

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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CONTENTS

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No. 27, Monday, April 29, 2002/Vaisakha 9, 1924 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 481-483	2-33
WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 484-500	33-56
Unstarred Question Nos. 5160-5366	56-357
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	357
MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA	360
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES	
Eighth and Tenth Report	363
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS	
Thirty-third Reports	363
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS	
Study Tour Report	363
RE: NEED TO PERMIT CANDIDATES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS IN REGIONAL LANGUAGE IN EXAMINA- TIONS CONDUCTED BY STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION ...	
	367-386
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	
(i) Need to associate Members of Parliament in the Centrally-sponsored educational projects in the States, especially in Rajasthan	
Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena	387
(ii) Need to accord Central University status to Guru Ghasidas University Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	
Shri Punnu Lal Mohale ...	387
(iii) Need to provide reservation in Gram Panchayats in Jharkhand in proportion to the population of different categories	
Shri Ram Tahal Chaudhary	388
(iv) Need to provide halt of Ashram Express at Kishangarh and Beawar Railway Stations, Rajasthan	
Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat	388

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

(v)	Need to lay a railway line between Lohardagga and Jaspur via Gumla, Chhattisgarh	
	Prof. Dukha Bhagat	388
(vi)	Need to introduce direct trains between Gadag-Bangalore and Gadag-Bijapur	
	Shri S.D.N.R. Wadiyar	389
(vii)	Need to enhance import duty on cotton with a view to protect the interests of indigenous cotton growers	
	Shri V.Y. Rao ...	389
(viii)	Need to ensure availability of potable water and check its commercialisation	
	Shri Ramji Lal Suman	390
(ix)	Need to develop Fatehpur Tal Ratoy and Fatehpur Tal Narja lakes in Ghosi Parliamentary constituency, U.P. as tourist centres	
	Shri Bal Krishna Chauhan ...	390
(x)	Need to delink the profit-making Salem unit of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. from the Parent company with a view to prevent its closure	
	Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi ...	391
(xi)	Need for all round development of Ratua Block-I in Malda district, Bengal	
	Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi ...	391

FINANCE BILL, 2002

Motion to Consider

Shri Adhir Chowdhary	392
Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi	393
Shri Ramji Lal Suman	401
Shri Kirit Somaiya	405
Shri C. Srinivasan	419
Shri Trilochan Kanungo ...	421
Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi ...	424
Shri Pradeep Rawat	434
Shri Rupchand Pal	437
Shrimati Renu Kumari	443

SUBJECT**COLUMNS**

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ...	448
Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay	454
Shri Lakshman Singh	458
Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul ...	462
Shri Prabodh Panda	465
Shri Dharm Raj Singh Patel ...	467
Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav ...	470
Shri Ramdas Athawale ...	473
Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale	475
Shrimati Kumudini Patnaik	476
Shri Yashwant Sinha	480
Clauses 2 to 153 & 1	502
Motion to Pass	542

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 29, 2002/Vaisakha 9, 1924 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, rioters are again raising their head in Gujarat. What happened to our demand for the dismissal of the Chief Minister of the State ? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Q.No. 481, Dr. C. Krishnan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, peace has again been disturbed in Gujarat. Riots are a daily phenomena there (Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a peace procession was taken out yesterday there, but riots did not abate. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Question Hour. Dr. C. Krishnan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, peace should be restored there without delay. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not disturb the Question Hour. Shri Ramdas Athawale, you have to resume your seat. I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, riots are occurring daily there. It is going on for two months. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : What is happening in Gujarat. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Rashtrapal, do not do that. You will get an opportunity during the 'Zero Hour'. Now, Dr. C. Krishnan.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will get the chance to speak in the 'Zero Hour'.

[English]

Shrimati Chikhalia, please do not disturb. You are also disturbing now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they disturb the Question Hour daily. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why are you making so much noise ?

(Interruptions)

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Dangerous Pests in Important Fruits

+

*481. DR. C. KRISHNAN :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain imported fruits carry dangerous pests.

(b) if so, the details of foreign fruits being imported;

(c) whether any risk analysis has been done by the Government on allowing import of fruits;

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the precautionary measures taken by the Government in this regard;

*Not recorded

(e) whether India lacked the required quarantine measures and testing facilities;

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

(g) whether many countries have banned import of Indian fruits through their products come unchecked into the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. But fruits which carry exotic pests/diseases are not allowed to enter the country and are destroyed or sent back after following the prescribed plant quarantine procedure. However, fruits which can be freed from pests/diseases by giving some treatment are permitted to enter the country after treatment.

(b) Some of the important foreign fruits being imported into the country are apple, pear, grape and citrus fruits.

(c) Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) has been carried out on apple, pear, grape and citrus fruits.

(d) On the basis of PRA, pests of quarantine significance have been identified. Following precautionary measures have been taken to prevent the entry of dangerous pests :—

(i) Additional declarations and special conditions are prescribed for the phytosanitary certificate (PSC) issued by the country of origin.

(ii) All the imported plants and plant materials including fruits are subjected to thorough plant quarantine screening, inspection, laboratory tests and treatments before their release at the port of entry.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

(g) and (h) Every country has its own rules and regulations for enforcing plant quarantine restrictions on the import of plants, fruits and seeds. India has enacted Destructive insects and Pests Act, 1914 and the Plants, Fruits and Seeds (regulation of import into India) Order, 1989 to regulate the entry of exotic pests and diseases. Some countries like Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China

and USA have restricted the import of Indian fruits like Mango on Phytosanitary grounds. India has also imposed phytosanitary restrictions on the import of plants and plant materials under the above said Order for certain commodities from a number of countries. However, as per the provisions of WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures, plant quarantine restrictions can be imposed only on the basis of scientific reasons and these should be non-discriminatory and transparent. These restrictions cannot be arbitrary.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : Sir, Kindly let us know the names of fruits that have been imported into the country along with their approximate quantity and value.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : As regards the quantity of fruits imported, in 2001-02, in the last nine months upto December, the quantity of apples imported was 5600 tonnes. The quantity of pears imported was 337 tonnes, 234 tonnes of citrus fruits were imported, and other fruits imported were around 2162 tonnes.

If you want to look at the figures of imports and exports in crores of rupees, you may find that there has not been much change. In 1998-99, imports were worth Rs. 670 crore and exports were worth Rs. 266 crore. In 1999-2000, Rs. 590 crores worth of imports and Rs. 307 crore worth of exports had been there. In 2001-02, imports were worth Rs. 803 crore and exports were worth Rs. 385 crore.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : I would like to know the names of ports and airports where foreign fruits and fruit products are imported including the facilities provided at the ports and airports to test and detect the pests and related diseases in these ports and airports.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : If you look at the amount that we are importing, you may find that we produce 13 lakh tonnes of apples and only 5600 tonnes of apples have been imported. So, imports are really not that much.

As regards the facilities at the airports, we have quarantine facilities and we are trying to expand them. We need more qualified people and technical expertise.

But the quarantine facilities are there in place. In fact we have 33 agriculture commodities on which Pest Risk Analysis has been done. In case of apples and grapes we have found and detected some pests. Some interceptions have been made. We are making necessary arrangements, which are needed to see that pest-infested fruits do not come into the country.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am satisfied with the reply of the Minister.

But the question remains. In parts (g) and (h) of the reply, it is mentioned that some countries like Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and USA have restricted the import of Indian fruits like mangoes on Phytosanitary grounds. It would not be out of place to mention that most famous variety of mangoes, like *Hapus* and *Payari* were used to be exported from the Konkan area of Maharashtra. Farmers are largely affected by this ban. Has the Minister taken any step to have the ban lifted so that mangoes, which is called the king of fruits, can be exported?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He wants the ban to be lifted.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, these countries have restricted the import of mangoes because of certain diseases, basically fruit fly. They want certain facilities and certain kinds of treatments to be given here before they allow imports of mangoes. We are looking into these things. We are trying to improve the facilities so that we can give treatment for these diseases. We are discussing with these countries also.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : I am asking about lifting the ban to facilitate the export of mangoes. What are you going to do, particularly for *Hapus* and *Payari* mangoes which were largely exported from India?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : As I said, these countries have restricted imports because they want certain tests to be carried out and certain treatment to be given for pests found in these mangoes.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : I am speaking specifically about mangoes.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I am also taking about mangoes only.

Countries like Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and USA want certain certification and certain treatment to be given for the mangoes here before they allow the import on Phytosanitary grounds. So, we are trying to promote those testing facilities and treatments here. We are talking to these countries that we were going to give these facilities to facilitate their export.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : How much time will it take? It is because the season is on.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, already GM fruits have created a hue and cry throughout the world. It is a well established fact that under the garb of sanitary and Phytosanitary measures and on the principles of Codex Alimentarius, developed countries are artificially preventing

the import of Indian fruits. The Government has not yet conceived any GM food policy also. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether our country is well equipped to check micro biological contamination and whether all our States and districts are well-equipped to prevent such contamination. I would also like to ask whether Bio-technological Coordination Committee has already been set up in all our States.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The hon. Member wants to know, whether we have facilities to check the import of biologically contaminated fruits and plant materials. We have quarantine stations at ten international airports, at ten sea ports and at nine land frontiers. We are also strengthening our sanitary and Phytosanitary measures. I do admit that we do need a lot more technical expertise. We are trying to improve the technical expertise and also the quarantine stations, the testing facilities. As I said earlier, something has to be done in that regard. We are looking into the technical expertise, trained people etc. But we have the facilities. We are taking the measures.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : But we have to go a long way.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Yes, we have to go a long way.
... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the names of the countries which have banned the import of our fruits and the name of countries out of these from which we are importing fruits. England, in particular, has requested for importing hundreds of tonnes of mangoes but they have asked for some facilities. What measures Government have taken in that direction to ensure maximum export of our mangoes in a number of countries.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I have already said about mango that some countries. ... (Interruptions) it seems that today we will discuss only mangoes. I have already said. ...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everybody is interested in mangoes.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Some people are interested in other matters also. There is a consensus about mangoes, but some people are interested in other things. As I have said about mangoes, some countries have asked us to process mangoes in our treatment plants before exporting them. We are trying to set up those facilities and have

asked those countries to allow imports after we have set up the facilities.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my question is different. I have asked about the name of countries which have banned the import of fruits from India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is replying to that.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The name of countries are there in the statement. But still, those countries are Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and USA.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Why have they imposed the ban ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The ban can be imposed on the ground that fruits, vegetables or plant materials do not conform to laws – whether sanitary or phytosanitary laws or on the ground of their being infected by the pests. I have also said that we have detected pests in two imported fruits – apples and grapes. Now we are taking to disallow their import as long as the pests are not removed. Similarly, we have imposed restrictions on many items.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : I would like to know the name of the countries which have banned the import of our fruits but we are buying fruits from them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can send him all the details.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : It is not possible to take retaliatory action against the countries which have banned our fruits.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can send the details sought by the hon. Member later if they are not available at present.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, since the last five years, we have been discussing about the subject of horticulture. Even today, the Government of India is giving a lot of thrust on horticulture. We are encouraging farmers to grow all varieties of fruits. But, so far, we have not created any mechanism to export our mangoes, grapes, bananas and other fruits. What is the policy of the Government in this regard ? What action has the Government taken so far in consultation with the Civil Aviation Ministry in this regard ? We have a lot of airport but there are no cold storage facilities. We are asking the farmers to grow more fruits. We are advising the farmers to do this. Ultimately, if they are producing all varieties of fruits for export purpose, we have no facilities. We have to remove the biological

contamination. We have to take care of these things. When the Government is actually having a policy towards the farming community, it is not providing any facilities. I would like to know when the Government is going to provide all these facilities to help the farmers.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : We are encouraging farmers to go for horticulture sector and we are also providing them the facility of cold storage. The Ministry of Agriculture have a number of schemes for post-harvest management and the Ministry of Commerce and APEDA have set up export zones for fruits where facilities are being provided for the export of mango, liches and apples. But we need infrastructure as well as post harvest management for increasing horticulture export. The Government are also attending to the requirement of food processing industries.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that we have reasonably high production of apple, grapes and lemon. Our apple is better than that of Australia or of any other country but even then we are needlessly importing apples. My submission is that we have high production of a number of fruits, e.g. of grapes in Nasik and Sangli. The imported apple sells at Rs. 120 per kg. while the domestic apple is priced at Rs. 50-60 per kg. Our apple is of very good quality and we do not need to import it. We should not be importing fruits of which we have high production. My question is that whether hon. Minister can issue instructions for importing or not importing fruits ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, custom duty are imposed on the import of all fruits. I have the figures. We produce 13 lakh tonnes of apples and only 5600 tonnes were imported during the previous year. We do not have huge fruit imports. The import of citrus fruits was 234 tonnes. Such a small quantity does not make much difference. Most of the fruits are imported in the quantity of 500 to 2000 tonnes and they are imported at a time when the domestic fruits are not available. As the hon. Member pointed out that the imported apple sells at Rs. 100 per kg. whereas our own apple sells at Rs. 50 per kg. The importers are knowing it that is why the imports are not increasing.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the exports and imports of horticultural products. We will have to give more emphasis to the development and export of flowers, fruits and horticultural products. He said that cargo arrangement exists at the ports and airports. The population of Bihar and Jharkhand is approximately ten crore and there are

huge potential for the development of fruits and horticulture. Lichi is special to Bihar. Demand for the arrangement of cargo through Commerce Ministry, Water and Surface Transport Ministry and Civil Aviation Ministry has been raised for long. Whether hon. Minister is considering the arrangement of cargo to ports and airports to Bihar and Jharkhand where the population is as large as 10 crore.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question was about pests. We are discussing export and import of fruits. And now the issue of providing cargo has come up. We are attending to all the issues. We are trying to ensure the increase in the fruit exports.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to support what the hon. Minister is trying to do. He has stated in his reply that Pest Risk Analysis has been carried out on apple, pear, grape and citrus fruits. I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister that in the entire border of Meghalaya adjoining Bangladesh, thousands of people are earning their living on citrus fruits, grapes, pine apples, *paan* leaves and so on. But for the last few years, due to our nearness to Bangladesh, I do not think we have imported fruits which carry pests, but we have infiltrated fruits which carry pests and which mix with the local varieties as a result of which thousands of orchards and gardens are adversely affected by the disease called die-back disease which affects oranges particularly.

Then, another peculiar disease is also affecting *paan* leaves which is again another means of livelihood of the people living in the border area. We have about 100 kms. of border with Bangladesh and along the border people earn their livelihood on citrus fruits, areca nut and *paan* leaves. May I request be hon. Minister to extend the Pest Risk Analysis to this area also ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, the hon. Member says that there is a lot of illegal movement of fruit from both sides of the border and we should somehow restrict it. We have a Pest Risk Analysis Programme whereby we analyse whatever pest we detect, see what is the impact of that on our crops and all that. The hon. Member's suggestion is well taken and we will look into it.

Quantitative Restrictions on Import of Agricultural Products

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

(a) whether due to import of agricultural products as a result of removal of quantitative restrictions there is a steep fall in prices of indigenous agricultural products;

(b) if so, whether the developing countries including India are planning to take up the matter with WTO for exemption from quantitative restrictions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The prices of agricultural products depend on demand and supply and various other macro economic factors. It will thus not be correct to attribute, in general, the decline or rise in prices of agricultural products to any one factor.

The wholesale prices of different agricultural commodities show a mixed trend. Some commodities like wheat, jowar, bajra, ragi, maize, moong, gram and masoor have shown a rising trend. On the other hand the WPI of some agricultural commodities and products like rice, barley, urad, arhar, sugar and cotton have shown a decline in the past one year. The wholesale price index (WPI) on agricultural commodities rose by 3.5% over the years as on 6th April, 2002.

In the wake of removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs), Government have put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and are committed to provide adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include calibration of applied tariffs within bound tariffs, anti-dumping and safeguard action and imposition of countervailing duties under certain specified circumstances.

In its initial negotiating proposals India has sought Special safeguard mechanism along with a provision for imposition of temporary Quantitative Restrictions under specified circumstances in the event of a surge in the imports or a decline in prices and to ensure the food and livelihood security of the people.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am unable to understand the reply given by the hon. Minister to my question which was placed on the Table. He has not given a pertinent reply to my question.

Sir, quantitative restrictions on export have been lifted now and the market has been opened for exports. In this regard, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that permission has been granted for export of 147 items, produced by the farmers of India through open market, as a result of which these items are being imported in India at cheaper rates. And because of this there is a steep fall in the prices of indigenous agricultural items produced by the Indian farmers. The farmers of India cannot sell their agricultural products on such lower prices on which they are being imported in India.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether after lifting quantitative restrictions on the items of exports, there has been an increase in exports or in imports as we have been witnessing that the farmers of the country are committing suicide due to reduction in the prices of agricultural products. This is my first question, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what the Government is doing in this regard?

[English]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The Wholesale Price Index for agricultural commodities has gone up by 3.5 per cent last year and we always have a surplus as far as agricultural import and export is concerned. The trade is in our favour and after the removal of quantitative restrictions, there has not been any surge in imports. With 714 items on which quantitative restrictions were removed, the increase in imports has only been 6 per cent. There is a Committee which watches whether there is any abnormal surge in imports in agricultural commodities, and if so, we can take suitable action to stop this.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister said right now that he is putting in place a suitable mechanism in this connection. I wish to ask as to why the Government are trying to stop this by imposing royalty etc. We are importing oil, rapeseed and coconut. Now the situation is that the prices of every item have registered a decline. The Government have imposed some import duty, it has been increased to some extent. I would like to know whether the Government would be able to control it like this? The Government can request the WTO to re-impose quantitative restriction on the items produced by the farmers.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had raised many questions in the WTO. In order to protect the interests of our farmers like giving differential treatment to the developed countries and the developing countries. It

had been agreed upon in the "Doha" Conference of the WTO that the developed countries may lessen their domestic support to the implementation issues. Besides. The assistance given to their farmers in export should also be reduced. As I have already said that re-imposing quantitative restrictions is not possible they have been lifted where the balance of payment is in our favour. The quantitative restriction cannot be imposed on the basis of the WTO rules. There are only three countries in the world today which can impose quantitative restrictions, no other country can do so now.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, in his reply, said that the prices of wheat, Barley, Millet, Maize, Moong dal, Gram have increased after the removal of quantitative restrictions. This may perhaps be true, but the Government are well aware as to what is the condition of the sugar-cane producers after the removal of quantitative restrictions. The Government also must be knowing about the condition of sugar producers. The export of sugar is completely stopped today. Infact, who else, than the Government would better know about the condition of sugarcane producers. Who else than the people's representative from Bagpat, the hon. Minister of Agriculture elected from sugarcane producing area, would know about their condition? I would like to know from the Government as to what is the condition of the sugar mills today, be it the co-operative sector or the private sector, the condition of sugarcane producers is very pathetic. Sugarcane is being burnt in the fields itself as the farmers were not getting the payment in lieu of their produce. I would like to know what concrete steps are the Government taking to ensure uninterrupted export of sugar and to protect the sugarcane producers and the sugar mills.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it would not be appropriate to blame WTO for decline in the prices of agricultural commodities and every thing else. Right now he mentioned something about 'sugar'. The prices of sugar have fallen due to its over-production in the entire world. The price of sugar fell by more than five percent last year. The reason thereof is that there is an over-production of sugar throughout the world. In our country too, a bumper production of sugar was registered during the last two-three years. This year the production would be more or less comparable. Otherwise also, the quantitative restrictions did not apply to the sugar industry, so, it would not be right to say that quantitative restriction have affected the sugar mills. It is right that the payment of sugarcane producers has not been made in certain areas whereas some mills have made the payment, others are in the process. The main reason behind this is that there has been an over-

production of sugar throughout the world, which has led to a steep fall in the prices of sugar. The hon. Member just now asked as to what efforts are we making in the direction of sugar exports? Infact, it has increased this time as compared to the last two-three years. WTO is giving 'a compatible subsidy' to agricultural commodities. The Import-export policy of the Government was announced recently, under which, provision was made to give transport subsidy and in tax subsidy for export to certain items, be it cereals, vegetables or fruits.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the answer to the question is really very disappointing. The very crux of the problem could not be projected in the answer. Actually, we did not expect this type of answer from Shri Ajit Singh who is the son of Shri Charan Singh. On several occasions, Shri Charan Singh protected the interests of the farmers. Now, this is really a very casual answer. Rather in the information that has been provided by the Ministry of Commerce here, he has been protecting the word 'commerce'. . . .(Interruptions)

This is really a very serious question. If the hon. Minister is trying to substantiate his answer by referring to the Wholesale Price Index, the entire farming community will be deceived. Now, out of 429 lines where the quantitative restrictions have been lifted, there are about 500 lines which are related to agriculture and allied subjects.

If the hon. Minister tries to group the entire 500 lines which are related to agriculture and animal husbandry and give the Wholesale Price Index, most of the farmers will even commit suicides. Then, what would happen? Can the hon. Minister say on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture? Was there any occasion when the Ministry raised the issue regarding a particular product that the farmers of this country were suffering with the lifting of quantitative restrictions and also due to indiscriminate imports?

