Assam	5093.53	4852.53	1.15
4.	Bihar	18200.21	19479.95	2.84
5.	Goa	2405.31	2885.00	0.09
6.	Gujarat	42787.27	59355.15	0.95
7.	Haryana	10371.74	13292.98	0.86
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10262.55	15011.20	0.90
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	12966.12	14393.50	1.13
10.	Karnataka	49765.89	62179.50	2.12
11.	Kerala	22245.19	29830.10	2.05
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41416.97	40612.32	1.69
13.	Maharashtra	122179.93	130801.90	5.23
14.	Manipur	4363.77	5853.39	0.57
15.	Meghalaya	2866.05	3675.00	0.21
16.	Mizoram	3048.11	5353.00	0.17
17.	Nagaland	4171.28	5364.93	0.23

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Orissa	5677.43	6011.02	1.85
19.	Punjab	26709.24	27382.32	1.57
20.	Rajasthan	59619.93	67346.21	4.55
21.	Sikkim	213.73	200.46	0.05
22.	Tamil Nadu	64075.37	72768.80	11.20
23.	Tripura	1283.32	1764.00	0.27
24.	Uttar Pradesh	113668.81	132978.57	11.80
25.	West Bengal	24558.45	25606.94	4.42
26.	Chhattisgarh	655.40	683.44	0.03
27.	Jharkhand	355.82	632.69	0.06
28.	Uttaranchal	307.47	385.66	0.02
29.	A & N Islands	252.60	319.94	0.13
30.	Chandigarh	1085.00	2045.36	0.13
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman & Diu	0.00	3.10	0.00
33.	Delhi	3464.92	6443.60	0.24
34.	Lakshadweep	6.45	8.93	0.01
35.	Pondicherry	968.47	734.51	0.08
Total		692326.35	795510.09	60.07

Plan to Tap Rain Water by CGWB

182. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared any contingency plan to tap rain water during the ensuing rainy season;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments has

sought any financial and technical help from the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated by the Government to each State for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Acute Drought Condition in Maharashtra

183. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large part of Maharashtra is facing acute drought condition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof?
- (c) whether the number of people working under the employment guarantee scheme is also likely to go upto 5 lakh;
- (d) whether the State Government requested the Union Government to depute a team to assess the situation;
- (e) whether the Central team visited the State and submitted its report;
- (f) if so, whether grant of Rs.500 crores sought by the State Government from the National Calamity Relief Fund to meet the drought conditions was agreed to; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor and the amount of financial assistance provided to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra have reported that 16 districts of the State have been affected by drought.

(c) The State Government had intimated daily labour attendance of 3.56 lakhs during May, 2002 and had anticipated daily labour attendance of 3.91 lakhs during June, 2002, under the scheme.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) 1st instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2002-03 amounting to Rs. 64.995 crore has been released to the State for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The State Government had requested for assistance of Rs. 500 crore under the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought and the matter is under process.

Digging of Course of Saraswati River

184. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any plan to undertake digging of the entire course of the extinct Saraswati river with the help of the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time-frame, if any, fixed for the purpose?

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

(a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not formulated any plan to undertake digging of the entire course of the extinct Saraswati River. However, the Ground Water Department, Government of Rajasthan in collaboration with Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and the Regional Remote Sensing Service Centre, Mumbai is engaged in identifying potential pockets for ground water in ancient course of river Saraswati through proper construction of the river through a multi-disciplinary study.

(b) The CGWB has carried out investigations in Kisangarh-Tanot-Tongewala area of Rajasthan using geophysical methods and have recorded fresh water at five locations out of seventeen sites located on palaeochannel. These wells were dug in the depth range of 70 to 136 metre below ground level and yielded water from 60 to 1000 litres per minute. The study is continuing to decipher the age of water through isotopic studies. The studies are undertaken under normal ground water exploration programme of the CGWB and no separate funds are allocated to the CGWB for this purpose.

(c) Keeping in view the activities involved in the entire process, it is difficult to fix any time frame for the completion of the studies.

Cargo Handling Facilities

185. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have toned up the cargo handling facilities at various airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Government to renovate the cargo terminals at various airports during the last two years; and

(d) the extent to which the capacity of such cargo terminals has been increased to handle exports and imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Airports Authority of India has created modern integrated cargo terminals at 4 metro airports i.e. Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata with world class facilities and cargo terminals with modern facilities at four Domestic airports handling international cargo i.e. Nagpur, Guwahati, Lucknow and Coimbatore airports. At the cargo terminals of International airports facilities such as regulatory/facilitating agencies under one roof, exclusive storage, processing and examination area for import, export and trans-shipment cargo, exclusive un-accompanied baggage unit, cargo apron for freighters, X-ray screening machine, hazardous cargo shed, cold storage for import, strong room for storage of valuable cargo, cafeteria and banks have been provided at all cargo terminals. At Delhi and Chennai airports State of Art Centre for perishable cargo for export, weigh bridge, Close Circuit TV Surveillance system and Public Address system have been provided. Elevated Transfer Vehicle system having built-in weighing facility and live animal shed have been provided at Delhi Airport. A post office has also been provided at Mumbai airport. At domestic airports where international cargo handling is carried on, facilities such as X-ray screening machine and Domestic Courier facility at Nagpur and cold storage at Guwahati airport have been created.

(c) The total expenditure to renovate the cargo terminal is Rs.1411.08 lakhs during 2000-2001 and Rs.809.62 lakhs during 2001-2002.

(d) The handling capacity for export and import capacity has increased to the extent of 603060 tonnes per annum from 424390 tonnes per annum at 4 International airports during the period from 1997-98 to 2001-2002.

[Translation]

Jammu-Srinagar National Highway

186. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Jammu-Srinagar National Highway is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, the amount spent on its maintenance during the last three years and the remedial steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Jammu-Srinagar National Highway is being maintained in traffic-worthy condition, within available resources.

(b) The amount spent on maintenance of this highway during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Amount (Rupees in crore)
1999-2000	5.20
2000-2001	5.59
2001-2002	4.02 (tentative)

[English]

Training Programmes for Officials of C.T.U.O.

187. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board for Workers Education (CBWE) has conducted training programmes for the representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations (CTUO) and its officials during last three years; and

(b) if so, the amount of grants-in-aid provided by the CBWE to trade unions in the country and the amount given to each of them during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Central Board for Workers Education has conducted 59 training programmes for the representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations and its officials during the last three years. Grant-in-aid are also provided to Trade Union Organisations for conducting their own Workers Education Programmes. 541 such programmes have been conducted by the Trade Union Organisations during the last three years for which grant-in-aid of Rs.13,81,972/- have been provided to them. The details of the amounts given to each of them are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Grants-in-aid given to Trade Union Organisations by the Central Board for Workers Education for the last three years

		(Amount in Rs.)		
S.No.	Name of Trade Unions	Year		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh	63,095	40,906	1,26,886
2.	Indian National Trade Union Congress	1,14,629	55,056	75,178

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Hind Mazdoor Sabha	84,446	84,190	50,535
4.	All India Trade Union Congress	70,027	30,677	69,294
5.	National Labour Organisation	26,677	15,165	15,363
6.	Hind Khet Mazdoor Panchayat	19,125	9,261	11,725
7.	Other Independent Union, Federation and other Bodies registered under the Societies Act, XXI of 1960	1,09,266	1,04,439	2,05,532
Total		4,87,265	3,39,694	5,54,513

[Translation]

Export of Deer's Horn

188. KUNWARAKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have banned the export of deer's horn;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the policy of the Government in this regard;

(c) the total income earned from the export of deer horn during the last five years;

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for lifting the ban on the said export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The export of shed antlers, manufactured articles and shavings of shed antlers was banned by the Government with effect from 4.8.1998 after several instances of illegal procurement by shed antler dealers came to the notice of the Central Government.

(c) As informed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, no firm data on export earnings from deer antler is available. However, export ceiling of 120 MT of manufactured articles of shed antlers and 180 MTs of shavings of shed antlers was released during the year 1997-98.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Recognition of Agriculture and Veterinary Science Education

189. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some universities imparting Agriculture and Veterinary Science education in Maharashtra have not been recognised by the I.C.A.R.;

(b) if so, the details of the criteria fixed by the ICAR for giving recognition to the University; and

(c) the reasons for not giving recognition to the Universities of Maharashtra so far University-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) ICAR does not give recognition to universities imparting Agricultural and Veterinary Science education.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

Global Warming

190. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Global Warming" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' dated May 19, 2002;

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

(c) whether any scientific steps have been suggested for making good the likely loss and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these forecasts came to light earlier also; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Government is aware of the news-item captioned "Global Warming" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' dated May 19, 2002 referring to the retreat of Himalayan glaciers, increased threat to coastal areas due to storms, changes in monsoon patterns, decline in crop productivity and adverse impacts on water availability. The

assessment of possible impacts of global warming is largely based on climate change modelling. The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), set up jointly by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1988, has been undertaking comprehensive assessment of scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to the understanding of risk of global warming and has so far published three comprehensive Assessment Reports in 1990, 1996 and 2001. According to the recent Third Assessment Report published in 2001, the earth's surface temperature is estimated to have increased by $0.6^{\circ} \pm 0.2^{\circ}$ C over the twentieth century. The global mean sea level is estimated to have been rising at the rate of 1 to 2 mm annually during the twentieth century. The report projects that globally averaged surface temperature may rise by 1.4° to 5.80° C between 1990 and 2100. The mean sea level may rise by 0.09 to 0.88 meter during the same period. In most tropical and sub-tropical countries, the potential yields of cereal crops may decrease. The frequency, duration and intensity of extreme weather events such as floods and droughts may increase. The widespread retreat of non-polar glaciers is likely to continue during the 21st century. The precipitation pattern may change and water scarcity in many areas may be further exacerbated.