Out of several cases, for example, take cotton. What is the import duty? Till last year, it was only five per cent. Several Chief Ministers, including our Chief Minister have raised the issue that the cotton farmers have been committing suicides since they are unable to compete with imports. They have said that it should, at least, be increased to 25 per cent. With much difficulty, it has been increased to 10 per cent. Even today, a cotton farmer in India is not in a position to compete with the imports. Have you taken any specific instance? Take, for example, the palmyra plantations? The Government of India has encouraged them to go in for palmyra plantations. They

have raised the crop. Now, they are uprooting the crop since the Malaysian imports are on the heads of these farmers.

Take, for example, copra. So, in the case of all these oils, at least, the bound duties are there. There is a lot of leverage. When we are not able to analyse the commodity wise impact, we will be deceiving the farming community.

Lastly, I would ask a question. As Minister of Agriculture, you have to protect the interests of the farmers. The Minister of Commerce may protect the interests of the Indian economy.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please put the question.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : As Minister of Agriculture in India, was there any specific instance where you had projected that in such-and-such product, the farmers were suffering and thereby tried to protect the interests of these farmers? . . .(Interruptions)

In cotton crop, it is the traders' lobby that is ruling this price structure. It is not the farmers' lobby.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him answer, Shri Venkateswarlu.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has expressed concern about the farmers. His concern regarding many a crop is appreciable. When I said 3.5 percent- I am well aware that the prices of every item have not increased, infact prices of certain items have fallen too. Price of raw cotton has fallen by more than 20 percent. I have all the details, I shall send them to him. If the hon. Member wants to ask commodity wise increase and fall in prices then I can tell that too. The prices of edible oils have increased by around 15 percent, those of fruits and vegetables have increased by 17 percent. Prices of raw jute have increased by more than 14 percent. Prices of pulses are falling. Infact prices of many a commodity have fallen and those of many other commodities have increased too. The Government are making every effort to protect the interests of the farmers and MSP and MIS schemes are a culmination of those efforts. If you wish I can go into the details thereof. Those who talk welfare of the farmers, do very well know that if there has been an increase in imports, the Government has from time to time increased the import duty also. Duty on wheat has been increased by 50 percent, on Arecanut it has been increased from 35 percent to 100 percent. Similarly, duty on poultry has been increased from 35 percent to 100 percent. Earlier the

duty on milk powder was zero percent, but now it has been increased to 60 percent. On apples it has been increased from 35 percent to 50 percent. It was zero percent on rice earlier, here it has been increased to 70 percent. We have increased the import duty from time to time.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : On Ghee, in the recent Budget, it has been decreased from 40 percent to 30 percent. For the next year also, it has been announced now. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Please state how this action of the Government has effected the farmers. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Akhilesh ji, please let the Minister finish his reply first. You cannot ask a question while the Minister is giving his reply.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : The entire country is burning. Farmers are being compelled to commit suicide. He has given a mis-leading answer. This is a serious issue. Foreign what is sold cheaper in our markets as compared to our indigenous wheat despite increase in input duty effected by the Government. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not give a running commentary.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I am replying to what the hon. Member has said, if you say I would answer to him also. Hon. Minister right now mentioned about Butter oil. The Government have taken decision in this regard and we are going to increase import duty on butter oil. Announcement to this effect had been made, hon. Member as also the Government both are concerned about it and that is why we have not reduced import duty, instead we have increased it. A decision to increase Import duty upto 40 percent on butter oil has been taken. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : A supplementary questions has been asked and the Minister is replying. In between, you cannot ask a question like this. If you want, you can ask a supplementary. Let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Hon. Member from Andhra Pradesh has spoken about cotton farmers also. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : I also have to ask question on this matter.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jadhav, again you are committing the same mistake. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu has asked a supplementary. Let him complete his reply.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The concern of hon. Member regarding cotton farmers is also genuine. Import duty on cotton has been recently increased. Long stage cotton which is not produced here is being imported in maximum quantity. And therefore, it is not a problem of our farmers. Only that cotton is imported which is not produced in our country, but it is required by the textile mills. There are many other problems of cotton farmers. Besides, separate discussion can also be held on the questions which are being raised if the hon. Members wish.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I allow half-an-hour discussion on this question.

[English]

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after listening to our friend from Andhra Pradesh, my question becomes very short. On Quantitative Restrictions, there is a steep fall in the prices of indigenous agricultural products. Is there a steep fall in agricultural products ? The Minister, in his reply, says :

"In the wake of removal of Quantitative Restrictions, Government have put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and are committed to provide adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include calibration of applied tariffs within bound tariffs, anti-dumping and safeguard action and imposition of countervailing duties under specified circumstances."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You ask the supplementary.

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : Now I am coming to the point. The point is that today there is a steep fall in the prices of the indigenous agricultural products of the country. The Minister has not given any answer. It is vague.

So far as we are concerned, we are coming from Tamil Nadu. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, last year in the same season, there was such a hue and cry in the whole State. All the producers in Ooty and Nilgiri tea-plantation gardens had loaded their tea in lorries and brought them to the main roads and they were dumped on the main roads. There was nobody to take up. Again, in Theni district, the potatoes and tomatoes were loaded in lorries and brought to the main roads in the towns and cities. They were simply thrown away. Like that, at the moment we face the same condition in Thanjavur district which is considered to be the rice bowl. Paddy is now lying. Nobody is there to take up. Here the Minister says of various WTO compatible measures.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Dalit Ezhilmalai, you look into the Question. Supplementary Question should be confined to that.

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : I am coming to the point. He is talking about the WTO. The question is about the agricultural products. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu clearly asked the question. Sir, is it anything to do with the Commerce Ministry or the Industry Ministry ? Or is it for the Minister of Agriculture to say ? We will be very happy whichever Ministers answers this question regarding the agricultural produces from Ooty, Thanjavur and Theni districts. The present Government in Tamil Nadu has given subsidy to the plantation workers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You ask the supplementary.

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : What is the responsibility ? What is the share ? What is the participation of the Union Government as Agricultural Ministry, or Commerce Ministry or Industry Ministry ? The agricultural produces of the agricultural farmers are now lying uncared. Nobody is there to take up. What is the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture with regard to the steep fall in the prices of the indigenous products ? That is my question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you understood his question ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I have understood his concern for the farmers of Tamil Nadu. Tea plantation or paddy in Tamil Nadu is facing a lot of problems. That is what I have understood. His concern is there. As we said, 'many commodities' prices have come down. Some have gone up. They are not all because of the WTO or because of removal of Quantitative Restrictions. There are many reasons for it. In many areas, whatever action we can take, if they are WTO-related, we take action. We increased the customs duty. We have phyto-sanitary measures. Then we

have MSP. We have Market Interventionist Scheme. Whatever particular problems of any commodity are there, we try to co-operate with the State Government. MIS is worked with the co-operation of the State Government. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already announced Half-an-Hour Discussion will be there for this Question. If you want, you give a notice for it.

Pending Irrigation Projects

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

(a) the names of major irrigation projects yet to be completed in the country including West Bengal;

(b) the time since when these projects were taken up, initial cost of each project alongwith target date of completion;

(c) the present estimate of each project; and

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed ?

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

Statement

171 major irrigation projects in the country spilled over into the Ninth Plan. The names of these projects, their original cost, the plan of their start, latest estimated cost are given in the Annexure enclosed.

Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility for planning, investigating, funding, implementing, operating and maintaining irrigation projects, including flood control and drainage, rests primarily with the State Government.

Due to thin spreading of resources and other problems like talking of too many irrigation projects without focusing on their completion, resettlement and rehabilitation of Projects Affected Families, land acquisition problems, contractual disputes and litigation, completion of head works first without constructing the distribution system etc., the completion of projects gets delayed and State Governments are not able to indicate firm target for completion of projects.

State Governments have not been able to either indicate any firm target for completion while taking up projects or during their implementation.

Annexure**Ongoing Irrigation Projects**

(Cost Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Started in Plan	Original Cost	Latest Estimated Cost
1	2	3	4	5

Andhra Pradesh

1.	Nagarjunasagar	II	91.12	1025.00
2.	Sriramsgar St-I (Pochampad)	III	40.10	2425.00
3.	Vamsadhara St-I	IV	8.78	109.00
4.	Pulivendula Branch Canal	IV	2.98	110.14
5.	Somasila	V	17.28	467.00
6.	Singur	V	29.76	180.00
7.	Yeleru Reservoir	VI	107.35	335.34
8.	Srisaillam Right Bank Canal	VI	220.22	1600.00
9.	Srisaillam Left Bank Canal	VI	U.A.	1260.00
10.	Teluguganga	VI	U.A.	2347.00
11.	Jurala (Priyadarshini)	VI	U.A.	545.82
12.	Vamsadhara St-II (Neradi Barrage)	VI	U.A.	749.83
Total				11154.13

Assam

13.	Dhansiri	V	15.83	224.80
14.	Bordikarai	V	3.56	48.03
15.	Integrated Kallong	V	4.57	80.55
16.	Champamati	VI	15.32	80.00
Total				433.38

Biher

17.	Western Kosi Canal	III	13.49	900.00
18.	Bagmati Reservoir	V	5.78	154.73
19.	Durgavati Reservoir	V	13.88	177.76

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Barnar Reservoir	V	8.03	230.43
21.	Bateswarasthan Pump Pahse I	V	91.31	249.54
	Bansagar (Unit I only is approved)	V	U.A.	118.09
22.	Upper Kiul Reservoir	V	8.07	109.93
23.	Gandak Ph. II	VII		578.27
24.	Kosi Eastern Canal Ph.II	VII	U.A.	156.32
Total				2675.07

Jharkhand

25.	Ajoy Barrage at Siktia	V	115.24	206.89
26.	Subernarekha	V	U.A.	1502.22
27.	Auranga Reservoir	VII	125.40	699.36
28.	Konar Diversion	V	U.A.	373.00
29.	Tilaiya Diversion	V	U.A.	301.79
30.	North Koel Reservoir	V	U.A.	814.72
31.	Punasi Reservoir	VII	U.A.	185.82
Total				4083.80

Goa

32.	Salauli	IV	9.61	153.00
-	Tillari	V	141.22	525.59
Total				678.59

Gujarat

33.	Damanganga	IV	24.40	272.78 (including)
34.	Panam	IV	10.66	106.79
35.	Sabarmati	IV	17.59	123.57
	Mahi Bajajsagar (Gujarat Share cost)	IV		
36.	Karjan	V	37.20	280.98
37.	Sukhi	V	23.11	121.36
38.	Sipu	AP 1978-80	18.80	102.44

1	2	3	4	5
39. Watrak	AP	43.71	63.77	
	1978-80			
40. Sardar Sarovar (Narmada)	VI	6406.04	10156.27	
41. Zankhari	VI	18.70	90.00	
Total			11317.96	

Haryana

42. Gurgaon Canal	III	2.88	65.00	
43. Jawahar Lal Nehru Lift	V	40.00	245.75	
44. Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal	V	59.70	601.00	
45. Loharu (S)	IV	4.13	81.46	
46. Rewari Stage-II	III	U.A.	39.60	
Total			1032.81	

Himachal Pradesh

47. Shahanahar	VIII	143.32	143.32	
Total			143.32	

Jammu and Kashmir

48. Ravi Tawi Irrigation Canal	V	29.84	151.18	
Total			151.18	

Karnataka

49. Bhadra	I	31.93	155.23	
50. Tungbhadra Dam and Left Bank Canal	I	33.41	319.09	
51. Tungbhadra High Level Canal	II	2.57	79.48	
52. Kabini	II		480.00	
53. Malaprabha	III	19.91	703.71	
54. Harangi	III	U.A.	373.00	
55. Hemavati	AP	U.A.	2100.00	
	1968-69			
56. Upper Krishna St.I	IV	58.20	5435.90	
57. Karanja	V	98.00	340.00	

1	2	3	4	5
58. Banithore	V	73.25	153.00	
59. Hippargi Barrage	V	418.77	524.21	
Dudhganga	VI	U.A.	110.00	
60. Upper Tunga	VIII	U.A.	877.75	
61. Varahi	VII	U.A.	122.50	
62. Yagachi	VIII	U.A.	239.70	
Total			12013.57	

Kerala

63. Kanhirapuzha	III	3.65	100.00	
64. Pazhassi	III	4.42	137.00	
55. Kallada	III	13.28	698.00	
66. Muvattupuzha	V	48.08	455.00	
67. Idamalayar	VI	17.85	107.00	
68. Chaliyar (Beypporepuzha)	VIII	U.A.	645.00	
69. Kuriyarkutty (Karapara)	VIII	U.A.	140.00	
Total			2282.00	

Madhya Pradesh

70. Kolar	IV	139.14	195.00	
71. Sindh Phase-I	IV	4.95	58.43	
Rajghat	V			
Unit I	V	61.61	133.50	
Unit II	V	309.21	523.41	
72. Bansagar				
Unit I	V	91.31	936.00	
Unit II	V	344.66	345.00	
73. Bansagar (Rani Awanthibai Sagar)	V			
Unit I	V	566.34	759.00	
Unit II	V			
74. Upper Wainganga	V	50.80	249.72	
75. Bariarpur LBC	V	18.40	204.43	
76. Urmil	V	6.41	22.01	

1	2	3	4	5
77. Thanwar	AP	24.38	27.22	
	78-80			
78. Mahi	VI	61.52	192.85	
Bawanthadi Unit I	VI	74.06	95.28	
Unit II	VI	52.75	52.75	
79. Man	VI	44.10	96.13	
80. Jobat	VI	30.75	67.23	
81. Indira Sagar	VI	752.16	1574.00	
82. Barna	II	6.66	34.36	
83. Bhandar Canal	II	2.04	27.79	
84. Sindh Phase-II	VI	510.94	607.67	
85. Omkareshwar	VIII	350.00	755.00	
86. Bargi Diversion	VIII	1101.23	1554.50	
87. Pench Diversion	VIII	91.60	184.04	
88. Mahan	VI	39.00	155.10	
Total			8850.42	
Chhattisgarh				
89. Mahanadi Reservoir	IV	15.34	1223.45	
90. Pairi	IV	4.97	33.54	
91. Jonk (Diversion)	IV	4.13	48.99	
92. Kodar	V	2.94	48.83	
93. Hasdeo Bango	AP	115.30	858.31	
	78-80			
Total			2213.12	
Maharashtra				
94. Khadakwasla	II	11.62	353.91	
95. Krishna	III	27.66	375.00	
96. Bhima	III	42.58	918.56	
97. Kukadi	AP	17.90	1044.93	
	1966-69			
98. Upper Godavari	AP	14.20	133.23	
	1966-69			
99. Warna	IV	31.08	992.82	
100. Upper Tapi	IV	12.09	172.12	

1	2	3	4	5
101. Upper Penganga	V	84.48	1050.00	
102. Upper Wardha	V	39.88	661.86	
103. Dudhganga	V	204.68	757.28	
104. Waghur	V	12.28	189.32	
105. Upper Pravara	V	15.87	287.14	
106. Chaskaman	V	22.48	329.27	
107. Nandur	V	U.A.	284.26	
Madhmeshwar (A)				
Madhmeshwar (N)		72.66	294.11	
108. Bhatsa	V	164.11	322.49	
109. Jayakwadi Stage-I	V	127.36	769.87	
Stage-II	V			
110. Surya	AP	19.35	175.14	
	1978-80			
111. Bawanthadi	AP	34.77	124.17	
	1978-80			
112. Isthapuri (Vishnupuri)	AP	78.93	196.60	
	1978-80			
113. Tillari	AP	76.00	424.06	
	1978-80			
114. Lendi	VI	U.A.	204.50	
115. Lower Thirna Flow	VI	37.65	129.67	
Lower Thirna Lift	VI	U.A.	53.71	
116. Ghosi Khurd (Sawargaon)	VI	461.19	2091.00	
117. Lower Wardha	VI	U.A.	540.14	
118. Lower Wunna	VI	87.55	261.33	
119. Wan	VI	46.85	158.35	
120. Arunavati	VI	66.48	148.71	
121. Tultuli	VI	U.A.	169.40	
122. Kadwa	VI	27.00	48.96	
123. Talamba	VI	289.09	286.24	
124. Punad	VI	29.92	115.62	
125. Human	VI	U.A.	370.04	
126. Neera Deoghar	VIII	U.A.	510.84	

1	2	3	4	5
127. Bembla	VIII	U.A.	307.82	
128. Bhama Askheda	VIII	U.A.	233.28	
129. Urmodi	VI	18.85	361.19	
130. Gunjawani	VIII	U.A.	130.69	
131. Janai Shirsai LIS	VIII	U.A.	124.65	
132. Khadak/Purna	VIII	U.A.	177.65	
133. Krishna Koyna LIS	VI	259.10	1083.00	
134. Lower Dudhna	VIII	53.21	347.83	
135. Lower Penganga	VIII	U.A.	207.14	
136. Sina Kolegaon	VIII	U.A.	170.00	
137. Sina Madha LIS	VIII	U.A.	73.00	
Total			18160.9	
Manipur				
138. Thoubal	AP 1978-80	47.25	390.00	
139. Khuga	VI	15.00	150.29	
Total			540.29	
Meghalaya			Nil	
Mizoram			Nil	
Nagaland			Nil	
Orissa				
140. Potteru	IV	14.81	169.61	
141. Rengali				
(a) Dam	IV	57.93	40.77	
(b) Irrigation	V	233.64	2148.50	
142. Upper Kolab				
(a) Dam	V	7.58	48.81	
(b) Irrigation	V	16.47	270.00	
143. Upper Indravati				
(a) Dam	AP 1978-80	34.92	176.16	
(b) Irrigation	AP 1978-80	42.74	480.96	
Subernarekha	VII	1013.62	1270.50	

1	2	3	4	5
144. Kanupur Irrigation	VIII	268.65	330.89	
145. Mahanadi Chitrotpola	VII	39.93	131.00	
(Orissa)-Total			5067.20	
Punjab				
Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal				
(a) Carrier Canal	VI	176.00	601.25	
(b) Providing Irriga- tion Facilities to Punjab Areas	VI	U.A.	58.12	
Total			659.37	
Rajasthan				
146. Jakham	III	2.33	104.00	
— Gurgaon Canal		2.88	35.40	
147. Mahi Bajaj Sagar	IV	31.36	799.04	
148. Som Kamla Amba	V	4.48	207.48	
149. Indira Gandhi Nahar Stage II	V	89.12	2267.44	
— Narmada (Sardar Sarovar)	VI	467.53	1462.00	
150. Bisalpur	VII	173.03	325.00	
151. Sidhmukh Nagar	AP 1990-92	143.59	309.00	
Total			5509.36	
Sikkim			Nil	
Tamil Nadu			Nil	
Tripura			Nil	
Uttar Pradesh				
152. Sardar Sahayak	III	64.84	1250.00	
153. Lakhwar Vyasi				
(a) Dam (Uttar Pradesh Share)	V	140.97	578.40	
(b) Water Utilisation	V	U.A.	30.25	
154. Madhya Ganga Canal St-I	V	66.01	543.96	

1	2	3	4	5
155. Sarju Nahar (Left Bank Ghagra Canal)	V	78.66	2810.00	
156. Eastern Ganga Canal	V	48.46	579.00	
157. Rajghat				
(a) Dam	V	123.22	133.08	
(b) Canal	V	126.43	179.24	
158. Sone Pump Canal	V	5.64	72.55	
159. Kanhar Irrigation	V	U.A.	240.00	
160. Bewar Feeder	V	27.91	59.90	
161. Maudaha Dam	V	66.82	125.16	
Bansagar				
(a) Dam	V	91.31	234.00	
(b) Conveyance System in UP		169.52	268.00	
(c) Conveyance System in MP		27.92	27.92	
162. Chitaurgarh Reservoir	V	34.06	36.70	
163. Gyanpur Pump Canal	V	110.51	159.88	
164. Chambal Lift	VII	U.A.	79.24	
165. Providing Paddy Channel in Hindon Krishi Doab	VII	15.53	39.24	
166. Tehri				
(a) Dam (Irrigation Share)	VII	197.92	711.14	
(b) Water Utilisation		U.A.	50.00	
167. Jarauli Pump Canal	90-91	47.92	48.22	
Total			8255.88	
Uttaranchal				
168. Jamrani Dam	V	61.25	433.00	
Total			433.00	
West Bengal				
169. Barrage and Irrigation System of DVC	I	U.A.	60.00	

1	2	3	4	5
170. Kangsabati	II	25.26	250.00	
171. Teesta Barrage	V	69.72	1177.00	
Subernarekha	VIII	228.82	595.00	
Total			2082.00	
Grand Total			97737.35	

U.A. – Unapproved.