India is a Party to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change which enjoins upon all Parties to address climate change (Global Warming) by undertaking appropriate measures including those relating to advancement of scientific understanding of cause and effect of climate change as well as consequences and response strategies. It has taken a number of steps in furtherance of the objective of the Convention including those relating to energy efficiency, energy conservation, power sector reforms, renewable energy, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and conservation of forests, efficient utilization of coal, reduction of gas flaring, installation of waste heat recovery systems in the oil sector and better cultivar practices in the agriculture sector. A number of studies have been initiated to study the consequences of global warming on water resources, human health, and crop productivity. Steps have also been taken to prepare the national inventory of anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases by sources and removals by sinks. These steps are expected to contribute positively towards mitigation of adverse impacts of climate change.

[English]

Bilateral Agreement between India and UK

191. SHRI Y. V. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bilateral negotiations between India and UK to open aviation market in both the countries have failed;

(b) if so, the details of the negotiations held;

(c) whether the Government are holding discussions with any other country for opening up of aviation markets;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of frequencies Air India is allowed to operate in the India-UK sector;

(f) the frequencies actually being used by Air India; and

(g) the reasons for not fully utilising the frequencies in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Bilateral air services consultations between India and UK held in London on 20-21st June, 2002 ended inconclusively because of the wide divergence in the position of the two sides. While British authorities requested for increase in entitlement by 15 services per week in phased manner, the Indian offer was four additional services per week by Summer 2004. Besides UK authorities declined to make any commitment to provide additional slots to Air India at Heathrow airport. Both sides have agreed to meet again in near future.

(c) and (d) Review of traffic rights and operation of foreign airlines from different airports in the country is an ongoing process. As a part of this process, bilateral civil aviation talks have been held this year with Iran, Jordan, Afghanistan, Italy, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Qatar and UK. Apart from increase in entitlement, designated airlines of Sri Lanka, Singapore and Qatar have been granted access to new stations such as Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin and Gaya.

(e) and (f) The designated airlines of both India and UK are entitled to operate 19 services per week in each direction of which 3 frequencies have to be operated on Kolkata-London sector. Air India is presently operating 11 services per week to/through UK Virgin Atlantic, one of the designated British carriers, is also operating 2 services/week out of Indian side's entitlement.

(g) Non availability of suitable slots at Heathrow airport is the principal reason for Air India not utilising its full entitlement.

Agricultural Marketing Reforms

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

(a) whether the Task Force on Marketing has submitted its report on agricultural marketing reforms to the Government;

(b) if so, the major recommendations of this Task Force;

(c) whether this Task Force has recommended the discontinuance of Minimum Support Price for cereals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Agricultural Marketing Reforms presented its Report to the Government on 28.6.2002. Major recommendations of the Task Force include:

- i. Promotion of competitive agricultural markets in private and cooperative sector, direct marketing and contract farming programmes by amending the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Acts and to provide central assistance for the development of marketing infrastructure linked to such deregulation and reforms;
- ii. Progressive dismantling of controls and regulations under the Essential Commodities Act to remove all restrictions on production, supply, storage and movement of, and trade and commerce in all agricultural commodities;
- iii. Substantially step up flow of institutional credit to farmers for marketing of crops (pledge financing) and to enhance their holding capacity to obtain remunerative price for their produce;
- iv. Expand availability of warehousing services in rural areas including by introducing negotiable warehousing receipt system for agricultural commodities;
- v. Allow futures trading in all agricultural commodities to improve price risk management and facilitate price discovery by amending the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952;
- vi. To promote use of information technology in agricultural marketing to provide market led extension services to farmers and other market

functionaries and to create facility of electronic trading to enable producers to directly transact business with distant buyers; and

- vii. To re-orient training and extension systems to assist farming community to respond to emerging challenges in agricultural marketing and to create an ambience of good marketing practices in the country.

The Task Force has not recommended discontinuation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) Policy which has served the country well in the past three decades. However in the changing environment it has suggested to think of an alternative policy delinking MSP from procurement particularly if the private sector is to be restored its rightful role in the marketing of agricultural produce. The Task Force is of the view that an alternative policy should provide financial support to the farmers through an insurance programme (based on MSP and historical yield) for protection of their incomes. The Task Force has also stated that till alternative policy is developed and implemented, the existing nodal/Central agencies and State organizations need to be strengthened to undertake decentralized procurement of foodgrains.

The report of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force is being examined in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations and concerned Central Government Departments/Agencies.

[Translation]

Investment in Agriculture Sector

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

(a) the details of investment made by the Government in agriculture sector during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to increase the investment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Investment by the Government in agriculture which is measured in terms of capital formation, is mainly for irrigation. The details of estimates of Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) in agriculture in respect of the States and Union Territories, Central Government, Local Bodies and the Non Departmental Commercial Undertakings (NDCU) for the

three years, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 are given in the enclosed state-ment.

(b) and (c) Funding and implementation of all types of irrigation projects primarily rest with the State Governments. However, the Union Government have been implementing the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme from 1996-97 to augment investment in the irrigation sector by providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the States to expeditiously complete major/medium irrigation/multipurpose projects. Under this programme, CLA of Rs.8480.03 crore has been provided to State Governments up to the end of March, 2002 and a budget provision of Rs.2800 crore has been earmarked for the year 2002-03.

Statement

Estimates of Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) in Agriculture (Irrigation) by States, Centre and Local Bodies (at current prices)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	70530	105859	120369
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	350	473	502
3.	Assam	10394	13108	11507
4.	Bihar	19975	68013	22990
5.	Goa	11	2420	2137
6.	Gujarat	50530	57052	50432
7.	Haryana	29637	27663	11991
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3817	1393	3726
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2863	1786	2612
10.	Karnataka	64829	66753	66142
11.	Kerala	15983	16022	21084
12.	Madhya Pradesh	50763	53761	69041
13.	Maharashtra	61640	72067	100792
14.	Manipur	3115	4217	5155
15.	Meghalaya	727	643	1925

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Mizoram	46	672	253
17.	Nagaland	236	142	66
18.	Orissa	59596	51809	38306
19.	Punjab	53482	30029	13846
20.	Rajasthan	51129	42118	36353
21.	Sikkim	41	40	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	19469	38071	33174
23.	Tripura	1400	2187	2730
24.	Uttar Pradesh	52347	58945	95511
25.	West Bengal	14973	15949	13806
26.	Pondicherry	126	164	195
27.	Delhi	63	0	524
Total All States		638072	731356	725169
Centre		100	100	100
Local Bodies		12500	4100	4700
N.D.C.U. (Agriculture)		11600	15600	15600
Total All India (GFCF)		662272	751156	745569

[English]

Elephant Reserves

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

(a) the details of the existing elephant reserves in Assam;

(b) whether in view of the dwindling population of elephants in Assam forests, there has been a persistent demand to include the Behali Reserve Forests under the Elephant project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Central Government has requested Government of Assam for setting up following Elephant Reserves.

1. Sonitpur Elephant Reserve
2. Western Assam Elephant Reserve
3. Dibru Elephant Reserve
4. Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve

Government of India has given its consent for Sonitpur, Western Assam and Dibru Elephant Reserves and the State Government has been requested to issue necessary notifications. The consent of the State Government for setting up of Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve has not been received.

(b) and (c) Behali Reserve Forest is already included under Sonitpur Elephant Reserve.

National Water Policy

195. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Policy 2002 adopted by the Union Government provides a general directive on need for participation of private sector;

(b) if so, whether experts which gathered at seminar on water issues in Chennai observed that policy-makers had failed to provide the right climate for the involvement of private sector;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the suggestions made in the seminar;

(d) if so, whether any framework to enable the private sector participation has been formulated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The National Water Policy, 2002 provides for private sector participation in planning development and management of water resources. The para 13 of the Policy reads: "Private sector participation should be encouraged in planning, development and management of water resources projects

for diverse uses wherever feasible. Private sector participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users. Depending upon the specific situations, various combinations of private sector participation in building, owning, operating, leasing and transferring of water resources facilities, may be considered".

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any such seminar held at Chennai on water issues which made observations as stated in the question.

(d) and (e) Water being a state subject, schemes are planned, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Framework for participation of the private sector has to be put in place by the State Governments, if they desire to encourage private sector participation in water resources development and management.

[Translation]

Soil Erosion

196. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the soil erosion problem has further aggravated in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of soil erosion in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) In the absence of time sequence data on status of soil erosion, no definite conclusion can be drawn about the aggravation of problem of soil erosion in the country.