– These projects are scheduled to be completed during X Plan

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Sir, I have gone through the answer which has been given by the Minister. But it is not understood clearly. The allocation for the projects is Rs. 97,737.35 crore. But what is the share of the Union Government? I would like to know whether they have contributed to this project or not. Or is this solely contributed by the State Governments? In relation to that, my question is whether the Subernarekha Barrage project in West Bengal has been approved or not. I would like to know whether the Accelerated Irrigation Development Programme (AIDP) is going to be introduced there under Central loan assistance. If approved, how much money has been approved for the Subernarekha Barrage in West Bengal?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, all of us know that irrigation is a State subject. As per the present policy, irrigation projects are planned, investigated, formulated and implemented by the State Governments are per their own priorities. The State Governments fix the priorities. They execute whatever projects they take up on their own priorities and with the funds available at their disposal. The Central Government provides block loans as well as grants though not connected with any particular project.

He has mentioned that Rs. 97,763 crore have been allocated but it is the latest estimated costs of spill over projects of different plans. We have provided loans to the tune of Rs. 84,000 crore under the AIBP.

As far as the Subernarekha projects is concerned, the hon. Member knows that it is not an approved project. So far as Orissa's share is concerned, it is approved; but so far as the erstwhile Bihar Government is concerned, it is not at all approved. However, so far as West Bengal is concerned, we have provided loans under AIBP for the completion of this canal about Rs. 2 crore till date.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : So far as the Subernarekha Barrage. Project is concerned, the project cost is Rs. 595 crore and the loan assistance provided is only Rs. 2 crore, which is very meagre. So, does the Government have in mind in idea to provide more money for this barrage project ?

I would also like to know whether the Government is willing to constitute any development board comprising the States of Orissa, West Bengal and Jharkhand to monitor the Subernarekha Barrage Project.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, so far as the constitution of a development board for the completion of the Subernarekha project is concerned, the Central Government has already written to the State Governments of Orissa, West Bengal and also the recently constituted State of Jharkhand. We have not yet received the replies from the State Governments.

So far as the West Bengal and Orissa portion of the Subernarekha Irrigation Project is concerned, there is no doubt that it is an approved project; but so far as the erstwhile Bihar portion is concerned, it is not at all approved. It has not yet been approved. However, the hon. Prime Minister has directed that for the on-going projects that are at the stage of completion we have to provide funds under AIDP on a fast track basis and we would be providing it so far as the West Bengal portion and Orissa portion are concerned. We are providing grants and loans for completion of those portions. In respect of the Jarkhand portion, we have written that there should be a development board so that the co-ordination between different States could be done and the project could be implemented immediately.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are sorry that the hon. Minister is replying this Question saying that the Central Government is not responsible for the completion of these projects. If it were so, it would not have been necessary to have an Irrigation Ministry at the Union level.

When projects are prepared, they are presented to the Planning Commission and the Planning Commission looks into them.

As far as the major projects are concerned, they are not taken up unless and until clearance is given by the Central Water Commission (CWC). And when the projects are presented to the Planning Commission and the CWC, it is necessary for the Union Government to look into the time frame within which they can be completed. The amount of money that would be required and the agencies and all other things are looked into. Now the hon. Minister

is saying that there are the land acquisition cases and rehabilitation. Lands are acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, and the Land Acquisition Act says that the emergency provisions can be applied and the land can be immediately acquired, and all those things. Instead of going into these details and instead of seeing that the time overrun is not there and the cost overrun is not there, the hon. Minister is saying that the Government of India is not responsible for this. It is because of this that we have not been able to manage the finances of the country in a proper fashion. It is because of this that there is a fiscal deficit. And if the Government of India is not governing, if the Government of India is not supervising, if the Government of India is not making use of the laws which exists if the Government of India is not using the institutions which have been created, this is going to happen. So, we will like to know from the Government of India as to what they are going to do to see that there are no cost overruns and times overruns.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as the inter-State projects are concerned, it is true that the Project Report comes to the Central Ministry and after the Central Ministry has approved these projects. The implementation can be taken by the State Governments. But where there is no inter-State ramification, the State Governments are free to go ahead.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : No, that is not true, Sir. All major projects, whether Inter-State or not, have to come to CWC for technical clearance and thereafter they have to go to the Planning Commission. Please clarify this thing with your Department.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, I would like to inform the august House that the State Government of Maharashtra has filed a PIL before the High Court of Maharashtra saying that the Central Government has no power so far as the clearance of projects is concerned. This has been pending before the High Court. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : That is a different thing. The case is pending before the High Court for clarification. But what is the existing rule? The hon. Member is asking about the existing rule. The Government of India is obstructing the projects. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, let him answer.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, so far as the Inter-State river projects are concerned, there is no doubt that unless we give clearance, they cannot go ahead or implement those projects. So far as the irrigation project within the State are concerned, there is no compulsion that they

should come to us. In the statement I have mentioned 36 unapproved projects which are being executed by the States. We have not approved them. So, this is the position. The State Governments sometimes go ahead and they do not even approach us or inform us about the status of the project. That is why 36 unapproved projects are being implemented by the States. Only Inter-State rivers projects come to us for clearance and we give technical clearance with the approval of the various States concerned.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has right now said that irrigation projects is State subject, decision in this regard is taken by the State Governments. But there are certain big projects, which are a joint venture of two or three States and the Union plays an import role especially when the forest land is to be acquisitioned or when the forest land falls under that project. The decision of the Union in this regard is final. I would like to know some facts in connection with Madhya Pradesh that why some of the projects viz – Ban Sagar Project, Rajghat Project, Bargi Project, Indira-Sagar and some other projects initiated in the fifth five year plan have not completed so far. Hon. Minister has also stated that these Projects are likely to be completed in the Tenth Five Year Plan. On the one hand the Government say that it is State subject and on the other hand they say that the said projects would be completed in the Tenth Five Year Plan – On what basis the Government are making such statements. I would like to know as to how much grant has been provided to the State Government for these projects and how much loan has been given for this purpose as per the recommendations of the Central Government.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, as I have already stated, on the basis of the information we receive from the State Government, we can state here on the floor of the House that the particular projects are likely to be completed by the end of the Tenth Plan or within one year or so. So far as the Bargi project is concerned we are providing funds under AIBP (Fast track) – Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and we have provided Rs. 98 crore till now. Similarly, work on Bansagar, Indirasagar and other related projects is still going on and it is nearing completion. As I have stated, we are providing fund under AIBP. Whenever any State approaches the Centre, we provide loans to the State Government on a priority basis for the completion of the project and not for starting any new project. We provide funds under AIBP for completion of the project. We are providing funds for these particular projects also.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Water Resources as to why two major river projects in the Bodoland territory have not been completed as yet even after the lapse of a long period of 20 and 25 years respectively. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I had asked specially about the Rajghat, Bargi and Indira Sagar Projects that whether these would to completed in the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, I would like to be clarified here. As I have stated, the implementation of these two irrigation projects is done by the State Governments. Unless they implement the projects quickly and expedite the completion of the project, what can I do ? I can only provide funds and monitor it.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, there should be a discussion under Rule 193 on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, I agree. You can raise it. We can have a discussion on this. We will find out in the Business Advisory Committee about it.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Water Resources as to why two major river irrigation projects within my Bodoland territory have not been completed as yet. The first is the Champa Moti river irrigation project which was initiated in the year 1980 with an initial project cost of Rs. 15.32 crore and the second one is the Dhansri river irrigation project which was initiated in the year 1975 with an initial project cost of Rs. 15.83 crore. For the past 20 and 25 years respectively, these two projects have not been completed. Why is it that this sort of discrimination is being shown against the people of Bodoland ? I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why these two major projects have not been completed. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, there should be a discussion under Rule 193 or Rule 184 on this. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : The Government of Assam has not done anything. It has never done any justice to the people of Bodoland. Please let us know the reasons why these two major river irrigation projects have not been completed. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Bwiswmuthiary, please ask the question. The Question Hour is going to be over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : Even after 20 and 25 years why this delay in completing of these two major river irrigation projects ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, the hon. Member is referring to two schemes which he says have not been completed. I have specifically given the floor to him because he comes from the border area.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Sir, the hon. Member says that these two projects are not being completed. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : How many more years will you take for completion of these projects ? These two are very important project to us.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : So far as Champamati Irrigation Project is concerned, it was stated during the Sixth Five-Year Plan. The original cost was Rs. 15.32 crore. At present, the latest estimated cost is about Rs. 80 crore. As I have stated, we provide funds, and the project is being implemented by the State Government. No doubt, we certainly monitor its implementation by the State Government.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : How much amount has been allocated to it ?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : An amount of Rs. 8 crore has been allocated. The estimated cost is Rs. 80 crore. The State Government has not approached us for loans under AIBP. Whenever they approach us, certainly we will consider providing loans under AIBP.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Privatisation of Ground Handling Services at Airports

*484. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revamp and privatize the ground handling services at 9 international airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any firms were selected for the purpose in May, last year;

(d) if so, the details of the firms;

(e) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs raised objections against some firms which were selected for the purpose as reported in Indian Express dated March 20, 2002; and

(f) if so, the reasons for which the security agencies raised objections against them ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (f) In order to provide competition and state-of-the-art ground handling services, new regulations for ground handling were notified in February, 2000 permitting Airports Authority of India (AAI) to license more ground handling agencies besides national carriers at different airports keeping in view, inter alia, demand and available infrastructure. Accordingly, AAI invited tenders in February, 2001 for licensing of such ground handling agencies at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Goa airports. This process could not be finalised in view of the changed security environment.

Non-operating Revenue of Air India

*485. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the non-operating revenue is generated from "code-sharing", "Block-space arrangements", "Bilaterals" and other arrangements with foreign airlines;

(b) if so, the total non-operating revenue gained by the country during the last three years;

(c) the present share of each of the airlines in this regard;

(d) whether a total review of the formula is being made by which Indian Airlines and Air India will share non-operating revenue; and

(e) if so, the date by which the new formula on equity will be made operational ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir. The revenue generated from all type of commercial arrangements with foreign airlines is included in operating revenue of the airlines and not in Non-operating revenue.

(b) and (c) The Non-operating revenue for Air India and Indian Airlines for the last 3 years are as follows :

Year	Non-operating revenue .		
	Air India	Indian Airlines	Total
1999-2000	324.57	16.71	341.28
2000-2001	351.39	60.57	411.96
2001-2002	324.04	102.50	426.54

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Participation of Labour in Mine Safety

*486. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering/preparing a new mine safety policy;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to involve workers and local population in promoting mine safety;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to introduce advance technology to make mines and mining safer ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Government are not considering a new mine safety policy. However in order to strengthen the safety statutes, amendments are carried out from time to time as and when need arises.

Provision for involvement of workers in promoting mine safety already exists. There is an institution of Workmen's Inspector (in mines where employment per day is at least 500) to advise the Manager about safety matters in the mine. Also, Safety Committees are required to be provided (in mines which employ at least 100 persons per day) with at least five representatives from the workers. This Committee meets at least once a month.

The following safety practices in mining, which are new to Indian mining industry are being introduced currently under the guidance of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) :

(i) Roof bolting as a method of support is being introduced in all coal mines. This will reduce accidents due to fall of roof.

(ii) Application of a special sealant (developed by the Central Mining Research Institute) to prevent breathing of air into fire area has been introduced. This will enable better control of fire in mines.

(iii) The concept of risk assessment and preparation of safety management plan is being introduced with the objective of general anticipation and prevention of accidents.

(iv) Blasting from surface for hard roof management during extraction by longwall method has been introduced in some mines.

(v) Use of geophysical methods of proving thickness of barriers against waterlogged workings is being tried.

(vi) Use of latest survey instruments of surveying and preparation of plan has been started.

(vii) Digitisation of mine plans has been started.

(viii) Automatic fire extinguishing devices in heavy earth moving machinery will soon be introduced.

(ix) Use of wet drilling arrangement with blast hole drills to reduce airborne dust.

Pollution in Metro Cities

*487. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any comprehensive and concerted action plan to bring down the alarming pollution levels in all Metro and Mega cities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study to assess the impact of CNG use on the pollution levels in Delhi and other metros; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government has taken several steps for prevention and control of pollution in metro and mega cities of the country. These include control of vehicular and noise pollution; management of municipal and bio-medical wastes and plastic wastes disposal. City specific action plans have also been prepared and are at

various stages of implementation in respect of mega cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(c) and (d) Central Pollution Control Board has been conducting ambient air quality monitoring in Delhi and the comparison of ambient air quality data for the years 2000 and 2001 revealed that concentration of all the regulatory pollutants in ambient air has reduced. This is attributable to the increased use of cleaner fuels like low sulphur diesel and compressed natural gas (CNG) in motor vehicles.

[Translation]

Adverse Impact of Chemical Fertilizer

*488. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has conducted any study in regard to the adverse impact of chemical fertilizers on agricultural production;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the impact of the chemical fertilizers noticed on ground water;

(c) whether the ICAR has suggested any remedial measures;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up an advisory body for the conservation of soil, ground water and environment; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has conducted studies on these aspects under two All India Coordinated Research Projects namely; (i) Long Term Fertilizers Experiments and (ii) Ground Water Utilisation. The former has established that prolonged use of inadequate and imbalanced fertilizers may cause nutrient deficiencies, deteriorating soil health and crop productivity. The latter project has indicated the increasing concentrations of nitrates in ground waters in some high fertilizer consumption areas of the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) ICAR is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management and integrated water management practices as remedial measures. Efforts are also being made to promote organic farming in the country.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Farmers Agro Service Centres

*489. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of farmers Agro Service Centres which have been established in the country so far particularly in Orissa, Chattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal, State-wise;

(b) the functions of these Centres; and

(c) the details of assessment of their performance so far in Physical and Financial Terms ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) At present, the Central Government to not have any scheme relating to establishment of Farmers Agro Service Centres. However, some of the State Governments have established such centres. The details of Farmers Agro Service Centres established by the State Governments of Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal are given in the Statement enclosed.

Some of the important functions of the Farmers Agro Service Centres relate to distribution of agricultural implements, machineries, seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, providing technical information/services to the farmers, installation and distribution of drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment, providing custom hiring, repair and maintenance services for agricultural equipment for the benefit of the farmers.

State Government of Orissa has informed that a study has been commissioned for assessing the impact of various agricultural enterprises, including Farmers Agro Service Centres, which have been promoted by them. The study Report is awaited.

As regards Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, no study has been carried out since there is no Farmers Agro Service Centre in these States. State Government of Andhra Pradesh have not carried out any formal study to assess the performance of the Farmers Agro Service Centres. However, their turn over has been reported at about Rs. 192.00 lakh against a target of Rs. 205.92 lakh during the period between April and October 2001. Since the Farmers Agro Service Centres are being assisted by the State Governments, the primary responsibility for

making an assessment of their performance in physical and financial terms vests with the respective State Governments.

Statements

Number of Farmers Agro Service Centres

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Agro Service Centres
1.	Orissa	243
2.	Chhattisgarh	Nil
3.	Andhra Pradesh	21
4.	West Bengal	Nil

National Water Policy

*490. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Water Policy silent on Inter-State sharing" appearing in the Hindu dated April 2, 2002;

(b) if so, the objectives of the new policy;

(c) whether there is no guidelines in the new water policy for Inter-State water sharing.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to solve the Inter-State water disputes;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the development and management of water resources at National Level; and

(g) the action plan formulated by the Union Government to support the States in the implementation of new policy ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (d) and (g) Yes, Sir. Objectives of the National Water Policy is to achieve accelerated and equitable economic development of the country, through integrated and sustainable development and efficient use of country's water resources. The policy also aims at maintaining the quality of water resources and active involvement of all stakeholders in development and

management of water resources in the country. The National Water Resources Council, while adopting the revised National Water Policy, 2002 in its 5th meeting held on 1st April 2002, decided to refer the "National Policy Guidelines for water allocation amongst the States" to the National Water Board for arriving at consensus on these guidelines. However, the requisite provision for the guidelines on Inter-State water sharing in the National Water Policy, 2002 has been accepted by the Council and reads as : "21.1 – The water sharing/distribution amongst the States should be guided by a national perspective with due regard to water resources availability and needs within the river basin. Necessary guidelines, including for water short States even outside the basin, need to be evolved for facilitating future agreements amongst the basin States."

The Chairman, National Water Resources Council has directed Ministry of Water Resources to prepare an Action Plan to facilitate the State Governments in implementation of the National Water Policy.

(e) Inter-State water issues are resolved by facilitating bilateral/multilateral negotiations among the basin States and reaching Inter-State agreements, setting up of Boards and corporations for development of water resources in Inter-State rivers or by arranging consensus in Zonal Councils. In the event no agreement is reached, the dispute is then referred to a Tribunal on a request from one of the party States under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 for adjudication. In order to settle the disputes expeditiously, in a time bound manner, the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been amended recently.

(f) West being a State subject, schemes are investigated, planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. In order to facilitate the State Governments, Government of India has launched 'Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97. Under the Programme, financial assistance in 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 has been provided under AIBP upto end of 2001-2002. An outlay of Rs. 2800 crore has been provided for the year 2002-2003. Additional irrigation potential of over one million hectare upto the end of March, 2002 has been created under AIBP. Assistance is also being extended to State Governments under Command Area Development (CAD) Programme for bridging the gap

between potential created and utilised. An expenditure of Rs. 764.15 crore was incurred during Ninth Five Year Plan under CAD programme and an outlay of Rs. 202 crore has been proposed for the year 2002-2003. Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting 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 also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis. 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 various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins.

[Translation]

Employment Opportunities in Tourism Sector

*491. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :
YOGI ADITYA NATH :

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to explore more employment opportunities by encouraging tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds proposed to be provided in the Tenth Five Year Plan and the comparative figures of the same in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the number of people provided employment during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the tourism sector and likely to be provided in the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Tenth Five Year Plan aims to enhance the employment opportunities in the tourism sector through developing linkages with other sectors. The proposed strategy in the 10th Five Year Plan is to :

Position tourism as a major engine of economic growth.

- Attempt to harness the direct and multiplier effects of tourism for employment generation, economic development and providing impetus to rural tourism.
- Provide a major thrust to domestic tourism which will acts as a spring board for growth and expansion of international tourism.
- 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.
- Acknowledge the critical role of private sector with Government working as an active facilitator and catalyst.
- Create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilization, heritage and culture in partnership with the States, private sector and other agencies.
- Ensure that the tourist to India gets physically invigorated, mentally rejuvenated, culturally enriched, spiritually elevated, and "feels India within him".

(c) The Planning Commission has allocated a plan allocation of Rs. 2900 crores for Tenth Five Year Plan to the Department of Tourism as compared to Rs. 595 crore actually allocated during Ninth Five Year Plan. Sector/ Scheme-wise break-up for Tenth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

(d) Tourism sector provides both direct and indirect employment opportunities. The details of the employment opportunities generated during first four years of Ninth Five year Plan are as follows :-

Employment (in Million)			
Year	Direct	Indirect	Total
1997-98	12.75	17.34	30.09
1998-99	14.39	19.57	33.96
1999-2000	15.90	21.62	37.52
2000-01	16.45	22.37	38.82
2001-02	Yet to be finalised		

Ministry of Tourism had projected direct and indirect employment in the tourism sector from the present level to 66 million by 2007 based on an outlay of Rs. 5586 crores

and subject to certain policy measures. The Planning Commission has indicated an outlay of Rs. 2900 crores for the tourism sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The projection of Revised employment figures based on this outlay have not yet been finalised.

[English]

Losses to Airports

*492. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH :
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the airports in the country are incurring losses including airports in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the amount of losses incurred by each airport during the last three years, year-wise and airport-wise and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to contain the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) Out of 86 operational airports maintained by Airports Authority of India (AAI), only 11 airports are making profit including Hyderabad Airports in Andhra Pradesh. The amount of loss incurred by each airport during the last three years, year-wise, airports-wise and State-wise is given in the Statement enclosed. The main reason for losses at these airports is low traffic. Some of the airports do not even have scheduled operations. Unless traffic increases, it may not be possible for these airports to make profits. However, efforts are made to minimise losses by increasing non-traffic revenue and by cost cutting measures wherever possible.