(b) As per the estimates of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation an area of about 125 million ha. is estimated to be affected by soil erosion (both by water and wind) in the country. The State-wise area affected by soil erosion is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) To prevent soil erosion the Central Government is implementing various land based programmes in the Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development, Environment and Forests etc.

Statement*State-wise area affected by Water and Wind Erosion*

(Area in Lakh ha.)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Water Erosion (A)	Wind Erosion (B)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	103.54	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.58	-
3.	Assam	13.34	-
4.	Bihar	32.39	-
5.	Goa	1.35	-
6.	Gujarat	94.62	7.04
7.	Haryana	15.35	14.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.75	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.73	-
10.	Karnataka	102.25	-
11.	Kerala	15.77	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	155.10	-
13.	Maharashtra	175.89	-
14.	Manipur	2.94	-
15.	Meghalaya	5.48	-
16.	Mizoram	2.87	-
17.	Nagaland	2.77	-
18.	Orissa	27.71	-
19.	Punjab	9.14	-
20.	Rajasthan	188.41	156.92
21.	Sikkim	2.58	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	32.42	-
23.	Tripura	0.45	-

1	2	3	4
24.	Uttar Pradesh	58.98	-
25.	West Bengal	7.64	-
26.	UTs	1.21	-
Total		1071.26	177.96
Total (A + B) 1249.22 lakh ha. = 125 million ha.			

Research on Transgenic Crops

197. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has since completed its research on the transgenic crops;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the date by which the research work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The research on transgenic crops is of a continuous nature. A few institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are involved in the development of transgenic crops mainly using Bt genes for insect resistance.

(b) Beside cotton, the transgenics having resistance to insect pests in rice, tomato, brinjal etc. are undergoing limited field tests.

(c) The research work on development of transgenics in different crops for different purposes is of a continuous nature. In cotton, 3 hybrids are already recommended for cultivation. In other crops research is at different stages.

After transformation and development of transgenics, the biosafety and toxicology studies are conducted under the aegis of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, which is the nodal department for biotechnology/ transgenics. The final release of transgenics is approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forests after their effective evaluation.

[English]

New Agro and Rural Industries Policy

198. SHRI B. K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new Agro and Rural Industries Policy in view of the recent change in the economic liberalisation and globalisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is engaged in an exercise to evolve a policy to strengthen this sector so that it adopts itself to the changing environment and also effectively face the challenges in view of the economic liberalisation and globalisation.

- (c) Does not arise.

Anti-Erosion Projects in Coastal States

199. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received anti-erosion projects from the Coastal States during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details of projects which have been cleared by the Government so far;
- (c) the names of on going projects which could not be completed during 2000-01 and 2001-02; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to complete the projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the projects in the Coastal State of West Bengal which have been cleared by Government for implementation under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, "Critical Anti-Erosion Works in Ganga Basin States" are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Status of works as on 31st March, 2002
1.	Bank protection works 6th retired embankment new Khaskol and Doulat Tola in P.S. & Block Manik Chak and English Bazar, Distt. - Malda.	Completed
2.	Extension & restoration of the existing bank protection works at Chandanpara (150 m) in P.S. Suti, Lalpara (350 m), Lakshminagar (250 m) in P.S. Farakka, Distt. Murshidabad.	On-going
3.	Protection work of Kharibana Alaipur on the R/B of River Ganga - Padma in P.S. Bhagbangola (2100 m), Distt. Murshidabad	On-going
4.	Renovation of bed bars on the R/B of Ganga-Padma no. S1 (Kakjipara) U3 & U1 (Hazarpur), No. 8 (Arjunpur) and additional new bed bar at 200 m U/S of N1 at Kuli: Distt. Murshidabad.	On-going

- (d) The projects are being monitored.

Production of Pulses

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

- (a) whether the production of pulses has increased

by over 26.71 per cent during 2001-2002 over the preceding year;

- (b) if so, the States where this increase in pulse production has been recorded;
- (c) whether the Government propose to encourage further increase in pulse production during 2002-2003;

(d) if so, the measures being taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the details of financial assistance to be released to the State Governments for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The production of pulses has increased by 26.71 percent during 2001-2002 from the preceding year. The increase in pulses production has taken place during 2001-2002 particularly in major pulse growing states namely Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has already taken action for increasing the production of pulses during 2002-2003 with the effective implementation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) in 30 states/UTs. The scheme envisages financial assistance to the States for production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed minikits, rhizobium culture, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, micronutrients etc. In addition, field demonstration and farmers training are also being organized for transfer of improved production and protection technology for increasing the production of pulses in the country.

(e) The Government of India has allocated Rs.949.0 lakh (GOI share) to the states during 2002-2003 for the period of first six months for this purpose.

[Translation]

Digging of Canals in Bihar

201. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sent any proposal to the Union Government for digging of canals in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYACHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) No proposal exclusively for digging of canals in the State has been received from the Government of Bihar. However, Government of Bihar has submitted four new irrigation schemes, which involve digging of canals also. Of

these two schemes, namely, Punpun Barrage & Tiliya Dhadhar projects have been conditionally accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources. For the remaining two schemes viz. Upper Mahananda irrigation Scheme and Kadwan Reservoir Project the State Government has to comply with the comments of the Central Water Commission.

[English]

New Type of Vehicle Registration Plates

202. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of initiative taken by the Government to implement new type of Vehicle registration Plates by using Aluminium and laser Prints all over the country; and

(b) the details of the companies who have been issued licenses to manufacture the new type of Registration Plates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The technical specifications of the new High Security Registration Plate, name of the testing agencies authorized to test the plate/grant type approval certificate and the time frame by which the scheme is to be implemented have already been notified by the Government in the Gazette vide GSR 221 (E) dated 28th March, 2001, SO 814 (E) dated 22nd August, 2001; SO 938 (E) dated 24th September, 2001; SO 1041 (E) dated 16th October, 2001 and SO 499 (E) dated 9th May, 2002.

(b) The Central Government does not grant license to any manufacturer of such plates. Any prospective manufacturer/vendor would need to get their product approved by the agencies authorized by Central Government. Thereafter, it is for the concerned State Government to select the vendor/vendors. As on 10.7.2002, four companies namely, M/s Shimnit Utsch Pvt. Ltd., M/s Real Industries, M/s Eastern Steel & Saw and M/s Utsav Safety System have got the type approval certificate from the authorized testing agencies and product of some other prospective vendors are under various stages of testing.

Funds for Eradication of Child Labour

203. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to raise funds allocated for eradication of Child Labour during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the comparative increase in the allocation from the previous plan period;

(c) whether the targets set for eradication of child labour in the country during the previous plan was achieved;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the target of eradication of child labour set for the current Plan period and the effective steps taken to achieve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) In the Ninth Plan period the total allocation of fund for child labour schemes was Rs.249.60 crore. A proposal for an enhanced allocation for the Tenth Plan has been made. The Planning Commission has not yet indicated the total provision of funds for the above Schemes for the Tenth Plan Period.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Labour has been implementing the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) for the rehabilitation of working children. The major objective under the Scheme is the rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work by linking them with the formal school system, after keeping them in special schools set up under the project for a maximum period of three years. An associated objective is the prevention of entry of children into work through awareness measures.

The process of monitoring the situation of mainstreaming commenced in 1998. According to the latest available information, about 1.40 lakh children have already been mainstreamed into the formal school system.

[Translation]

Amendment in Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

204. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amendment has been made in the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 to privatise the process of issuing registration certificates permit and driving licenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, powers to issue registration certificates, permits and driving licences are vested in the State Government. At present no need is felt to change the existing arrangement.

[English]

Motor Vehicle Act, 1988

205. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether clauses of Motor Vehicles Act 1988 are not adhered to uniformly by the Licensing Authority all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out a scheme to have uniformity in the issue of licences;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of States where this scheme is being implemented; and

(e) the time by which all the States are likely to be benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Central Government is not aware about any deviation in the matter of issuing driving licenses in any part of the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Driving licenses are issued by the concerned State Transport Authorities all over the country in Form 6 or 7 as prescribed under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. It is presumed that reference is in context of issue of Smart Card based driving licenses, for which a standardised software has been circulated to all States. The States are free to use any technology using said software. It is not possible to assess any time limit for this purpose at this juncture. Amendment in Central Motor Vehicles Rules has been done which authorises the States to notify a cut off date after which driving licenses are to be issued only on a Smart Card medium.

[Translation]

Office Expenses

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

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any campaign for economy in expenditure on publicity, advertisements, reception, refreshments, inaugurations, seminars, conferences, tours (including foreign), telephone bills including STD and ISD calls, electricity bills (especially air conditioners and cooler's bills) and other such expenditure made by the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the amount spent on these items during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) It is Government's constant endeavour to contain non-plan, non-developmental expenditure. It is in this context that, alongwith other measures, instructions to avoid wasteful expenditure are issued from time to time to all the Ministries/ Departments. These measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, restrictions on holding of conferences/seminars etc., reduction in electricity consumption, restrictions on STD/ISD facility, restrictions on number of free calls on official residential telephones, etc.