Statement

Airports Authority of India list of loss making Airports

(Loss Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	Name of Station	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair	65.78	52.06	206.41
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajamundry	34.75	31.50	40.90
3.		Tirupati	119.73	140.57	184.08
4.		Vijaywada	103.98	105.54	180.12
5.		Visakhapatnam	156.59	30.46	178.16
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	Tezu	20.26	19.58	11.53
7.		Zero	10.69	13.54	3.91
8.	Assam	Dibrugarh	387.27	341.02	423.13
9.		Guwahati	1,440.48	2,020.73	2,567.87
10.		Jorhat	56.59	54.07	95.59
11.		North Lakhimpur	120.58	128.80	133.76
12.		Silchar	161.86	157.01	136.03
13.		Tezpur	9.17	10.94	26.97
14.	Bihar	Gaya	66.97	83.86	75.11
15.		Patna	384.07	396.87	591.28
16.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	191.96	146.34	151.72
17.	Delhi	Safdarjung	419.14	489.63	596.42

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	287.87	254.76	499.64
19.		Bhavnagar	92.95	146.02	88.53
20.		Jamnagar (W.R.)	40.33	63.15	17.77
21.		Kandla	54.22	54.57	42.74
22.		Keshod	69.08	68.29	54.53
23.		Porbander	51.62	65.12	53.41
24.		Rajkot	91.02	149.47	250.43
25.		Vadodara	80.71	231.61	361.83
26.	Himachal Pradesh	Gaggal (Kangra)	18.68	23.46	33.34
27.		Kullu (Bhunter)	314.77	131.10	139.38
28.		Shimla	71.43	62.62	120.91
29.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	99.96	107.61	152.10
30.		Leh	54.22	51.46	86.09
31.		Srinagar	185.66	168.61	176.01
32.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	202.25	265.71	381.94
33.	Karnataka	Hubli	12.81	30.14	36.23
34.		Manglore	99.44	32.12	222.33
35.		Belgaum	130.28	161.52	122.74
36.	Kerala	Trivandrum	1011.37	1020.18	996.35
37.	Lakshadweep Islands	Lakshadeep (Agatti)	33.17	37.69	84.00
38.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	269.82	343.69	535.84
39.		Gwalior	70.90	82.59	101.56
40.		Jabalpur	55.10	76.38	61.48
41.		Khajuraho	178.77	191.69	231.66
42.		Raipur	93.07	128.01	116.22
43.		Indore	109.90	248.80	155.17
44.	Maharashtra	Nagpur	796.55	895.45	985.21
45.		Aurangabad	97.40	154.66	100.57
46.		Kolhapur	0.00	0.00	0.00
47.	Meghalya	Shillong	0.00	0.00	0.00
48.	Manipur	Imphal	437.55	406.68	461.05
49.	Mizoram	Aizwal	24.63	37.08	67.96
50.	Nagaland	Dimapur	190.87	207.99	199.58

1	2	3	4	5	6
51.	Orissa	Bhubneswar	311.78	470.24	449.89
52.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	15.58	24.44	11.10
53.	Punjab	Amritsar	324.14	283.23	331.16
54.		Ludhiana	74.54	80.81	77.03
55.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	436.43	368.41	664.04
56.		Jaisalmer	6.02	14.19	13.26
57.		Jodhpur	111.27	163.38	135.65
58.		Kota	48.73	49.54	35.89
59.		Udaipur	218.36	276.10	319.91
60.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	44.41	40.63	258.19
61.		Madurai	183.25	203.62	244.02
62.		Salem	26.25	31.66	23.38
63.		Trichy	252.01	179.32	288.32
64.		Tuticorin	16.82	25.62	25.51
65.		Vellore	7.01	8.31	4.71
66.	Tripura	Agartala	553.22	514.69	755.95
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	124.46	154.00	185.96
68.		Allahabad	0.00	0.00	0.00
69.		Kanpur	156.43	123.02	135.72
70.		Kanpur (Chakheri) (N.O)	6.29	7.15	5.31
71.		Lucknow	724.56	658.06	921.80
72.		Varanasi	318.06	496.48	546.40
73.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	54.11	59.85	70.65
74.		Pantnagar	53.02	61.54	65.29
75.	West Bengal	Bagdogra	188.23	158.01	268.58

**Compensation to the Victims of
Air Crash**

*493. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain airlines companies are not making payment of compensation to the air crash victims or their relatives/next of kin;

(b) if so, the number of claims of compensation pending with airlines companies as on date, airlines-wise;

(c) the time since when these claims are pending; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure prompt payment of compensation to victims of air crash ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir. Airline companies have been paying the statutory amounts of compensation due to the air crash victims/their relatives after completing the requisite legal formalities such as eligibility of the claimant etc.

(b) to (d) Four cases (including two survived passengers) are pending in respect of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air B-737 aircraft which met with accident at Patna on 17.7.2000 as the claimants have recently resolved the issue of guardianship and now have to submit their acceptance for settlement of compensation offered by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air.

There is no other case pending with the airline companies except those cases which are pending in the court of law mainly because the Claimants have asked for more money than the statutory limits fixed by the law and therefore, are sub-judice. The details of these cases are as under :-

	No. of cases	Date of accident
Air India	03	23.06.1985
Indian Airlines	47	19.10.1998
	03	14.02.1990
	11	26.04.1993
	02	17.07.2000

Insurance Premium Paid by Indian Airlines

*494. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount paid by the Indian Airlines as insurance premium during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) the names of insurance companies with which Indian Airlines is insured;

(c) whether amount paid by IA this year as premium is higher than that of previous year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Indian Airlines to get insurance at the best possible rates ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) The insurance premium in respect of aircraft, spares and third party liabilities for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 is as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

1st October, 2000 to 30th September, 2001	59
1st October, 2001 to 30th September, 2002	185

(b) M/s. General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) were the insurers of Indian Airlines upto 30th September, 2001. Consequent upon GIC becoming National reinsurer, M/s. New India Assurance Co. Ltd. are the insurers for Indian Airlines/Alliance Air w.e.f. 1st October, 2001.

(c) and (d) There has been a steep increase in the Insurance Premium due to hardening of insurance market and increase in War risk insurance premium and levy of additional surcharge in respect of third party war risk liability by the insurers after September 11, 2001 incident in U.S.A.

(e) The Aviation Insurance Policies of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air in respect of aircraft, spares and third party liabilities are renewed from 1st October of every year.

On each occasion, a Team consisting of Senior officials of Indian Airlines, Ministry of Finance (Department of Insurance) and the Chief Executive of National Insurer make detailed presentations before the underwriter abroad. In this presentation, steps taken by Indian Airlines towards improvement in the critical operational areas such as flight safety, engineering, flight training, security measures etc. are highlighted. This helps Indian Airlines to obtain the best possible rates for renewal of insurance policies.

Dues against Travel Agencies

*495. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of travel agencies owe huge sums of money to Air India and Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details of such dues owed to the Airlines;

(c) whether both Airlines are reducing the number of their accredited agents;

(d) if so, the alternate marketing strategy adopted by the Government to meet challenges from the private sector;

(e) whether the Indian Airlines, Air India and Alliance Air have decided to commission of travel agents; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total

amount of sales dues owed by travel agencies to Air India as of 30.9.2001 is Rs. 194.39 crores. However, in keeping with the arrangements with these agencies, amounts due from them are received by the Airlines within 15 days, 30 days or 45 days as per the arrangements. Only amounts which are in default remain outstanding and they are subsequently adjusted with bank guarantees available in Bank settlement plan. Out of this, Rs. 5588.95 lakhs is outstanding from agents since 1981 being either disputed by them or defaulted in payment to Air India. In respect of Indian Airlines, an amount of Rs. 4.64 crores is due for recovery. The amount represents accumulated dues arising over a number of years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Air India and Indian Airlines have reduced the Commission of travel agents from 9 to 7 per cent effective 01.01.2002 and 1.3.2002 respectively.

Passenger Facilities at Airports

*496. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the national level passenger Facilitation Committee has suggested more passenger facilities at all the major airports especially where international flights are being operated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above said Committee has also decided to set up anti-touts committee for all the major airports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) The National Facilitation Committee which meets under the chairmanship of DGCA once in six months held its last meeting on 27.2.2002, where issues such as shortage of embarkation/disembarkation cards, delay in baggage delivery due to x-ray screening by customs, abolition of the practice to 100% customs check on departure, shortage of manpower in immigration and tout menace were discussed. For tackling tout menace, it was decided that a local Sub-Committee consisting of the representatives of the Airport Director, Airline operators Committee and local police and other agencies e.g. Customs/Immigration should be formed at each International airport.

Money Collected through Dereservation of Land

*497. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : 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 "Environment Ministry fined again" appearing in the *Times of India* dated January 12, 2002;

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

(c) whether the Government have ordered any enquiry to fix up responsibility for lapse in formulating a scheme to utilize the money deposited for change of land use as ordered by the apex Court; and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The news item referred to in the question appeared in the *Times of India* dated 19th February, 2002.

The facts are that in one Interlocutory Application (No. 574) in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 filed in the Supreme Court, the issue of compensatory afforestation stipulated while granting clearances under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes, not being carried out in a satisfactory manner was raised. The Supreme Court, in its order dated 8.9.2000 desired that the responsibility of carrying out the compensatory afforestation should be put on the project authorities and directed that the Ministry to submitted a scheme for taking appropriate action for considering and amending the rules and guidelines relating to compensatory afforestation. In compliance thereof, Ministry of Environment and Forests filed an affidavit in the Court on 03.01.2001, with a scheme for carrying out compensatory afforestation.

In another Interlocutory Application (No. 566) in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995, the Supreme Court, in its order on 23.11.2001 asked the Ministry to formulate a scheme, whereby, whenever forest land is permitted for non-forestry use, the responsibility of raising compensatory afforestation should be one the user agency.

Since a detailed affidavit had been filed earlier as mentioned above, the lawyers were requested to apprise the Court of the scheme already filed by the Ministry but somehow the matter escaped attention of the Court. Therefore, the Supreme Court imposed a cost of Rs. 5,000/

- on the Ministry for non-submission of the affidavit on 18.2.2002.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has also filed an affidavit before the Supreme Court stating all these facts and has requested the Court to waive of the fine. As the scheme had been formulated by the Ministry and filed in the Supreme Court in time, no officer in the Ministry can be held responsible for lapse.

Inter-Basin Transfer of Water

*498. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has recommended Inter-Basin transfer of water in different regions of the country to tackle floods;

(b) if so, whether to resolve various water disputes in the country, the Government propose to implement Inter-Basin transfer of water;

(c) if so, whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (d) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for integrated water resources development through inter-linkages of several southern based Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers which inter alia envisages flood control benefit. Through this programme it is intended to assess the surplus basins as of now for possible transfer of water from surplus to deficit basins in order to optimally utilise the water resources of the country. With this purpose the Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and feasibility studies of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers. Union Minister of Water Resources heads the Society and Chief Ministers/ Irrigation Ministers of the States are its Members. There is also a Governing Body under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Water Resources) and a Technical Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission, where also State Governments are represented. These bodies meet regularly to review progress made in the National Perspective Plan and to

decide the further course of action. NWDA has identified 30 links under National Perspective for preparation of Feasibility Report and has completed Feasibility Report of 6 links. Implementation of the water transfer links would only be possible if the concerned co basin States agree to the water linkage proposal provide other logistical support necessary for project implementation and availability of fund is ensured.

Premium Rate of Sugarcane under NAIS

*499. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the premium rate of sugarcane under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been fixed at 2.5%;

(b) if so, whether due to this high premium rate, sugarcane growers are reluctant to participate in the insurance scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether various States particularly Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to reduce the said premium rate;

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

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. As per provision of the scheme, actuarial premium rates are charged for sugarcane crop which may vary from State to State and year to year. During Kharif 2000 and 2001 seasons, these rates ranged from 1% to 2.3%.

(b) and (c) Some reference from State Government of Maharashtra have been received regarding high rate of premium for sugarcane crop in Maharashtra.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Request to reducing the premium rates for sugarcane crop by 0.5% for Kharif 2001 was received from Maharashtra.

(f) Actuarial premium rates are worked out by the Implementing Agency on the basis of standard methodology of premium rating. Therefore, premium rates so calculated can not be altered on the request of a particular State.

Illegal Mining of Coal

*500. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited's (CIL) new policy to deregulate its marketing introduced with effect from October 1, 2001 has been kept in abeyance;

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

(c) whether CIL and its subsidiaries has made an indepth study of illegal mining and its impact on the economy of State and company;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures suggested for preventing illegal mining of coal ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) took a decision in June, 2001 to decentralize the system of coal sales to the non-core sector. Accordingly, the coal companies of CIL started the process of framing their sales policies, which were to come into effect from such dates as decided by them. Subsequently, it was also decided to verify the status of the already linked consumers of the non-core sector so as to eliminate bogus linkages and thus ensure coal supply to the genuine units. This exercise of verification has yet not been completed. Meanwhile, the coal companies are working out details of the new sales policies.

(c) and (d) In depth study by Coal India Limited and its coal companies reveals that illegal mining activities are being done in the nature of clandestine extraction and pilferage of coal from the abandoned/disused working or from outcrop regions within as well as outside the leasehold areas of the coal companies. As illegal mining activities are carried out stealthily and clandestinely, it is not possible either quantify them or to assess its impact on the economy of State/and on the company.

(e) Primarily, it is the responsibility of the State/district administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining. However coal companies are also taking the following measures :

- (i) Intelligence collection.
- (ii) Round the clock patrolling by company's security force and CISF.
- (iii) Surprise checks/raids of illegal mining sites by company's security force and CISF.
- (iv) Erection of fencing/walls in abandoned/disused working, drowning of old workings.

(v) Dozing and filling up the illegal mining sties, wherever possible.

(vi) Blacklisting the trucks, seized, carrying coal from such operation.

(vii) Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police stations and FIRs are lodged.

(viii) Close liaison is kept with the district and State authorities seeking their help and co-operation in curbing illegal mining activities.

National Institute of Animal Welfare

5160. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned funds to Animal Welfare Division for Setting up of National Institute of Animal Welfare;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Institute has since been set-up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said institute is likely to be set-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 7.55 crores involving non-recurring and recurring expenditure for construction of National Institute of Animal Welfare. The Institute is located on land measuring 8.5 acres in Ballabgarh, Haryana. The construction of the Institute was started in September 2001 with the stipulated date of completion as 30th June 2002. The Institute is under construction.

Jobs on Compassionate Grounds

5161. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the names and designations of officials under his Ministry who expired while in service during last three years, year-wise, office-wise;

(b) the names of those whose eligible dependents have been provided with the suitable jobs on compassionate grounds;

(c) the names of those who have not yet been provided with the jobs on compassionate grounds; and

(d) the time by which the jobs are likely to be provided to all such eligible dependents of deceased officials ?

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

[Translation]

Indo-European Aviation Project

5162. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-Europe Aviation project has been cleared; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have signed an agreement for a joint Civil Aviation Project with the European Union, which envisages conducting workshops, Seminars and courses in various aspects of Civil Aviation like aviation safety, airline management, air traffic management, airport activities, Pilots/Instructor training, product support and maintenance in airline industry etc. The objective of the project is to increase Indian awareness of the EU Industry practices including airworthiness, safety regulations and standards and to improve and safeguard standards of aviation safety in the region. The project has entered the implementation phase.

[English]

Loan/Grants to FPI in A.P.

5163. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is plenty of raw material for production of processed food in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government are providing soft loan and grants to private industries, public sector undertaking, NGO, cooperatives and research and development institutions; and

(c) if so, the total soft loan/grants made available to the industries engaged in the food processing in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, with effect from 2001-2002 only grants are being provided.

(c) For the projects approved during the last three years i.e., 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 Rs. 301.00 lakhs was made available as soft loans and Rs. 263.98 lakhs has been made available as grants.

Constitution of New Tribunal

5164. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kanataka has requested the Union Government to constitute a new tribunal to allow it to utilise its share of about 278 tmc of water of the total 500 tmc of surplus water under the Scheme B of Bachawat award for irrigation in the drought-prone districts;

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

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

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Social Security Scheme for Agricultural Labourers

5165. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds have since been provided by the Union Government to the various States particularly Maharashtra for the period 2001-02 under Agricultural Labour Social Security Scheme;

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

(c) the total number of persons benefited under this scheme in various States; and

(d) the various sub-schemes being run under Agricultural Labour Social Security Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The Government has launched a social security scheme, namely, Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001 for agricultural labour through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in 50 selected districts and intends to cover 10 lakh agricultural workers over a period of three years. The scheme has provision of life-cum-accident insurance, money back, pension and superannuation benefits. The worker is required to pay Re. 1/- per day or Rs. 365/- per year and the contribution of the Central Government is Rs. 2/- per day or Rs. 730/- per year per beneficiary. Under the scheme, funds are not released to the State Governments as the Central share has been automatically credited to LIC during the year 2001-02 from the Social Security Fund on the basis of the workers covered and premium deposited with the LIC. As per reports received from the LIC, about 1.01 lakh workers have been covered under the scheme from various States and Rs. 2.11 crore collected as premium upto 31st March 2002. State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise number of beneficiaries and Premium Collected by LIC under KSSSY-01 (As on 31.3.2002 (P))

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of Beneficiaries covered	Amount of premium collected by LIC (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10991	34.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	—
3.	Assam	4116	3.76
4.	Bihar	1307	1.18
5.	Chhattisgarh	9938	19.82
6.	Goa	0	—
7.	Gujarat	3589	4.55
8.	Haryana	0	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	—
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	—
11.	Jharkhand	268	0.24
12.	Karnataka	981	0.77

1	2	3	4
13.	Kerala	410	0.37
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18807	47.78
15.	Maharashtra	9728	8.75
16.	Manipur	0	—
17.	Meghalaya	0	—
18.	Mizoram	645	0.58
19.	Nagaland	185	0.36
20.	Orissa	10546	24.97
21.	Punjab	1097	1.14
22.	Rajasthan	8905	24.75
23.	Sikkim	4314	3.88
24.	Tamil Nadu	11271	30.77
25.	Tripura	0	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3008	2.71
27.	Uttaranchal	398	0.36
28.	West Bengal	802	0.73
Total		101306	211.49

[English]

Milk Powder and Products

5166.SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether unrestricted import of milk powder and milk products have adversely affected the production and marketing of indigenous milk and milk products;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with demand and supply and the quantity imported as on January 1, 2002;

(c) the steps being taken to increase quantity and improve the quality of milk;

(d) whether India is also exporting milk and milk products; and

(e) if so, the quantity of different products exported annually and the name of countries to which exported ?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) The Government has launched the following programmes to increase milk production in the country;

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding

(ii) Central Cattle Breeding Farms.

(iii) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute.

(iv) Central Herd Registration Scheme.

(v) Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non-operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas.

To improve the quality of milk at production level, various State Governments and National Dairy Development Board are taking necessary steps. The Milk and Milk Product (Amendment) Order, 2002 provides for safety and quality of milk.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement showing the details of export of different dairy products during 2000-2001 is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Export of different dairy products during 2000-2001

Exim Code	Description of item	Country	Quantity (K.g.)
1	2	3	4
0401	Milk and Cream not concentrated nor containing added sugar or other sweetening matter		
04011000	Milk and Cream etc. containing Fat not exceeding 1%	Egypt ARP	8574
040210	Milk and Cream Concentrated/contng Sugar/sweetening Matr. Milk and Cream in Pwder, Granls on other Solid Forms contng Fat not exceeding 1.5% by Weight		
04021001	Skimmed Milk		
		Angola	600000
		Bangladesh	1709250
		Chinese Taipei	50000

1	2	3	4
		Egypt ARP	50000
		Ethopia	70000
		Ghana	48200
		Hong Kong	35000
		Indonesia	60000
		Ivory Coast	32000
		Jordan	5000
		Korea DP RP	5000
		Kuwait	6224
		Myanmar	5000
		Mozambique	3750
		Nepal	11020
		Netherlands	32000
		Philippines	48000
		Saudi Arab	51000
		Singapore	40055
		Sri Lanka	190000
		Uganda	1000
		U.A.E.	401252
		Yaman Republic	173104
04021003	Milk Food for Babies		
		Bangladesh	236000
		China P RP	59000
		Nepal	6860
		Saudi Arab	2500
		South Africa	10468
		U Arab Emrs	19000
		USA	3873
04021009	Others		
		Bahrain IS	66300
		Bangladesh	1071450
		Belgium	604500
		China P RP	76452

1	2	3	4
		Honk Kong	6
		Ivory Coast	32000
		Kuwait	52000
		Malagaby RP	256000
		Malaysia	84
		Mayammar	50000
		Nepal	26060
		Nigeria	160000
		Oman	595800
		Philippines	8000
		Qatar	2600
		Tanzania REP.	64000
		U Arab Emts.	595700
		U.S.A.	39500
04022100	Milk and Cream in Powder. Grnls./Other Solid form Not contg. added sugar/other sweetng Matter contng. Fat exceeding 1.5 × BV WT.		
		Bangladesh	207600
040229	Milk and Cream in Powder Gtnl B/Other solid forms contg. added sugar or other sweng matter containing fat exceeding 1.5 × BV WT.		
04022902	Whole Milk		
		Bangladesh	227300
		German F. Rep.	2000
		Nepal	22200
04022903	Milk for Babies		
		Bangladesh	18000
		Nepal	2319
04022909	Other (E.G. Milk Cream)		
		Bangladesh	591125
		Canada	500
		Egypt A RP	7000
		Nepal	1500
		Oman	240000
		Singapore	1550

1	2	3	4
040229	Other Milk or Cream contng. sweetng matter		
04029903	Whole Milk		
		Nepal	450
		USA	2226
04029903	Condensed Milk		
		Canada	1500
		Nepal	1553
		Russia	12400
		Singapore	500
04029909	• Others		
		Bangladesh	368800
		China P RP	3500
		Nepal	200
		Sir Lanka	1000
		Zambia	18500
04039009	Curdled Milk and Cream and Kephir and Other Fermented or Acidified Milk or Cream		
		Singapore	7290
		U. Arab. Emts.	1050
040410	Whey and Products contng. of ntrl. milk constnt		
	W/N containing added sgr or sweeteng matter		
04041002	Whey, Dry, Blocks and Powdered		
		France	9694
		Poland	25000
		USA	110000
04049000	Products other than whey consisting of Natural Milk constitnts		
		Canada	22500
		China PRP	64000
		German F. Rep.	43200
		Korea RP	82292
		U Arab Emts.	1930
		USA	61001

1	2	3	4
0405	Butter and other Fats and Oils drvd. from Milk Dairy Spreads		
04051000	Butter		
	Baharain IB	5300	
	Canada	646	
	Kuwait	8600	
	Nepal	29932	
	Oman	27800	
	Pakistan	1262	
	Singapore	7958	
	U Arab Emts.	86610	
	U.S.A.	97760	
04059001	Others (Butter Oil)		
	Singapore	4660	
	USA	46200	
04059002	Melted Butter (Ghee)		
	Baharain IS	69600	
	Cambodia	16	
	Congo P Rep.	562	
	Hong Kong	76095	
	Israel	4000	
	Philippines	21680	
	Qatar	2400	
	Saudi Arab	26100	
	Singapore	92647	
	South Africa	1000	
	Switzerland	7	
	Thailand	6688	
	U Arab Emts	695600	
	Ukraine	9800	
	U.S.A.	140830	
04059099	Others		
	Malaysia	1200	
	Nepal	4392	

1	2	3	4
		Nigeria	1000
		U.S.A.	173800
0406	Cheese and Curd		
04061000	Fresh Cheese (Incl. whey Cheese) Nt, Frmtd. and Curd		
		Singapore	220
		Sri Lanka	140
		Sweden	1275
		U Arab,. Emts.	4590
		U.S.A.	100
04062000	Grated or powdered Cheese of all kinds		
		U. Arab Emts	6170
04063000	Processed Cheese not grated/Powdered		
		Ghana	288
		Hong Kong	800
		U. Arab Emts.	3500
04069000	Other Cheese		
		Indonesia	128
		Nepal	24509
		Oman	400
		Seychelles	4000
		Singapore	225
		Sir Lanka	2145
		U. Arab Emts.	5708
		U.S.A.	8100

Promotion of Organic Farming

5167. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) The steps taken by the Government to promote organic farming in the country; and

(b) the present status of the organic farming in the country ?