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

[English]

Policy for Agri-Export Zone

207. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 28 Agri-Export zones have so far been set up in 14 selected States;

(b) if so, the total multi-agency investment made therein so far;

(c) the details of investment made by the private sector, Union Government, other agencies and also by the State Government;

(d) whether the nodal agency for the programme, Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority has claimed that the total investment would result in an export earning of Rs.3440.53 crore in the next five years; and

(e) if so, the full facts there-about?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Action has been taken to set up 28 Agri-Export Zones.

(b) The estimated investment to be made in 28 Agri Export Zones is of Rs. 780.87 crore and the investment made therein so far is approximately Rs. 16.58 crore.

(c) The proposed investment by different sectors is given below:

Union Govt. & other agencies	Rs. 261.54 crore
State Govt. & State agencies	Rs. 75.12 crore
Private Sector	Rs. 444.21 crore

The total investment made so far is approximately Rs. 16.58 crores.

(d) and (e) The projected cumulative exports in next five years are approximately Rs.4033 crore from 28 Agri Export Zones. These projections are compiled by Agricultural Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) based on the proposals received from State Governments for setting up of Agri Export Zones. The year wise break up of the anticipated value of projected exports is hereunder:

(Value in Rs. Crore)				
I	II	III	IV	V
205.35	451.37	732.45	1091.6	1552.37

Meeting of Indus Water Commission

208. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

SHRI B.V. N. REDDY:

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Indus Water Commission was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether India and Pakistan exchanged views on sharing of water under the Indus Water Treaty;

(c) if so, whether the Jammu and Kashmir Government has suggested to the Union Government to raise the issue of reviewing the Indus Water Treaty, 1960 with Pakistan and expressed its concerns about the Baglihar hydro-electric project on Chenab river and completion of flood protection works on Ravi river;

(d) if so, the outcome of the talks held;

(e) whether any change have been suggested by India in the meeting; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Pakistan Government?

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

(a), (b), (e) and (f) During the 87th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) held in New Delhi during the period from 28th May to 1st June 2002, there were neither exchange of views on sharing of water under the Indus Water Treaty 1960 nor any changes suggested.

(c) As per the available information at present, no such suggestions/concerns of the Jammu and Kashmir Government have been received.

(d) During the meeting, India had agreed to consider Pakistan's requests for the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) to undertake two tours, one in India and another in Pakistan and to have meeting in Pakistan within three months following the 87th meeting with a view to endeavour to resolve the questions regarding the Baglihar Hydro-electric Plant on the Chenab Main in Jammu & Kashmir by agreement. India also agreed to consider Pakistan's request for communication of flood flows information by India to Pakistan during the monsoon period from 1st July to 10th October, 2002 and Pakistan's offer of reimbursement of costs for such communication during 2001 and 2002, and convey its views. The PIC also finalized its Annual Report on its work for the year ended on 31st March, 2002 and the Records of its 86th and 87th meetings.

[Translation]

Use of LPG

209. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to frame a rule whereby LPG driven private cars will be permitted to ply;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether educated class is using LPG as a fuel in their vehicles at present; and

(d) if so, estimated number thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) The use of LPG as an auto fuel has already been authorized and necessary specifications of LPG kits which can be used in a Motor Vehicle have been already notified. The Regional Transport Offices in a State/UT are authorized to endorse the use of LPG as fuel in registration book of motor vehicles, so long as LPG kits duly approved by any of the authorized testing agencies are being used.

(c) and (d) Vehicular traffic is controlled and regulated by State Government. No information about number of vehicles using LPG is being collected or maintained by this Ministry.

[English]

Economic Exploitation of Labourers

210. SHRI. P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government to check the economic exploitation of labourers in the country;

(b) the details of the industries against whom action is being taken for violating the labour laws during the last one year and thereafter; and

(c) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken to protect the interest of labourers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The economic exploitation of labour in the country is checked through enactments and enforcement of a number of labour laws aimed at protecting and promoting the welfare, social security, safety and health of workers.

Labour being in the concurrent list, both the Central and State Governments are the appropriate governments to enact legislations. The organization of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) is responsible for enforcement of the provisions of the labour laws in establishments under the Central Sphere whereas in the State Sphere the enforcement is secured through the State Labour Enforcement Machinery. The Inspecting Officers of Central Industrial Relating Machinery (CIRM) make regular and periodic inspections of establishments, take follow up action and where necessary file claims and prosecution cases against the defaulting employers. During the year 2001-2002, CIRM Officers carried out 34968 inspections rectified 360712 irregularities, launched 16040 prosecutions and secured 7475 convictions of defaulting employers.

The Government has initiated the process of labour reforms to meet the challenges of privatization, liberalization and globalization. Nonetheless, the Government is also committed to safeguard the legitimate interests of workers during the course of labour reforms. With a view to suggest, rationalization of laws relating to labour in the organized sector and evolving an umbrella legislation for ensuring minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganized sector, the Second National Commission on Labour has recently submitted its Report.