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

(a) In order to promote organic farming for export market, the National Steering Committee set up by Ministry of Commerce approved on 2nd May, 2001, the National Programme for Organic Production under which model organic farms have been set up, awareness programmes have been taken up, standards accreditation procedures, inspection and certification procedures etc. have been finalized.

For further promoting organic farming in the country during the Tenth Plan, a proposal for a new scheme, 'National Project on Organic Farming' is under formulation by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, which includes setting up of a National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB), whose function will be to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming in the country.

(b) As per the observation of the Task Force on Organic Farming, organic farming is being practiced by thousands of farmers and institutions in the country though mostly in an unorganized way.

[Translation]

Development of Water Resources in Jammu and Kashmir

5168. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has included Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and North-Eastern States in the special category for development of water resources;

(b) if so, the criteria prescribed and special benefits being provided to these States;

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has also requested to include it in the same category; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done ?

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

(a) and (b) Keeping in view the topographical conditions in regard to development of Water Resources, the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim and North-Eastern States and Drought Prone KBK districts of Orissa are considered as special category for providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). These special category State are extended CLA under AIBP in the ratio

of 3:1 (Centre : State) against 2:1 for non special category States. Also, in case the special category States agree to bring in reforms in the Water Sector. 100% loan assistance is provided under AIBP against 4:1 for non special category States.

(c) and (d) The Chief Minister Rajasthan wrote to the Union Water Resources Minister on 31.1.2000 and again on 22.1.2001 to the Prime Minister requesting for according special status to Rajasthan as well as relaxation of normal under AIBP. As per approved AIBP guidelines, Rajasthan is being treated as a general category i.e. non-special category State and thus the relaxations available to the special category States are not available to that State.

Coal Production by Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.

5169. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Jindal Steel and Power Limited were permitted to produce coal;

(b) the terms and conditions of agreement entered into with them for the purpose;

(c) the quantum of coal fixed for production annually; and

(d) the quantum of coal provided by South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) before entry of private sector in coal production and the quantum of coal now being produced by the company annually ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) M/s. Jindal Strips Limited had been allotted Gare-Palma IV/1 coal block in the command area of South Eastern Coalfields Limited to meet the coal requirement of 2 mty of their sponge iron plant at Raigarh in June, 1996 on the basis of the decision of the Screening Committee taken in its meeting held on 3.4.1996. M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited who is now developing this block is a company which has been formed by hiving off the sponge iron unit at Raigarh and Engineering Division of Raipur from the erstwhile Jindal Strips Limited.

The allotment of the block was made subject to the general conditions of obtaining lease of mining rights and complying with various legal and commercial formalities within a period of six months.

(d) M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited have started production from Gare-Palma IV/I coal block from February, 1999. The company produced 1.416 mt. and 1.549 mt. of coal during 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively. The despatch of coal by South Eastern Coalfields Limited to M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited prior to and after the start of production of coal by the company is given below :

Year	Quantity in thousands tonnes
1994-95	221.64
1995-96	454.10
1996-97	633.64
1997-98	575.72
1998-99	653.30
1999-00	199.04
2000-01	16.38
2001-02	12.00 (Prov.)

[English]

New Economic Policy

5170. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees in the country before and after New Economic Policy of the Government, sector-wise; and

(b) the total number of employees who lost their jobs due to sickness, closure, disinvestment and privatisation of industries in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) According to the surveys carried out by the National Sample Surveys Organisation (conduct every five years), there were 374.27 million employees in 1993-94 and compared to 397.88 million in 1999-2000. The sector-wise information on employment is given in the Statement.

(b) During 1991-2001, 168675 workers were affected due to closures. As per the Economic Survey, during 1991-2000, the workforce employed in the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) declined by approximately 3.87 lakh due to various reasons including rightsizing of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs).

Statement

Employment (in million)

Sectors	1993-94	1999-2000
1. Agriculture	242.34	238.09
2. Mining and Quarrying	2.70	2.24
3. Manufacturing	42.48	48.12
4. Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	1.35	1.29
5. Construction	11.67	17.66
6. Trade, hotels and Restaurant	27.77	37.41
7. Transport, Storage and Communications	10.33	14.73
8. Financial, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	3.52	5.06
9. Community, Social and Personal Services	32.11	33.28
10. All	374.27	397.88

Source : National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO)

[Translation]

Schools for Children of Labourers

5171. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of schools being run for educating the children of the labourers in the country particularly in Rajasthan;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any physical verification of these schools;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government propose to stop grants of those schools which are running only on papers; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) Labour Welfare Organisation, Ministry of Labour does not run schools for children of Labourers anywhere in the country including Rajasthan. However, Labour Welfare Organisation is giving financial assistance to the wards of Cine/Beedi and certain

non-coal Mines Workers studying in recognized schools. A list of educational schemes in operation is enclosed as a Statement. Before granting and disbursing benefits to the wards of such workers, physical verification is made of the schools where they are studying by the Labour welfare Organisation.

Statement

List of Welfare Schemes for Beedi Workers

Education :

1. Award of Scholarship to the Children of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Beedi Workers).
2. Composition Scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress, slates, note books and text books.
3. Payment of incentives on passing final University/ Board examinations from High School onwards.
4. Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance of Re. 2/- to female children of Beedi Workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.

List of Welfare Schemes for Mine (Iron Ore, Manganese Ore Chrome Ore Mines; Limestone and Dolomite Mines; Mica Mines) Workers.

Education :

1. Award of Scholarship of School/College going children of mine workers.
2. Composite Scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of mine workers for supply of one set of dress, slates, note books and text books.
3. Assistance to mine owners for running Central Library.
4. Assistance for purchase of School buses to the mine managements.
5. Assistance to the mine managements for maintenance of Libraries.
6. Grant-in-aid for recognised schools in the Iron Ore mining areas for purchase of furniture and equipment.
7. Mid-day meals scheme.
8. Payment of incentives on passing final University/ Board examinations from High School onwards.
9. Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance of Re. 2/- to female children of mine workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.

List of Welfare Schemes for Cine Workers Education

1. Award of Scholarship to the children of Cine Workers.
2. Payment of incentives on passing final University/ Board examinations from High School onwards.
3. Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance of Re. 2/- to female children of Cine Workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.

[English]

Air Traffic Management at International Airports

5172. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airport Authority of India has accorded high priority on air traffic management of major airports in the country;

(b) if so, the names of airports which are likely to be upgraded for the purpose;

(c) whether some airports which have been handling international flights and declared as international airports have been included in this scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of Air Traffic Management infrastructure are under implementation at the airports at Agartala, Ahmedabad, Agatti, Allahabad, Aurangabad, Bhavnagar, Barapani, Bangalore, Bellary, Belgaum, Bhubaneswar, Vadodara, Kolkata, Chennai, Cochin, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jammu, Jodhpur, Jamshedpur, Katihar, Kanchipuram, Lilabari, Madurai, Mangalore, Moga, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Port Blair, Ranchi, Raipur, Silchar, Trivandrum, Trichy, Udaipur, Varanasi, Vijaywada, Visakhapatnam, Srinagar, Amritsar, Calicut and Bangalore. Besides, there are plans to provide new Dedicated Satellite Communication Network at 80 Stations by March, 2004. The airports handling international flights have also been included in the scheme of upgradation for modernizing the communication, navigation and surveillance facilities available at these airports.

Illegal Mining and Theft of Coal

5173. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether unused store materials vis-a-vis indents in each colliery store/area store are verified in Kunustoria Area office in Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL);

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

(c) whether verification of Book Stock and physical stock of coal in each colliery/Area and measurement of the same to be done by any independent body/agency; and

(d) the steps taken to stop illegal mining and theft of coal at random from ECL sidings/depots and curtailment of unnecessary official expenditure including restriction of vehicles movements as well as reduction in numbers of cars/vehicles ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. All unused store materials in area stores as well as colliery stores, Kunustoria area of ECI are verified by internal audit deptt. of ECL and statutory auditors periodically.(.)

(b) Total unused store and spares as on 31.3.01 in Kunustoria area is as follows;

Stock at Kunustoria area stores	Rs. 305.72 lakhs
Stock at different colliery Stores of Kunustoria area	Rs. 108.72 lakhs
Total	Rs. 414.44 lakhs

(c) The verification of physical stock of coal vis-a-vis book stock in each colliery/area through measurement is taken up in the following schedule :

1. At unit/colliery level – monthly
2. At area level – quarterly
3. At subsidiary level – half-yearly
4. At Coal India level – annually Coal inventory teams for annual measurements for ascertaining the physical stock in the company are formed with members from other subsidiaries. Around 10% of mines are subject to check measurements by teams, members of which are taken from CMPDIL and other independent organisations like MECL., Indian Bureau of Mines and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

(d) Steps taken by ECI to stop illegal mining are as under :

1. Intelligence collection

2. Round the clock patrolling by own security force and CISF joint raids by security, CISF and police
3. Surprise checks/raids of illegal mining sites by company security force and CISF.
4. Erection of fencing/walls in abandoned/discused working, drowning of old workings.
5. Dozing off and filling up the illegal mining sites wherever possible.
6. Blacklisting the trucks seized carrying coal from such operation.
7. Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining of coal are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police stations and FIRs are lodged.
8. Close liaison is kept with the district and state authorities seeking their help and co-operation in curbing illegal mining. A district level Joint Monitoring Committee constituted by State Government under the chairmanship of District Magistrate conducts meetings frequently and interactions are being done with all concerned authorities.

Steps taken to stop theft of coal at random from ECL siding/depot are :

1. Regular FIRs are being lodged with police
2. Security personnel are being deployed round the clock at the sidings/depots to check theft of coal
3. Surprise checks/raids are being conducted by CISF and ECL security.
4. Joint patrolling are being conducted with the help of CISF, ECL security and local police.

Austerity measures are already in vogue at ECL. Necessary steps for restriction on use of vehicle and expenditure are being taken.

[Translation]

Reconstitution of Hindi Advisory Committee

5174.DR. JASWAT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Hindi Advisory Committee of Civil Aviation Ministry has been reconstituted;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) the number of meetings of this Committee held during each of the last three years, date-wise and

(d) the measures taken by the Government for holding these meetings regularly ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4 Members of Parliament are nominated by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, 2 Members of Parliament are nominated by Committee of Parliament on Official Language, 3 Members are nominated by Department of Official Language, 1 Member is nominated from Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad, 1 Member is nominated by Akhil Bhartiya Voluntary Organisations and 4 Members are nominated by Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(c) During the last three years 4 meetings were held. The date wise details are below :-

(1) 21st September, 2000, (2) 11th April 2001, (3) 15th June 2001 and (4) 31st January 2002.

(d) The tentative date of the next meeting is fixed up in the beginning of the meeting.

Guide-Agencies for Tourists

5175. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up guide-agencies in public and private sectors to provide guidance/ assistance to tourists in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, Department of Tourism conducts Regional Level training courses for Guides at the various tourist centres according to the assessed requirements. On successful completion of the Guide Training course, participants are issued a licence which enables them to work as trained guides in the private sector.

(b) Department of Tourism has laid down guidelines for the selection of guides, their academic qualifications, screening procedure etc.

[English]

National Hydrology Project

5176. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government for World Bank assistance to complete National Hydrology Project;

(b) if so, the quantum of funds provided and the time by which the project is likely to be completed;

(c) whether the project aims at providing both surface water and ground water components; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) to (d) Karnataka is one of the participating State in the World Bank assisted Hydrology Project. The credit to the State become effective on December 10, 1996 and the credit closing date is March 31, 2003. The revised allocation for surface water and ground water components is Rs. 20.25 crores and Rs. 14.62 crores respectively.

Constitution of Medical Board under NECL

5177. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Medical Board in North Eastern Coalfield Limited (NECL) has since been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether there is shortage of Medical personnel in the hospital under NECL; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Medical Board consisting of Chief General Manager, General Manager, Chief Medical Officer, Specialist Doctor and Chief Personnel Manager/Personnel Manager is functioning in North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) during the last three years.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) and (e) There are 21 Medical practitioners in position in NEC against the sanctioned strength of 24. The vacancies will be filled up through internal transfer.

Copra Procurement in Kerala

5178. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the Cooperative Societies in Kerala debarred from procurement of Copra as they were chargesheeted for their involvement in the corruption deals related to the Copra procurement;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that the State Government has again included these societies in the procurement area; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

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.

Use of Animal Dung

5179. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of animal dung being burnt annually in the country alongwith its estimated value in terms of usefulness to the soil and productions;

(b) whether as per latest research and development, crops grown on adequate nutrition in the soil are by and large free from pest attacks thereby reducing use of pesticides and their danger to health and environment;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to utilize the dung as manure and for biogas instead of burning it resulting in reduction/elimination of chemical fertilizers; and

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

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

(a) No systematic study about the quantity of animal dung being burnt in the country, along with its estimated value in terms of usefulness to the soil and productivity has been undertaken so far. However, rough estimates suggest around 50% of the animal dung is being burnt in the country, especially in fuel deficiency areas.

(b) Crops provided with adequate nutrients in required proportions are generally healthy and therefore, less susceptible to disease and pest attack. The Government has been recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of fertilizers including biofertilizers to provide proper healthy nutrition to plants.

(c) and (d) The National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD), which caters to promotion of family type biogas plants for domestic use, has been under implementation as a Central Sector Scheme since 1981-82 under which Central subsidy is provided for setting up of biogas plants. The objectives of NPBD are to provide clean and convenient fuel for cooking and lighting purposes and to produce enriched organic manures for use in conjunction with chemical fertilizers, improve sanitation and hygiene in rural households and to reduce the drudgery of women. It is implemented in all States and Union Territories. So far, a total of 33.15 lakh family type biogas plants have been set up in the country.

The programme is being continued during the year 2002-03 with a target of 2.00 lakhs biogas plants.

Additional Funds for Installation of Drip Irrigation Sets

5180. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra had sought additional funds for installation of drip irrigation sets in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra requested for providing at least Rs. 100.00 crores per year for drip irrigation during the Ninth Plan. However, based on the budgetary allocations under the Scheme and their performance, the State Government was provided an assistance of Rs. 8655.11 lakhs during the first four years of the Ninth Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Horticulture through Plasticulture Intervention. The Scheme got amalgamated under Centrally

Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of State efforts through Work Plans with effect from October, 2000 under which the State Government have the flexibility to prioritize their programme as per their felt needs. Accordingly, the State Government was informed to provide adequate funds for drip irrigation in their Work Plan.

Assistance for Natural Calamities

5181. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) The States which have suffered maximum loss of life and property due to natural calamities during 2001-02;

(b) the amount of assistance provided to these States, State-wise; and

(c) the amount spent to tackle the natural calamities by various States during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Parts of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Orissa were severely affected by floods/flash floods, causing damage to life and property.

(b) In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund for 2001-02, assistance amounting to Rs. 20.44 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to Andhra Pradesh in the wake of flash floods, Rs. 23.94 crore from NCCF to Chhattisgarh in the wake of floods, Rs. 17.50 crore from NCCF to Himachal Pradesh in the wake of flash floods and Rs. 100 crore from NCCF to Orissa in the wake of floods, were released.

(c) Distribution of relief at the ground level is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The State Governments have not reported details of expenditure incurred.

Subsidy for Tractors

5182. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

SHRI AMBAREESHA :

SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mini Tractors of the capacity of 30 Horse Power are being supplied to the farming community at subsidized rates;

(b) if so, whether any representations have been received by the Central Government from any States, particularly from Tamil Nadu to extend this subsidy even for 40 HP tractors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard, State-wise ?

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

(b) and (c) State Government of Karnataka, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, have requested for enhancing the horse power of tractors for subsidy from 30 PTO Horse Power (HP) to 35-45 HP. Government of Tamil Nadu have requested to provide subsidy on tractors of up to 45 HP. The requests for enhancement of the size of the tractor have been examined and the decision in this regard will be communicated to the State Governments.

Illegal Mining Activities

5183. SHRI AMBAREESHA :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that illegal mining activities are going on in the country particularly in the different Government owned coalfields;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss suffered as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Cases of illegal mining activities have been reported mainly from Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) in the States of West Bengal and Bihar/Jharkhand. The number of cases of illegal mining in which First Information Reports (FIRs) have been lodged during the last four years is as follows :—

Company	State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	April to December, 2001
ECL	West Bengal/Bihar/Jharkhand	263	155	203	116
BCCL	West Bengal/Bihar/Jharkhand	2	2	1	6
CCL	Bihar/Jharkhand	25	25	15	44

(c) Illegal mining activities are being done in the nature of clandestine extraction and pilferage of coal from abandoned/closed/disused mines or from outcrop regions. As such, the exact quantum of

loss suffered cannot be specified. However, on the basis of raids conducted, the quantities of coal recovered during the last three years are given as under :—

Company	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
	Quantity recovered (tonnes)	Approximate value (Rs. in lakh)	Quantity recovered (tonnes)	Approximate value (Rs. in lakh)	Quantity recovered (tonnes)	Approximate value (Rs. in lakh)
ECL	5271	42.17	403	3.22	5636	46.09
BCCL	2	0.01	1830	22.87	0.2	0.001
CCL	826	8.99	524	5.24	677	6-8

(d) Coal India Limited has taken the following action to prevent illegal mining in leasehold areas :—

- (1) Intelligence collection.
- (2) Dozing off/filling up of illegal mining sites wherever possible.
- (3) Erection of fencing walls in abandoned/disused openings.
- (4) Round the clock patrolling by own security force and CISF.
- (5) Surprise checks/raids by Security Force/ CISF.
- (6) Whenever illegal mined coal and implements of illegal mining are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police and FIRs lodged.
- (7) Closed liaison is kept with district authorities seeking their help and cooperation in curbing illegal mining.

To curb illegal mining, the Government have also taken up the matter with the coal producing states.

Clearance to Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme

5184. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to give clearance to the Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme; and

(b) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be given clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :
 (a) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme was submitted by Government of Karnataka to Central Water Commission (CWC) in December, 1985 for techno-economic appraisal. The Project was examined in CWC and other Central Agencies and the comments on various aspects were sent to the State Government during July, 1986 to June, 1987. The main issues involved were finalisation of water availability, design flood, sedimentation studies, firming up of ground water and command area surveys. The scheme was subsequently sent back to State Government in November, 1988 due to non-compliance of the Central Water

Commission observations. The Project is being processed on chapter by chapter basis at present for preparation of modified DPR by the State Government.