Suicide by Farmers

211. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers have committed suicide in different parts of the country due to burden of debt during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have written to the Centre seeking financial support for debt waiver schemes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per available information, 106 farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are reported to have committed suicide during the last three years.

(c) and (d) Some state governments have written from time to time for waiving off loans. But as a matter of policy, Government of India are not in favour of any blanket waiver

of agricultural loans as it tends to vitiate the recovery climate and thus undermines the viability of financial institutions.

Funds for Promotion of Dairying and Farming

212. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the funds allocated to the States to promote dairying and farming in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The Government has made an allocation of Rs.36.52 crores for dairy development under Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Rs.2167 crores for agricultural farming under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation during the current financial year. The Government makes tentative allocation for the States for some of the schemes, but release of funds are made on the basis of the viability of the proposals received from them. A statement indicating the details of funds released under various schemes for dairy development and agriculture farming during 2001-2002 is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Funds released by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for agriculture farming and by Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for dairy development under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2001-02

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3108.49	-
2.	Assam	553.25	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	257.12	-
4.	Bihar	1836.49	64.47
5.	Jharkhand	697.83	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	874.03	379.20
7.	Goa	90.00	-
8.	Gujarat	2614.83	-
9.	Haryana	970.74	-

1	2	3	4
10	Himachal Pradesh	869.62	200.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	819.66	-
12.	Karnataka	3646.42	-
13.	Kerala	2051.25	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3252.22	-
15.	Maharashtra	5485.53	500.00
16.	Manipur	420.70	-
17.	Mizoram	379.89	59.17
18.	Meghalaya	215.18	-
19.	Nagaland	669.24	132.07
20.	Orissa	2029.47	-
21.	Punjab	1051.66	-
22.	Rajasthan	4603.48	-
23.	Sikkim	241.55	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	2784.69	-
25.	Tripura	508.69	-
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3792.75	217.58
27.	Uttaranachal	680.35	-
28.	West Bengal	1414.53	-
Total		45919.66	1552.49

Deaths due to Air Pollution

213. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Air Pollution goes to the heart" appearing in the Times of India dated June 17, 2002;

(b) if so, whether according to the World Bank study nearly 40 thousand people die every year in India only due to Air Pollution;

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

(d) whether the CPCB has since taken any concrete plans to check air pollution in the major cities of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. However, there is no conclusive data available to confirm mortality attributable to air pollution.

(d) and (e) The major steps taken by the Government including CPCB to control air pollution are mentioned below:

(i) A comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution which lays stress on the preventive and control aspects of pollution has been evolved.

(ii) Emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for new vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and are enforced by the various Transport Departments of the State Governments including Delhi.

(iii) Unleaded petrol is supplied in the entire country from 1.2.2000 and diesel with 0.25% sulphur maximum content is supplied from 1.1.2000 in the entire country. Ultra low sulphur (0.05%) fuel has also been introduced in major cities.

(iv) Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is supplied to automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi and Mumbai to cater to the CNG vehicles.

(v) Benzene content in petrol has been reduced.

(vi) A network of 295 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations has been set up throughout the country.

(vii) Emission standards for industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check pollution.

(viii) Steps have been taken to control pollution from 17 categories of highly polluting industries.

(ix) Industries are also required to provide necessary pollution control measures before commissioning of their plants.

- (x) Industries are required to take consent from the respective State Pollution Control Board under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for discharging their effluent and hazardous waste.
- (xi) Environmental Action Plans for 24 critically polluted areas have been prepared and are under implementation

Misuse of Funds

214. **SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that a number of States have not utilised funds for tourism but have misused these funds;
- (b) if so, the total amount provided to each state and the names of States and Union Territories which have misused the funds;
- (c) the action taken against them;
- (d) whether the Union Government is considering to have direct investment for development of tourists spots in these States and Union Territories in future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism Govt. of India extends Financial Assistance to the State Govts./UT Administrations every year for identified tourism projects as per the guidelines. Funds are sanctioned based on intense priority of the proposal and availability of funds. Utilisation of funds for the projects is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/ UT Administrations. However, delay in implementation, if any, regarding utilisation of funds is taken up with the State Govts./UT Administrations for remedial measures.

(d) and (e) In the Ninth Plan, schemes envisaged financial contribution from the State/UT Governments. In the Tenth Plan now it is proposed that in the scheme of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits entire funding would be done by the Department of Tourism Government of India. However, State support would be required for certain items of the project.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

11.25 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 16, 2002/Asadha 25, 1924 (Saka).

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