(b) Clearance of the projects is linked to the promptness with which the State Government complies with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

Ash Content in different Grades of Coal

5185. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state .

(a) the details of ash contents available in different grades of coal at Pit Mouth with calorific value of each grade, subsidiary-wise and company-wise;

(b) the latest sale price of coal at Pit Mouth of each grade of coal of each of the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) and other companies;

(c) the amount of revenue earned therefrom as royalty and cess on coal per tonne received by each coal producing State particularly West Bengal as on April 1st of each of the years from 1994 till 2001;

(d) whether different States are receiving different amount of revenue per tonne of same grade of coal after the deregulation of sale prices of coal;

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

(f) the remedial action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PAWAN) : (a) For all the subsidiary coal companies of CIL the gradation of coal is as applicable at (1), (2) and (3) in Statement-I enclosed. For North Eastern Coalfields, however, the gradation of coal is as per (4) in

Statement. While the gradation of non-coking coal is based on Useful Heat Value (UHV), the gradation of coking coal is based on ash content and for semi coking/ weakly coking coal it is based on ash plus moisture content, as in vogue as per notification.

(b) The latest sale price of coal at pit mouth of each grade of coal of each of the subsidiaries of CIL and SCCL is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(c) The rates of royalty of all the States and rate of cesses in West Bengal at different points of revision since April, 1994 till date are given in Statement-III enclosed.

(d) to (f) Royalty rates for coal are fixed on tonnage basis for different grades of coal. These royalty rates are applicable uniformly to all the coal producing States except the State of West Bengal who are levying cess on coal. The uniform royalty rates shall be made applicable to the State of West Bengal only after the cess levied on coal is withdrawn or is struck down by the court of law. Historically, the State of Andhra Pradesh has a single rate of royalty for all grades of coal produced in that State

Statement-I

1. Grades of Coking Coal

Grade	Ash Content
Steel Grade-I	Not exceeding 15%
Steel Grade-II	Exceeding 15% but not exceeding 18%
Washery Grade-I	Exceeding 18% but not exceeding 21%
Washery Grade-II	Exceeding 21% but not exceeding 24%
Washery Grade-III	Exceeding 24% but not exceeding 28%
Washery Grade-IV	Exceeding 28% but not exceeding 35%

2. Grades of Non-coking Coal

Grade	Useful Heat Value (UHV) (Kcal/Kg) UHV = 8900-138 (A+M)	Corresponding Ash% + Moisture % at (60% RH and 40° C)	Gross Calorific Value GVC ((Kcal/Kg) (at 5% moisture level)
1	2	3	4
A	Exceeding 6200	Not exceeding 19.5	Exceeding 6454
B	Exceeding 5600 but not exceeding 6200	19.6 to 23.8	Exceeding 6049 but not exceeding 6454
C	Exceeding 4940 but not exceeding 5600	23.9 to 28.6	Exceeding 5597 but not exceeding 6049

1	2	3	4
D	Exceeding 4200 but not exceeding 4940	28.7 to 34.0	Exceeding 5089 but not exceeding 5597
E	Exceeding 3360 but not exceeding 4200	34.1 to 40.0	Exceeding 4324 but not exceeding 5089
F	Exceeding 2400 but not exceeding 3360	40.1 to 47.0	Exceeding 3865 but not exceeding 4324
G	Exceeding 1300 but not exceeding 2400	47.1 to 55.0	Exceeding 3113 but not exceeding 3865

3. Grades of Semi-cooking and Weakly Coaking Coal

Grade	Ash + Moisture Content
Semi coking grade-I	Not exceeding 19%
Semi coking grade-II	Exceeding 19% but not exceeding 24%

4. Grades of NEC Coal :

Grades	UHV (Kcal/Kg)	Corresponding Ash% + Moisture % age
A	6200-6299	18.85 – 19.57
B	5600-6199	19.58 – 23.91

Statement-II

The prices of various grades of coal revised by CIL and its subsidiaries since 1.2.2001, are as under :

PRICE OF ROM COAL W.E.F. 1.2.2001

I A. Non Coking Coal

(Rs. Per Tonne)

GR	WCL		SECL			CCL		BCCL		NCL		MCL	
	LF	In Certain Specified Mines	LF	NLF	LF	LF	NLF	LF	NLF	LF	NLF	LF	NLF
A	1083	1017	1100	999	934	1177	1100	1121	1047	1147	1072	979	912
B	1022	956	1034	939	872	1065	989	1014	942	1039	964	885	819
C	955	890	862	784	717	890	813	847	774	867	792	740	674
D	902	835	736	669	600	758	680	722	648	740	664	633	566
E		708			497		539		514		527		445
F		590			396		431		410		420		351
G		445			283		308		294		300		250

Note :

"LF" Stands for : Long Flame

"NLF" Stands for : Non-long Flame the above list is only for run of Mine Coal separate rates exists for Steam, Rubble and Slack.

*Price of ROM Coal for ECL W.e.f. 1.2.2001***IB. Non Coking Coal**

GR	Rates in Certain Specified SP Mines	Rates in Certain Specified Mines in Raniganj	SP Mines and Mugma		Rajmahan Project		Salanpur	Coal Produced in other Collieries of Raniganj	
			LF	NLF	LF	NLF		LF	NLF
A	1319	1388	1199	1120			1177	1263	1184
B	1192	1312	1085	1007			1059	1192	1115
C	996	1118	905	828			870	1018	939
D	810	905	735	660	915		694	824	748
E				524		703	524		524
F				417		597	417		417
G				298		479	298		298

'ECL' Stands for Eastern Coalfields Limited

*Price of Coal (ROM) W.E.F. 1.2.2001***2. Coking Coal**

Grade	BCCL		ECL Mugam	CCL	SECL	WCL	(Rs/Tonne) Subsidiaries other than BCCL, ECL and CCL
	Rates in Certain Specified Mines	Other than Specified Mines					
Steel Grade-I	1914	1695					
Steel Grade-II	1598	1416					
Washery Grade-I	1385	1227	1312	1287	1096	1075	
Washery Grade-II	1147	1016	1087	1067	907	890	
Washery Grade-III	848	751	803	789	671	803	
Washery Grade-IV	789	699	747	734	625	659	
Semi-Coking Grade-I	1335	1183	Raniganj 1360	1241			1096
Semi-Coking Grade-II	1106	979	Raniganj 1126	1027			907

3. Direct Feed Coking Coal in Certain specified Mines 1899 (Ash Exceeding 20% but not Exceeding 21%)

4. North Eastern Coalfields

Assam Coal	Grade of Coal and UHV Range (K. Cal. Kg.)	Run of Mines Rs./Te.
A	6200-6299	998
B	5600-6199	741

5. Singareni Collieries Company Limited

(Rs. per tonne)				
Grade	Steam Coal	Slack Coal	ROM Coal	Crushed Run of Mine Coal
Grade B	1224.00	1174.00	1164.00	1209.00
Grade C	1107.00	1057.00	1047.00	1092.00
Grade D	987.00	937.00	927.00	972.00
Grade E	761.00	747.00	741.00	786.00
Grade F	638.00	624.00	618.00	663.00
Grade G	485.00	471.00	465.00	510.00

Note :

- (i) In grade A, for every additional universal heat value (UHV) of 100 kilo calories per kg. Exceeding 6299 kilo calories per kg., additional Rs. 65 per m.t. is added to the price of a grade.
- (ii) For UHV exceeding 7099 kilo calories per kg., the price of coal is Rs. 18.36 per m.t. for run of mine (ROM) coal.

Statement-III*Rates of Royalty and Cesses Prevalent from 1.4.1994 to date*

Particulars	Grade	With effect from 1.8.1991		With effect from 11.10.1994		Rates of cesses prevalent in West Bengal being ad valorem for all grades of coal		
		Royalty rates in West Bengal (Rs./Mt)	Royalty rates in other States (Rs./Mt)	Royalty rates in West Bengal (Rs./Mt)	Royalty rates in other States (Rs./Mt)	From 1.1.89 to 14.7.96	From 15.7.96 to 30.11.98	From 1.12.98 to
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Coking Coal	Steel-I	7.00	150.00	7.00	195.00			
	Steel-II	7.00	150.00	7.00	195.00			
	Washery-I	7.00	150.00	7.00	195.00			
	Washery-II	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00	40%	45%	25%
	Washery-III	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00			
	Washery-IV	5.50	75.00	5.50	95.00			
Semi coking Coal	I	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00	Of basic price	Of basic price	Of basic price
	II	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00			
Assam Coal	Ungraded/A/B		6.50	6.50	120.00			
	Hand picked coal		7.00		150.00			
	A	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	B	6.50	120.00	6.50	135.00			
	C	5.50	75.00	5.50	95.00			
Non Coking Coal	D	4.30	45.00	4.30	70.00			
	E	4.30	45.00	4.30	70.00			
	F	2.50	25.00	2.50	50.00			
	G	2.50	25.00	2.50	50.00			
Andhra Pradesh	All grades		70.00		75.00			

Note : The rates of royalty in Assam were increased since 25.3.1994.

VRS in Mining Sector

5186. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers retired under the voluntary retirement scheme in the mining sector during the last three years, category-wise; and

(b) the number out of them belonging to Dalit, Adivasi and women ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Watershed Development Project

5187. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gujarat State District Authority, Gandhinagar had submitted a proposal to cover about 30,000 hectares of earthquake affected area of Gujarat for development under Watershed Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in approving the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal seeking an amount of Rs. 13.36 crores from Prime Minister National Relief Fund (PMNRF) for Watershed Management Project covering 34 villages was received from the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority.

(b) to (d) In consultation with Government of Gujarat, a Watershed Management/Drought Proofing Project was finalized for 300 villages in Kutch and a grant of Rs. 70.00 crore has been sanctioned from the PMNRF. An amount of Rs. 5.20 crore has been released as initial advance on 16.2.2002 for the project.

[Translation]

Election of Employee's Union in MTNL

5188. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Deputy Labour Commissioner of the Union Government has conducted election of the Employees' Union in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited on March 7, 2002 in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria laid down for recognition of Employees Union as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Labour;

(d) the Employees Union authorised in the elections held on March 7, 2002 to have talks/agreement with the administration; and

(e) the time by which recognition/registration of the Employee's Unions receiving less than 10 per cent of votes would be cancelled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) has conducted the election of the employees' Union in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi on 07.03.2002 through secret ballot.

(b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited Staff Union has emerged as the majority union by securing 6427 votes.

(c) The code of discipline under which the mode of secret ballot was applied in the case of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, lays down the criterion for recognition of majority union. According to this criterion a trade union should have a membership of not less than 15% workers in the establishments.

(d) It is upto the management to hold talks with the unions.

(e) It is for the Registrar of Trade Unions to decide about the cancellation of registration of unions keeping in views the provisions of the Trade Unions Act, 1926 as amended from time to time. As regards recognition of unions, it is for the management to decide as to which of the trade unions it would call for negotiations.

[English]

Need to Integrate Disaster Mitigation with Development Planning

5189. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether in the context of the earthquake in Gujarat there is an urgent need to integrate disaster mitigation with development planning; and

(b) If so, the details thereof; and action taken, if any, in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) Disaster mitigation and preparedness are inseparable for process of development planning. There are number of Central Plan Scheme which contribute to disaster mitigation viz. Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana, Integrated child Development Scheme, Flood Control Scheme etc.

The Eleventh Finance Commission has also recommended that medium and long term measures be devised by the concerned Ministries of the Government of India, the State Governments and the Planning Commission to reduce, and if possible, eliminate, the occurrences of these calamities by undertaking developmental works.

State Governments are expected to integrate disaster mitigation and preparedness with development planning.

Hike in Tourism Outlay

5190. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether budgetary allocation to the Tourism sector has been hiked for the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of allocations made, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have offered some tax concessions/relief to tourism industry;

(d) if so, the programme chalked out by his Ministry of utilize these concessions; and

(e) the extent to which it would give a boost to tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 225 crores to the Department of Tourism, Government of India for the year 2002-03 for schemes like Development of Infrastructure, Promotion and Publicity, Human Resource Development etc. as compared to Rs. 150 crores for the year 2001-02 for the country as a whole.

(c) to (e) The Government have offered following tax concessions :

- Exemption of Air Travel Tax on air travel from and to the North East
- Service tax exemption given earlier to be extended for one more year, in cases of functions and banquets where the entire bill is for catering services no service tax would be charged.
- Expenditure Tax on hotels to apply only to room charges henceforth : Earlier Expenditure Tax was charged on room charges as well as other services.
- Threshold of Rs. 2000 raised to Rs. 3000 for levy of Expenditure Tax.
- Disparities between 80HHC and 80 HHD removed : Under Section 80HHC the exemption is for 100% of the total foreign exchange earnings. But for hotels under 80HHD it was 50% and the balance 50% was exempted if it was kept

in a reserve and use for specified purposes. Now this disparity stands removed. Also the phasing out of the benefits was inferior for hotel industry as compared to the units under Sec. 80HHC.

- Deduction of 50% of profits earned by units setting up convention centres will be allowed for 5 years under 80-IB : This will help in bringing up new convention centres.
- Customs Duty on imported liquor reduced from 210% and 182%
- TDS under Sec. 194-H reduced from 10% to 5%. This would benefit the hotels as well as travel and tour operators.

These concessions would enhance the growth of the tourism sector.

Anthrax Cases in Andhra Pradesh

5191. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Anthrax disease has caused death of a number of sheep in the Kolleru lake area in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any post-mortem tests have been conducted to confirm the disease;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government to check further spread of the disease ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that Anthrax disease has caused death of sheep in the village situated around Kolleru Lake Area in West Godavari District.

(b) No, Sir. The disease was confirmed by laboratory examination.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The sheep population at risk in the area have been given preventive vaccination against Anthrax. The State Government has also created awareness among the farmers regarding proper disposal of carcasses, and instructed the local veterinarians to be vigilant to check further spread of the disease.

Setting up of Fishing Harbour in Tamil Nadu

5192. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up fishing harbours in coastal areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. There are proposals to set up of fishing harbours at Rameshwaram in Ramanathapuram district, Pazhayar stage-II and Poompuhar in Nagapattinam district. and Mallipattinam stage-II in Thanjavur district.

(b) After scrutiny of the proposal for development of Fishing Harbours at Rameshwaram and Pazhayar, the State Government has been asked to confirm (i) availability of necessary land with the concerned Department for development of the proposal fishing harbours, (ii) Environmental clearance from the competent authority is obtained and (iii) necessary budget provision in the State Budget is existing to share 50% capital cost of the projects. the State Government is yet to acquire necessary land and obtained environmental clearance for development of Fishing harbour at Ramashwaram. In case of Pazhayar, the State Government is yet to confirm that necessary environmental clearance is obtained. As regards Poompuhar fishing harbour, the State Government has been asked to carry out detailed hydraulic model studies to assess the technical viability of the proposal, besides confirmation on availability of necessary land. The State Government has not forwarded the model studies report carried out in this regard. With regards Mallipatanam, Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore completed engineering and economic investigations and the State Government has been requested to prepare detailed cost estimate of the project.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Conservation of Water Resources

5193. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several voluntary organisations have worked in the field of water conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the target has been achieved;

(c) whether any physical verification has been done in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) Water being a State subject all water conservation measures are planned, investigated, funded and implemented by the State Governments. As such, the role assigned and being played by the voluntary organisations in the water conservation is monitored by the State Governments themselves. The related information on the targets and achievements has to be maintained by the State Governments.

[English]

Formation of National Translation Board

5194. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Translation Board for disseminating Indian Literature of various Indian regional languages in other regions of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Bharat Aluminium Company Limited

5195. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) has suffered loss of crores of rupees as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated March 20, 2002;

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

(c) whether the new management of BALCO company is involved in this bungling;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. But the report appeared in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated 20th March, 2002 is exaggerated. The losses suffered by Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) before tax in the year 2000-01 was Rs. 13.80 crore and after tax it was Rs. 43.03 crore. The main reasons for losses suffered by BALCO are as under :

- (i) Fall in production and sales due to employees' strike during March, 2001.
- (ii) Steep increase in power cost due to prolonged shut-down of one of the four units in the Captive Power Plant.
- (iii) Reduction in interest income due on utilisation of available surplus for buy back of shares by Government of India prior to disinvestment.
- (iv) Payment made on account of Voluntary Retirement Schemes (VRS) prior to disinvestment.

[English]

Allocation of Funds to Agriculture Universities and K.V.Ks.

5196. SHRI R.S. PATIL :
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allocation of funds made to various Agriculture Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country during 2000-01 and 2001-02, State-wise, separately;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested for setting up new Krishi Vigyan Kendras in eleven newly formed districts of the State including Begal Kot; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) During 2000-01 and 2001-02 an amount of Rs. 15722.50 lakhs and Rs. 16778.89 lakhs were allocated to various

Agriculture Universities respectively and Rs. 2819.46 lakhs and Rs. 3447.41 lakhs to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) respectively established under Agriculture Universities. The State-wise details are given in Statement-I and Statement-II enclosed.

(b) and (c) There are seven newly formed districts in Karnataka. Out of which, Gadag and Haveri districts have

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK). The Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) in Udupi district has been strengthened to take up the additional functions of KVK under National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP). Other four new districts, viz., Chamarajanagara, Koppal, Bagalkote and Devanagere are covered with the existing KVKs/ZARSs in the original districts from which these have been newly created.

Statement-I

Amount Allocated to Agricultural Universities (State-wise during the last two years)

S. No.	Name of the State	Name of the SAU	Amount allocated (Rs. in lakhs)		
			2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University	1013.25	1100.54	2113.79
2.	Assam	Assam Agricultural University	505.15	633.03	1138.18
3.	Bihar	Rajendra Agricultural University	490.68	489.92	980.6
4.	Chhattisgarh	IGKV, Raipur	323.17	355.42	678.59
5.	Gujarat	Gujarat Agricultural University	1051.46	980.34	2031.8
6.	Haryana	CCS Hissar Agricultural University	838.34	806.85	1645.19
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya	564.722	602.41	1167.132
		2. YSPU and F			
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1. S.K. University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Jammu	269.57	528.444	798.014
		2. S.K. University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Srinagar			
9.	Jharkhand	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi	203.23	288.73	491.96
10.	Karnataka	1. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	1208.30	1211.46	2419.76
		2. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore			
11.	Kerala	Kerala Agricultural University	480.99	526.93	1007.92
12.	Madhya Pradesh	JNKVV, Jabalpur	823.26	957.35	1780.61
13.	Maharashtra	1. Punjab Rao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola	2163.41	1836.38	3999.79
		2. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani			
		3. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli			
		4. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri			
14.	Manipur	Central Agricultural University, Imphal	26.22	25.55	51.77
15.	Orissa	OUAT, Bhubaneswar	582.30	651.91	1234.21

1	2	3	4	5	6
16. Punjab	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana		867.02	1059.39	1926.41
17. Rajasthan	1.	Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner	1213.68	1256.09	2469.77
	2.	Maharana Pratap University of Agricultural and Technology, Udaipur			
18. Tamilnadu	1.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	1018.43	962.26	1980.69
	2.	Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Animal Science, Madras			
19. Uttar Pradesh	1.	S.V.B. Patel University of Agricultural and Technology, Meerut	965.56	1090.52	2056.08
	2.	ND University of Agricultural and Technology, Faizabad			
	3.	CS Azad University of Agricultural and Technology, Kanpur			
20. Uttranchal	GB Plant University of Agricultural and Technology, Pantnagar				
21. West Bengal	1.	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur	639.76	780.09	1419.85
	2.	WBUA and F, Calcutta	474.00	635.28	1109.28
Total			15722.502	16778.894	32501.396

Statement-II

*Amount released to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) under Agriculture Universities
(State-wise during the last two years)*

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of KVKs	Name of the SAU	Amount allocated (Rs. in lakhs)		
				2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University	93.74	116.153	209.893
2.	Assam	4	Assam Agricultural University	131.60	0	131.60
3.	Bihar	10	Rajendra Agricultural University	170.30	276.57	446.87
4.	Chhattisgarh	5	IGKV, Raipur	80.40	99.60	180.00
5.	Gujarat	4	Gujarat Agricultural University	75.60	118.30	193.90
6.	Haryana	11	CCS Hissar Agricultural University	182.20	261.777	443.977
7.	Himachal Pradesh	9	1. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, 2. YSPU and F	216.14	361.895	578.035
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1. S.K. University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Jammu	60.70	80.70	141.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			2. S.K. University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Srinagar			
9. Jharkhand	1		Birsa Agril, University, Ranchi	19.10	16.45	35.55
10. Karnataka	6		1. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	101.16	134.95	236.11
			2. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore			
11. Kerala	3		Kerala Agricultural University	48.10	62.60	110.70
12. Madhya Pradesh	13		JNKVV, Jabalpur	161.59	206.59	368.18
13. Maharashtra	5		1. Punjab Rao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola	65.79	86.25	152.04
			2. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani			
			3. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli			
			4. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri			
14. Orissa	8		OUAT, Bhubaneswar	150.295	213.40	363.695
15. Punjab	9		Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana	203.96	236.10	440.06
16. Rajasthan	23		1. Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner	510.73	526.53	1037.26
			2. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur			
17. Tamilnadu	5		1. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	89.69	119.18	208.87
			2. Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Animal Science, Madras			
18. Uttar Pradesh	19		1. S.V.B. Patel University of Agricultural and Technology, Meerut	381.42	429.17	810.59
			2. ND University of Agricultural and Technology, Faizabad			
			3. CS Azad University of Agricultural and Technology, Kanpur			
19. Uttaranchal	2		GB Pant University of Agricultural and Technology, Pantnagar	45.90	47.60	93.50
20. West Bengal	2		1. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur	31.05	53.60	84.65
			2. WBUA and F, Calcutta			
Total		149		2819-465	3447-415	6266-88

**Declaration of Narmada Project
as National Project**

5197. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to declare Narmada Project as National Project; and

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be done ?

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

(a) and (b) As of now, there is no proposal to declare any irrigation/multipurpose project as a National Project.

Meeting of National Water Resources Council

5198. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Water Resources Council held a meeting under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister in April, 2002;

(b) if so, the broad features of the deliberations held and the decisions arrived at;

(c) whether the Chief Ministers of Southern States have conveyed their consent to the adoption of National Water Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any emphasis has been laid on the constitution of River Basin Organisations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The fifth meeting of the National Water Resources Council (NWRC), wherein the Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories are members, was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1st April, 2002 to consider the draft revised National Water Policy. The Chief Ministers of Southern States were represented by their respective Ministers dealing with water resources/irrigation. The Revised National Water Policy, with certain modifications made in light of the views expressed and suggestions made by the members of the Council, was adopted and a Resolution to this effect was unanimously passed by the Council. The Policy, inter alia envisages that each State should formulate its own State Water Policy backed with an operational action plan in a time bound manner within a period of two years and implement the same in order to achieve the desired objectives as laid down in the policy.

(e) and (f) The National Water Policy recognizes river basin/sub-basin as a basic unit for the development of water resources in the country. For the integrated water resources development and management, the National Water Policy provides that "appropriate River Basin Organisations should be established for planned development and management of a river basin as a whole or sub-basins, wherever necessary. Special multi-disciplinary units should be set up to prepare comprehensive plans taking into account not only the needs of irrigation but also harmonizing various other water uses, so that the available water resources are determined and put to optimum use having regard to existing agreements or awards of Tribunals under the relevant laws. The scope and powers of Rivers Basin Organisations shall be decided by the basin States themselves".

Development of Tourist Centres in Tamil Nadu

5199. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places declared as National Tourist Centres in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to declare Palani in Tamil Nadu as National Tourist Centre in view of the ancient Lord Murugan Temple; and

(c) if so, the funds likely to be allotted for development of this temple ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) There is no practice to declare any place as a National Tourist Centre by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Functions of Airports Authority of India

5200. DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the structure and functions of Airports Authority of India; and

(b) its output in terms of (i) enhanced profit, (ii) modernisation of air traffic system, (iii) upgradation of airport infra-structure at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, (iv) upgradation of airport infrastructure in North East Parts of the country; including at Guwahati, Imphal,

Agartala, Jammu, Gaya, Lucknow and Jaipur etc. (v) satellite base communication, navigation, surveillance and moder air traffic system during each of the last three years and projected for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) consists of a Chairperson, Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as ex-officio Member and not less than eight and more than 14 Members appointed by the Union Government and necessary supporting staff. Major functions of AAI are (i) control and management of the Indian Airspace (ii) Design, development, operation and maintenance of airports, passenger terminals, cargo terminals (iii) Provision of passenger facilities, (iv) Provision of visual, communication and navigational aids etc.

(b) Profit earned after tax during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are 211.38, 214.08 and 245.54 crores of rupees and projections are 265.24, 304.79 and 324.13 crores of rupees for the next three years. Modernisation of Air Traffic Services, upgradation of airport infrastructure, and satellite-base communication, navigation, surveillance are continuous process for which different projects are planned and implemented from time to time. Major development works like new terminal complex at Mumbai, construction of parking bays at various airports, modification of terminal-2 (Phase-I) at Kolkata, upgradation of main runway at IGI Airport for ILS Cat-III, extension and modification of Anna International Terminal, at Chennai etc. were taken up during the last three years.

Works like construction/modification of terminal buildings, recarpeting/strengthening/extension of runways, constructions of technical block/technical tower/fire station etc. have been taken up at other airports including North East Parts of the country. Modern Air Traffic System and its automation system at the cost of Rs. 423.89 crores has already been completed at Mumbai and Delhi. Upgradation of ATS at Kolkata and Chennai is in progress. The pace of development works is proposed to be maintained in the next three years also.

[Translation]

Special Fund for Development of Agriculture

5201. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to create a special fund for the development of agriculture in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Preservation of Water Resources

5202. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to adopt any special technique for water preservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of water likely to be preserved with new technique every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :
(a) to (c) Preservation of quality of both surface water and ground water has been given a high priority in the National Water Policy – 2002, the revised National Water Policy as approved in the 5th meeting of the National Water Resources Council held on 1.4.2002. This Policy envisages regular monitoring of the water quality, improvement of water quality wherever called for, treatment of effluents to acceptable levels before discharging them into natural streams, maintaining minimum flows in perennial rivers and adoption of the principle of “polluter pays” in order to preserve the quality of water. No quantifying assessment of water likely to be preserved has been made.

Average size of Cultivable Land Holding

5203. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a constant decrease in the cultivable land-holdings of farmers in the country during the last many years;

(b) if so, the average size of the cultivable land-holding in the country at present;

(c) whether it is economically viable to cultivate in such small land-holdings; and

(d) if not, the Government's reaction thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per Agricultural Consuses 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86 and 1990-91 the average size per holding (in hectare) was 2.28, 2.00, 1.84, 1.69 and 1.55 respectively. The latest all-India results of Agricultural Census relate to agricultural year 1990-91.

(c) and (d) The viability of an agricultural holding depends upon a variety of factors including agro-climatic conditions, level of use of agricultural inputs, availability of irrigation facilities, crop variety sown and the entrepreneurial skill of the farmer. No conclusive evidence is available regarding the relationship between the size of an agricultural holding and its economic viability.

[English]

Training to Construction Workers

5204. SHRI SUREESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government propose to undertake an exercise to skill building and training of construction workers during the Tenth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for training and certification of trained building construction workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Some trades relating to Construction Sector like that of Mason and Plumber etc. are included in the Vocational Training Programmes being conducted by the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (ITIs/ITCs). National Trade Certificates are awarded to the successful candidates.

Milk Production

5205. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the milk production of the elite hand of the NDRI, Karnal decreased during the period 1996-99;

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

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the milk production?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The milk production at NDRI was 14,60,064 kg in 1996; 14,08,172 kg in 1997; 12,08,706 kg in 1998 and 12,38,804 kg in 1999. The reduction in milk production was 1,99,466 kg in 1998 and 1,68,368 kg in 1999 as compared to the year 1997.

(c) The milk production declined due to reaction in total number of animals and an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease during October 1998.

(d) The steps taken to increase milk production are procurement of high quality germplasm to enrich the milk production potential of the existing stock and modernization of cattle yard with State of the art housing structure.

[Translation]

Assistance to States for Development of Tourism

5206. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to give any financial assistance to the newly created States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal to develop tourism potential; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India grants Central financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations every year for identified projects for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in the country. The proposals for the year 2002-03 will be finalised in consultation with all the State Governments including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarnachal.

Ganga Dam Project

5207. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Ganga Pollution Control Board has conducted any survey of Ganga Dam Project to bring the level of Ganga water to ghats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work relating to the project is in progress in Manghyr and Bhagalpur in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) The Union Ministry to Environmental and Forest has conveyed that the Central Pollution Control Board has not conducted any survey of Ganga Dam Project.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

C and AG objection and Wasteful Expenditure by Air India

5208. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has raised objections over wasteful expenditure by the Air India to the tune of Rs. 7.00 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a large amount of money was wastefully spent owing to infrequent exchange of pilots between America and India and the avoidable expenditure in expensive hotels; and

(d) if so, the persons/authority found responsible for it and the action taken by Government to stop it ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Pending Irrigation Projects

5209. SHRI S.D.N. WADIYAR :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of irrigation projects are pending for clearance of the Central Water Commission (CWC);

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

(c) the date since when these projects are pending.

(d) whether Markandeya, Upper Tunga and Varahi Projects in Karnataka are some of those projects pending for clearance of the CWC;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to second early clearance to the said projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The State-wise detail of irrigation project received in Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic appraisal is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) The Detailed Project Report (DRP) on the Upper Tunga Project was earlier received in February, 1992 and the Markandeya Project Report in May, 1997. The modified DPR of Upper Tunga has now been received in CWC only in January, 2002. The Projects remained under correspondence primarily on account of deficiencies in the DPR and since satisfactory replies to comments of CWC and other Central Agencies were not forthcoming from the State Government.

Project Report of Varahi Irrigation Project based on earlier CWC comments was received in April, 1993 and examined by the Screening Committee. It was found that major modifications were required. The project was sent back to State Government in December, 1994. Recently in January, 2002 the State Government submitted a "Brief report on Varahi Irrigation Project" requesting approval for the same in the light of the revised guidelines for submission, appraisal and clearance of irrigation and multipurpose projects. This report has been examined and found to have major deficiencies in that it does not contain the details/information as required to be submitted in the preliminary report.

(f) Clearance of the projects is linked to the promptness with which the State Government complies with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Name of State	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefited	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th.Ha.)	Estt. Co. (Cr.)	Cate- gory
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mohaboob Nagar	11/2000	10.926	134.30	A
2.	Kalwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mohaboob Nagar	11/2000	20.234	380.00	A
3.	Thotlapally Barrage	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Nagavalli/Nagavali	Vizianagaram and Srikakulam	9/2001	120 (New) 64 Existing	462.00	A
4.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project (Masonry dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Guntur, Krishna, Prakasham West Godavari	7/93	575	506.20	B
5.	Krishna Delta System Modernisa- tion – ERM	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Guntur, Krishna, Prakasham West Godavari	1/96	575	659.16	B
6.	Bhima Lift Irrigation	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Bhima/Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	1/96	83.78	744.00	B
7.	Sriramsagar Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Warangal, Nalgonda Khamam, Adilabad	9/86	253.40	697.70	B
8.	Flood Flow Canal from SRSP	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Karim Nagar, Warangal, Nalgonda	12/93	102.00	1331.00	B
9.	Jurala (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Krishna	Mahaboob Nagar	9/80	47.84	545.82	B
10.	Vamsadhara Project Stage II* (Neradi Barrage)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	Vamsadhara	Srikakulam	5/83	50.958	275.74 (86-87 SOR)	B
11.	Gollavagu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Gollavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	3.845	39.58	A
12.	Rallivagu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Rellivagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	2.430	26.75	A
13.	Nilwai Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Peddavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	9/2001	5.260	48.90	A
14.	Pedderu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	E. Flowing/Sarda	Vishakhapatnam	9/91	6.46	26.23	B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15. Palemragu (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Palemragu/Godavari	Khammam	5/88	6.23	29.13	B	
16. Valligallu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Papagni/Pennar	Cuddapah	12/96	9.60	131.82	B	
17. Yerravagu (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Yerravagu/Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	4.46	31.28	B	
18. Suddavagu (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Suddavagu/Godavari	Adilabad	3/99	5.66	56.48	B	
19. Peddavagu (Earthen Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Peddavagu/Gadavari	Adilabad	8/99	3.915	202.60	B	
20. Surampalem Res. Scheme (Eastern Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Burdakalva/Godavari	East Godavari	10/99	4.88	46.70	B	
21. Surampalem Phase-II	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Burdakalva/Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.12	49.50	B	
22. Bhupatipalem (Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	Seethapalli/Godavari	East Godavari	7/2000	5.419	47.23	B	
23. Kovvadaikalva	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	East Flowing Rivers	West Godavari	3/89	4.18	16.02	D	
24. Kadwan Reservoir Project	Bihar	Major	Sone/Ganga	Palamu and Rohtas	5/98	221.27	1111.14	A	
25. Upper Mahananda Irrigation Scheme	Bihar	Major	Mahananda/Ganga	Purnea	5/2001	26.80/0	126.53	A	
26. Punpun Barrage	Bihar	Major	Punpun/Ganga	Patna and Jehanabad	5/2000	13.898	102.26	B	
27. Tilaia Dhadhar	Bihar	Major	Dhadhar (Damodar)/Ganga	Nawadah/Gaya	1/98	38.99 and 12 MW	220.11	B	
28. Mahanadi Reservoir Project – ERM*	Chhattisgarh	Major	Mahanadi	Dhamtari/Raipur/Durg	7/2001	264.00	572.00	A	
29. Modernisation of Machchu-1 – ERM	Gujarat	Major	Mechchu/West Flowing	Rajkot	2/91	2.14	8.12	B	
30. Bakrol WFR Project (Dam)	Gujarat	Medium	Mesho/Watrak	Saberkantha	1/95	4.50	23.85	A	
31. Western Yamuna Link Channel*	Haryana	Major	Yamuna	–	12/96	Carrier Channel	31.26	B	
32. Satluj Yamuna Link Canal	Haryana	Major	Ravi Beas	Ambala	10/93	4.46	61.76	B	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33. Khet Purail Dam Project* (Earthen Dam)	Haryana	Medium	Ghaggar/Yamuna	Punchkula	12/95	3.335	16.92	A	
24. Renuka Dam (Multipurpose)	Himachal Pradesh	Major	Giri/Yamuna	Water supply to Delhi	8/97	WS to Delhi and 40 MW	1224.64	B	
35. Balh Valley Left Bank Irrigation Project	Himachal Pradesh	Medium	Beas	Mandi	8/99	4.354	41.64	B	
36. Modernisation of Dadi Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Lidder Nallah/ Jhelum	Anantnag	6/99	4.53	10.91	A	
37. Mod. of Nandi Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Jhelum Basin	Anantnag	5/99	3.06	6.61	A	
38. Mod. of Ahji Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Shkhnag Nallah/ Jhelum	Budgam	11/97	17.19	7.96	A	
39. Mod. of Lar Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Shkhnag Nallah/ Jhelum	Budgam	11/97	5.25	6.63	A	
40. Mod. of Mavhul – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Left Bank Veshow Nalla/Jhelum	Anantnag	12/97	9.35	7.00	A	
41. Mod. of Martand Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Jhelum/Indus	Anantnag	12/97	6.50	17.72	A	
42. Mod. of Babul Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Medium	Jhelum/Indus	Baramulla	6/99	3.08	4.77	A	
43. Modernisation of New Pratap Canal– ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu Region)	Medium	Cherub, Akhnoor/ Chenab	Jammu	12/99	12.042	21.68	B	
44. Mod. of Kathua Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu Region)	Medium	Ravi basin	Kathua	9/99	3.304	15.68	B	
45. Tawi Pump House and Tawi Lift Canal – ERM	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Major	Tawi/Ravi/Indus	Jammu	9/2001	13.660	13.563	A	
46. Kanhar Reservoir Project	Jharkhand	Major	Kanhar/Sone	Palamu	11/98	57.67 and 300 MW	1015.76	A	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
47. North Koel Reservoir	Jharkhand	Major	North Koel/Sone	Palamu. Aurangabad and Gaya	5/99	104.50	836.11	A	
48. Punasi Reservoir*	Jharkhand	Major	Punasi/Ajoy/Ganga	Santhal Pargana	7/92	24.292	221.65	B	
49. Subemakha (Multipurpose)–Barrage*	Jharkhand	Major	Subemrekha/Ganga	Singbhum and Ranchi	8/89	236.846	1428.82	B	
50. Ajoy Barrage/Siktia Barrage	Jharkhand	Major	Ajoy/Ganga	Santhal, Pargana	3/98	40.509	248.10	B	
51. Upper Sakri Reservoir	Jharkhand	Major	Sakri/Ganga	Hazaribagh	1/98	67.67	123.81	B	
52. Konar Irrigation	Jharkhand	Major	Konar/Damodar	Hazaribagh and Girdih	7/99	64.738/0	336.69	B	
53. Upper Tunga Project Earthen dam and L.B.C.	Karnataka	Major	Tungabhadra/Krishna	Shimoga, Dharwad, Chitradurga	2/92	94.70	556.00	A	
54. Markandeya (Concrete Dam and Canal on both banks)	Karnataka	Major	Markendeya/Krishna	Belgaum	5/97	19.105	134.53	A	
55. Singatalur (Huligudda) Lift Irrigation Scheme	Karnataka	Major	Tungabhadra/Krishna	Godage Bellary	7/98	16.188	123.00	A	
56. Hippargi Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam)	Karnataka	Major	Krishna	Bijapur	8/85	59.69	186.70	B	
57. Basapur Lift Irrigation Scheme	Karnataka	Medium	Tungabhadra/Krishna	Dharwad	11/96	2.267	9.36	A	
58. Idmalayar Irrigation Project (Barrage, Earthen Dam with Canal system on both bank)	Kerala	Major	Ernakulam Trichur	Periyar	2/92	27.51	107.00	B	
59. Attapady Irrigation Project–Masonry Dam with vertical lift type spillway, canal system on both banks)	Kerala	Medium	Palghat	Seruvani/Cauvery	3/96	8.38	110.00	A	
60. Upper Narmada Project (Composite Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Narmada	Mandla and Shahdol	9/96	18.61	211.92	A	
61. Halon Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Halon/Narmada	Mandla	1/2000	11.736	193.01	A	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
62. Kolar Project (Earthen Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Narmda	Sehore	10/99	60.87 and 56.75 MCM W.S. to Bhopal	139.14	B	
63. Thanwar Tank (Earthen Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Mandla	12/89	18.21	24.38	B	
64. Perch Diversion (Earthen Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Godavari	Seoni, Chindwara	8/88	96.52	184.04	B	
65. Mahan (Masonry Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Mahan/Sone	Sidhi	6/83	19.04	39.00	B	
66. Rajghat Canal	Madhya Pradesh	Major	Yamuna	Datia, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Shivpuri and Tikamgarh	2/90	121.45	309.21	D	
67. Human River Project (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Human/Godavari	Chandrapur	9/91	58.283	494.60	A	
68. Lower Wardha (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Wardha/Godavari	Wardha	11/97	44.00	61.99	A	
69. Gunjawani (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Kunad/Krishna	Pune	5/98	20.325	86.77	A	
70. Lendi Irrigation Project – Joint venture of Maharashtra and A.P. (Eastern Dam)*	Maharashtra	Major	Landi/Godavari	Nanded (Mah.) and Nizamabad (AP)	5/97	26.924 (Mah.- 15.71 A.P.- 11.214)	177.615	A	
71. Dudhganga Irrigation (Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Dudhganga/Krishna	Kolhapur (Mah.) and Belgaum (Kar.)	8/83	81.97	204.58	B	
72. Warna Irrigation (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Warna/Krishna	Sangli and Kolhapur	8/83	113.92	337.81	B	
73. Koyna Krishna Lift Irrigation	Maharashtra	Major	Krishna	Sangli	1/87	85.78	259.10	B	
74. Arunavati River Project (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Arunavati/Godavari	Yavatmal	12/87	25.15	66.48	B	
75. Punad Irrigation (Composite Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Punad/Tapi	Nasik	3/89	10.85	29.32	B	
76. Lower Wunna Project (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Major	Warna/Godavari	Nagpur and Wardha	2/89	28.82	87.55	B	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
77. Talamba Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam)*	Maharashtra	Medium	Karli	Sindhudurg	6/92	28.90	289.09	B	
78. Sangola Branch Canal*	Maharashtra	Medium	Nira/Bhima	Solapur	2/86	9.22	37.01	D	
79. Tajnapur Lift Irrigation	Maharashtra	Medium	Godavari	Ahmednagar	2/94	2.74	23.47	A	
80. Purna (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Purna/Tapi	Amravati	9/95	7.53	51.97	A	
81. Suwade Barrage	Maharashtra	Medium	Tapi	Dhule	12/97	10.06	88.25	A	
82. Lal Nala (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Lalnala/Godavari	Wardha	9/97	7.71	45.53	A	
83. Potlra Nalla (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Potlra Nalla/ Godavari	Wardha	5/98	6.70	42.50	A	
84. Chikotra (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Chikotra/Krishna	Kolhapur	6/89	9.12	114.38	A	
85. Prakasha Barrage	Maharashtra	Medium	Tapi/Tapi	Dhule	4/99	8.86	93.60	A	
86. Jambre (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Tamra-parni/Krishna	Kolhapur	7/99	5.36	55.72	A	
87. Chitri (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Chitri/Krishna	Kolhapur	1/2000	9.65	79.94 (1996-97)	A	
88. Andhra Khore (Masonry Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Andhra/Krishna	Pune	2/2000	12.461	44.37	A	
89. Kiriniri Darur Lift Irrigation Scheme	Maharashtra	Medium	Wardha/Godavari	Chandrapur	3/2000	2.04	27.89	A	
90. Wakod (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Girija/Godavari	Aurangabad	3/2000	2.214	28.32	A	
91. Sapan (Medium) (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Sapan/Tapi	Amravati	9/2000	6.380/0	36.30	A	
92. Sonapur (Tonta) (Lift Irrigation Scheme)	Maharashtra	Medium	Wardha/Godavari	Chandrapur	9/2000	2.034/0	14.43	A	
93. Srangkheda (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Tapi/Tapi	Nandurbar	10/2000	8.77	132.51	A	
94. Haranghat L.I.S.	Maharashtra	Medium	Wair-ganga/Godavari	Chandrapur	11/2000	3.65	44.11	A	
95. Gul River (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Gul/Tapi	Jalgaon	11/2000	2.59	55.94	A	
96. Ghataprabha (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Ghataprabha/Krishna	Kolhapur	1/2001	5.463	34.92	A	
97. Koradinalla (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Koradi Nalla/Tapi	Dhule	3/2001	2.61	17.32	A	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
98.	Dara (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Waki/Tapi	Dhule	3/2001	2.29	32.62	A
99.	Nagan (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Nagan/Tapi	Dhule	3/2001	2.49	48.38	A
100.	Northmand (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	North-mand/Krishna	Satara	4/2001	4.80	93.00	A
101.	Morna Gureghar (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Morna/Krishna	Satara	4/2001	5.32	101.50	A
102.	Wang (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Nagan/Tapi	Satara	4/2001	6.20	134.39	A
103.	Nagewadi (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Local Nalla/Krishna	Satara	6/2001	1.56	51.47	A
104.	Kamani Tanda	Maharashtra	Medium	Waghur/Tapi	Jalgaon	7/2001	6.032	42.22	A
105.	Raigavan (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Murud/Godavari	Osmanabad	12/93	1.70	9.51	B
106.	Jam Irrigation (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Jam/Godavari	Nagpur	5/94	5.47	42.63	B
107.	Kar (Composite Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Kar/Godavari	Wardha/Nagpur	4/95	6.36	44.71	B
108.	Ulawali (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Ulawali/Tapi	Budhana	11/95	5.39	35.77	B
109.	Nawargaon (Earthen Dam)	Maharashtra	Medium	Nircod/Godavari	Yavatmal	12/97	3.70	5.26	B
110.	Jangam Hati Lift Irrigation	Maharashtra	Medium	Hunual Nala/Krishna	Kolhapur	6/98	5.47	4.29	B
111.	Tipai Mukh Dam Project (Multi-purpose) (Earth and Dock fill Dam)	Manipur	Major	Barak	Districts of Assam Manipur and Mizoram	2/95	Power (6x250) MW and Flood Control	2899	B
112.	Jiri Irrigation (Barrage)	Manipur	Medium	Jiri/Barak	Cachar (Assam) and Manipur	10/97	9.78	48.68	D
113.	Dzuza Irrigation Project (Barrage)	Nagaland	Medium	Dzuza/Brahmaputra	Kohima	5/98	13.50	49.0	B
114.	IB Irrigation Project Composite Rock fill Dam with concret spillway canals on both right and left banks.	Orissa	Major	Ib/Mahanadi	Sundergarh	2/98	115.0	966.03	A
115.	Improvement to Taladanda Canal and Distributory No. 12 with its system – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Mahanadi	Cuttack	9/99	13.237	57.06	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
116.	Drainage Dev. Phase-I under Mahanadi Delta Stage-I and II – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Mahanadi	Cuttack/Puri	2/2000	47.80	227.75	A
117.	Ong Dam Project (Earthen Dam with Ogee type radial gated, spill-way, canal system, on both right left banks)	Orissa	Major	Mahanadi	Baragarh	3/97	34.50	304.66	B
118.	Kanupur Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam)*	Orissa	Major	Baitarni	Koenjar	9/97	47.71	428.32	B
119.	Brulang Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam with concrete spillway, Link canal to Kuanaria Reservoir, Main Canal on right bank of Kuanaria reservoir)	Orissa	Major	Burtang/Mahanadi	Nayagarh	1/98	31.00	227.25	B
120.	Upper Indravati Extension Project – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Indravati/Godavari	Kalahandi	9/98	41.794	136.67	B
121.	Upper Kolab Extension Project – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Kolab/Godavari	Koraput and Nawrangpur	9/98	19.28	71.66	B
122.	Improvement to Salki Irrigation Project – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Salki/Mahanadi	Boudh	9/99	20.141	11.57	B
123.	Improvement of Sason Canal System on Hirakud Distribution System – ERM*	Orissa	Major	Mahanadi	Sambalpur/Bolangir	1/2000	26.051	34.92	B
124.	Anandpur Barrage Project	Orissa	Major	Baitarni/Baitarni	Keonjhar, Bhadrak, Balasore	1/2001	56.72	482.26	B
125.	Turi-Guntat Irrigation Project (Diversion Scheme)	Orissa	Medium	Turi, Guntat/Indravati	Nowrangpur	1/2000	9.135	53.96	A
126.	Mahendratanaya Irrigation Project (Dam)	Orissa	Medium	Mahendratanaya/Vams-a-dhara	Gajapati	3/2000	7940	68.96	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
127.	Manjore Earthen Dam with Ogee type spillway, canal system on right and left bank)	Orissa	Medium	Mahanadi	Dhenkanal	8/91	10.43	37.70	B
128.	Telengir (Earthen Dam with Cental Ogee type radial gated spillway, canal system on right bank)	Orissa	Medium	Telangir/Indravati/ Godavari	Koraput	9/97	13.83	106.19	B
129.	Rukura (Earthen Dam with Ogee type spillway, canal system on right and left banks)	Orissa	Medium	Brahmani	Sundergarh	5/93	7.65	15.15	B
130.	Dhauragoth (Earthen Dam with Central Ogee type radial gated Spill-way, canal system on both right and left banks	Orissa	Medium	Bara-banki/Mahandi	Dhenkanal	9/96	3.01	16.80	B
131.	Ret Earstern Dam with Ogee type spillway, canal system on both besides of bank	Orissa	Medium	Ret/Tel/Mahanadi	Kalahandi	10/97	9.775	86.14	B
132.	Upper Lanth (Earthen Dam with Central Ogee type radial gated spill-way, canal system on right bank)	Orissa	Medium	Lanth/Tel/Mahanadi	Bolangir	11/97	6.105	48.99	B
133.	Samakoi (Barrage)	Orissa	Medium	Samakoi/Brahmani	Angul	2/99	14.27	43.85	B
134.	Cheligada Dam Project	Orissa	Medium	Badjore Nala/ Vamsadhara	Gajapati	1/99	3.00 and W.S. of 1 cumec to Berhampur	52.96	B
135.	Hadus/Mahandi Irrigation Project (Earthen Dam)	Orissa	Medium	Hadua/Mahanadi	Cuttack	2/2001	5.728	61.48	B
136.	Punjab Irrigation and Drainage Project (Phase III)*	Punabj	Major	-	All districts of Punjab	5/98	19.36	1149.00	A
137.	Sri Dashmesh Irrigation Project	Punabj	Major	Anandpur Hydel Channel	Patiala	2/2001	130.00	6.47	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
138.	Raising lining of Bhakra Main Canal – ERM	Punjab	Major	Sutlej	–	6/99	–	20.46	B
139.	Modified project estimated of SYL Canal Parat-II*	Punjab	Major	Sutlej	Ropar, Patiala	12/82	130.00	195.44	B
140.	SYL Main Canal Part-I*	Punjab	Major	Sutlej, Yamuna	Carrier Channel	9/84	–	601.25	D
141.	Raising of Lining/Bank of Sirhind Feeder – ERM	Punjab	Medium	–	Ferozpur	5/2001	–	13.7543	A
142.	Rehabilitation of Channels of 1st Patiala Fbeeder and Kotla Branch	Punjab	Medium	Ferozpur Feeder	Sangrur	5/2001	9.700	46.00	A
143.	Punjab Irrigation Project (Lining of Channels) under RIDF fund – ERM	Punjab	Medium	Ravi	Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Patiala	2/2000	8.330	49.02 (9/99)	B
144.	Pipalda Lift Irrigation	Rajasthan	Major	Chambal/Ganga	Sawai Madhopur	9/96	14.87	11.39	A
145.	Utilisation of Yamuna water in Bharatpur Distt.	Rajasthan	Major	Yamuna/Ganga	Bharatpur	7/96	86.500	172.96	A
146.	Utilisation of Yamuna water in Jhunjhunu Distt.	Rajasthan	Major	Yamuna/Ganga	Jhunjhunu	1/98	35.00	273.00	A
147.	Indira Gandhi Nahar Stage-I–ERM*	Rajasthan	Major	Ravi-Beas/Indus	Sri Ganganagar Bikaner and Jaisalmer	3/93	32.60	121.92	B
148.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project – ERM*	Rajasthan	Major	–	26 Districts of Rajasthan	1/2001	619.195	745.53	B
149.	Piplad Irrigation (Dam)	Rajasthan	Medium	Piplad/Chambal	Jhalawar	2/93	4.70	21.88	A
150.	Chakan Irrigation (Dam)	Rajasthan	Medium	Chakan/Chambal	Bundi	9/92	3.38	9.55	B
151.	Garada Irrigation (Dam)	Rajasthan	Medium	Mangali/Chambal	Bundi	7/95	9.22	39.51	B
152.	Krishna Water supply to Madras Stage-I (Multipurpose)	Tamil Nadu	Major	Madras	Krishna	6/89	W.S. of TMC to Madras City	176.46	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
153.	Modernisation of Cauvery Delta Phase-I ERM*	Tamil Nadu	Major	Convery	Thanjavur	8/85	70.00	78.80	B
154.	Irukkangudi Reservoir (Earthen Dam)	Tamil Nadu	Medium	Kanya Kumari	Vaippar	2/95	4.21	28.70	A
155.	Improving Water Management on Existing Sarda Canal System – ERM*	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Sarda/Ganga	Bareilly, Pilibhit, Nainital, Hardoi, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Lucknow, Unnao and Rai Bareilly	7/2001	65.544	102.98	A
156.	Kanhar Irrigation	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Sone/Ganga	Mirzapur	6/99	33.12	341.45	A
157.	Kachnoda Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Jamn/Betwa	Lalitpur	11/2000	13.55	70.45	A
158.	Bansagar Canal	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Ganga	Allahabad and Mirzapur	2/02	150.13	956.43	A
159.	Modernisation of Lachura Dam – ERM	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Dhasan/Yamuna	Jhansi	4/2002	14.575	98.05	A
160.	Uttar Pradesh Water Restructuring Project*	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Ghaggar/Gomti Basina	Pratapgarh, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Bahraich	4/2001	300.00	663.41 (Provisional)	B
161.	Raising of Meja Dam – ERM	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Tons/Ganga	Allahabad and Mirzapur	3/92	17.88	65.0	B
162.	Maudaha Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Betwa/Yamuna Ganga	Harnipur	3/90	17.70	125.16	B
163.	Chhitaungarh	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Bhabhra Nallah/ Ghaghra/Ganga	Gonda	10/93	11.88	36.70	B
164.	Lining of Channel in Bundelkhand-ERM	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Ganga	Allahabad, Banda, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Mirzapur and Varanasi	5/92	23.78	57.37	B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
165.	Modernisation of Agra Canal – ERM	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Yamuna	Mathura, Agra in Uttar Pradesh and Faridabad in Haryana	8/98	50.00	74.16	B
166.	Increasing Capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal – ERM	Uttar Pradesh	Major	Ganga	Varanasi	8/97	34.605	60.53	C
167.	Bhaunrat Cum Utari Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Medium	Jamni/Betwa	Lalipur	9/2001	7.905	52.10	A
168.	Kishau Dam (Major)	Uttarnachal	Major	Tons/Ganga	–	7/97	Power (600 MW) WS to Delhi 617 MCM/ year	4099.00	C
169.	Mod. of Kangsabati Reservoir (Phase-I) – ERM*	West Bengal	Major	Kangsa-bati/ Ganga	Bankura, Midnapur and Hoogly	10/96	355.48	471.90	A

Status

- (i) Project under various stages of appraisal.
- (ii) Accepted by the Advisory Committee of MOWR Subject to Certain Observations.
- (iii) Deferred by Advisory Committee of MOWR.
- (iv) Recommended to Planning Commission for Investment Clearance.

[Translation]

**Centrally Sponsored Schemes in
Tribal Areas**

5210. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Centrally, sponsored irrigation schemes launched in the country, particularly in tribal and backward areas;

(b) the amount disbursed by the Union Government to the State Governments for the purpose and the progress achieved by State Governments in implementing the schemes; and

(c) the allocations proposed to be made by the Government during the Tenth Five Year Plan State-wise and scheme-wise ?

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

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Water Resources has been implementing two Centrally Sponsored schemes namely (i) Command Area Development Programme and (ii) Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics in the country including tribal and backward areas. Since inception till the end of March, 2002 an amount of Rs. 2452.53 crore and Rs. 35.23 crore has been released to the State Governments respectively under the Command Area Development Programme and Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics schemes. The progress achieved under the two schemes is given in the Statement-I and II enclosed.

(c) The allocations proposed for X Plan are Rs. 1505 crore and Rs. 49.75 crore respectively for the Command Area Development Programme and Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics Scheme. Central assistance to the States is provided on the basis of the approved financing pattern, provision of budget made by the State Governments for State sector, approved norms and performance under the concerned schemes.

Statement-I

Details of achievements made under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme

S.No.	Scheme	Item	Unit	Achievements since inception to March 2001	Anticipated achievements 2001-02	Total
1.	Command Area Development	Field Channels	Million ha.	15.34	0.23	15.57
		Field Drains	Million ha.	1.05	0.04	1.09
		Warabandi	Million ha.	9.92	0.69	10.52
		Land leveling	Million ha.	2.17	0.02	2.19

In addition to above, National and State level training programmes and adaptive trials and demonstrations have been organized for dissemination of technology on efficient irrigation water management and improved agricultural practices among the farmers. Conjunctive use of surface and ground water and peoples' participation in irrigation water management have also been promoted.

Statement-II

Details of achievements made under the Centrally Sponsored Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics Scheme

1. The first Minor Irrigation Census report with reference year 1986-87 has been published in the year 1993 and

the second Census Report with Reference Year 1993-94 has been published in the year 2001.

- The Third Census of Minor Irrigation Projects is under progress.
- Sample Survey on status of Minor Irrigation Schemes with Reference Year 1998-99 has been completed in 17 States and in the remaining States/Union Territories the work is at various stages of completion.
- So far 26 States/Union Territories have set up Statistical Cells which are responsible for bringing out quarterly Progress report on Minor Irrigation development in the States.

*[English]***ISO Certificate to IGI Airport**

5211. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) propose to apply for the International Standard Organisation (ISO) Certificate, 2000-01, the international quality standard for service organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the facilities are likely to be improved at airport as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indira Gandhi International Airport proposes to apply for International Standard Organisation Certification 2000-01. Airports Authority of India is in the process of selection and appointment of experts for this purpose. ISO Certification is likely to be completed by 2002-2003. The Certification will improve the facilities which are being provided to passengers/visitors by way of better monitoring/recording/corrective action and auditing of such records by the Experts of outside agency involved in the certification.

Action Plan to Tap Baitarani River Water

5212. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to make use of water of Baitarani river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other major rivers of Orissa proposed to be tapped through the said plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects to utilize waters of river basins, as also flood control, drainage projects are planned, investigated, funded, executed, operated and maintained by the State Governments themselves. The Union Government has not formulated any plan to tap the major rivers of Orissa as this is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

*[Translation]***Kurukshetra in World Tourism Map**

5213. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to include Kurukshetra on the world tourism map; and

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

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

(b) The details are being worked out.

Bird Hit Accidents

5214. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted any committee in the past to check bird hit accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made;

(c) the details of recommendations of this committee which have been implemented by the Government so far; and

(d) the number of air accidents occurred due to birds hit during the last five years along with the loss of life and damage to property therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No aircraft accident has taken place due to bird hit during the last five years.

Monthly Grants for Child Labourers

5215. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide monthly grant to the parents of the child labourers to discourage them from sending their children to work; and

(b) if so, the amount of grant likely to be provided every month and the total expenditure to be incurred annually thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

[English]

Higher Growth in Agriculture

5216. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the major recommendations of the Steering Group on Agriculture in respect of achieving higher growth in agriculture;

(b) whether the views of State Governments have been obtained; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The major recommendations of the 'Steering Group on Agriculture and Allied Sectors are given as follows :—

Policy Reforms :

- Unleashing the untapped potential of major farming systems through Integrated packages of technologies, services including inputs like seeds, and public policies;
- Increasing public sector investment in Agriculture;
- Thrust on minor irrigation development in Eastern Region;
- Removal of movement of restrictions on all agricultural produce;
- Maximizing the benefits of the existing infrastructure;
- Blending traditional and frontier technologies;
- Mainstreaming gender consideration in agricultural research and curricula; Technological Empowerment of women in Agriculture;
- Adoption of Farming System Approach in Research and Education;

- Redeployment of subsidies affecting adversely on the natural resources;
- Restructuring and retooling Extension Services for an era of precision farming;
- Allowing Cooperatives to function as purely commercial bodies;
- Community/Group collateral and the trees on farmers land could also be considered as collateral in granting credit;
- Promotion of alternate and mega-markets, especially near big cities and metro poly;
- Implementation of the recommendations on marketing by the Committee headed by Shri Shankar Lal Guru;
- Emphasis on Organic Farming Zones;
- Thrust on Agro-forestry and Tree Farming and special focus on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants;
- Disease free zones in Animal Husbandry;
- Thrust on conservation of threatened breeds of live stock and improvement of breeds used for draught and pack;
- Need for an integrated approach for re-generation of grazing lands;
- Enhancing productivity and production of fishes from inland waters;
- R and D programme for enhancing production of quality fish/shrimp seed and feed;
- Diversification of activities for development of fisheries and aqua-culture;
- Thrust on low external input sustainable aqua-culture;
- Thrust on management of Deep Sea Fisheries;
- Thrust on infrastructure and post-harvest for fisheries development;

Institutional Reform :

- Accomplishing productivity revolution; quality revolution; income and livelihood revolution; and management and marketing revolution;
- Research priorities to be changed keeping in view emerging needs;

- Adoption of Farming Systems Approach in Research and Education;
- Mainstreaming gender consideration in Agricultural Research and curricula; Technological empowerment of Women in Agriculture;
- Implementation of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act by all States;
- Adoption of integrated approach for the development of natural resources;
- Identification and launching of national challenge projects on :
 - Waste-land development using Sampoorana Gramin Rozgar Yojana;
 - Agro-Aqua Farms along coastal region,
 - Deep Sea Fishing,
 - Minor Irrigation in Eastern India,
 - Technical Empowerment of Women in Agriculture,
 - Organic Farming Zones,
 - Animal Disease Free Zones.
- Promoting remunerative self-employment of educated rural youth, through :
 - Agriclincs and Agri-business Centres,
 - Public policies,
 - Community Food, Feed and Fodder Banks,
- Integration of Technology Missions;
- Setting up of an Agricultural Science Commission;
- Setting up of an autonomous Crop Variety Testing Institute
- Setting up of a National Commission on Genetic Modification for food security

The Report of the Steering Group has been circulated to all States and UTs and also to concerned nodal Central Ministries/Departments.

**BT Cotton Seeds A New Trap for
small Farmers**

5217.DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the BT cotton seeds are a new trap for small farmers in the country marking them indebted since the seeds will be sold through the private firms only;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to save the small farmers therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) to (c) No, Sir. Most of the hybrid cotton seed already been sold in the country is by private firms. ICAR is also conducting research in the development of transgenic cotton varieties.

[Translation]

**Allocation for Agriculture and
Cooperative Sector**

5218.SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fund allocated for agriculture and co-operative sector during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the said funds were adequately spent on agriculture and co-operative sector during the said period;

(c) if so, the total funds allocated upto March, 2002 and the funds out of this lying unutilized;

(d) whether the target set for agriculture during the said period could not be achieved; 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) to (c) The details of Plan funds allocated and utilized by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for agriculture and cooperative sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan are as follows :—

(Rs. in Crore)

Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	Budget Estimate (B.E.)	Revised Estimate (R.E.)	Expenditure/ Utilisation
	9293.00	7645.69	7518.43

(d) and (e) The details of target set and likely achievement (as per advance estimates) of production in the Terminal Year of Ninth Plan i.e. (2001-02) are given below :-

Year 2001-2002

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	Target	Achievement as per advance estimates
Rice	92.00	90.75
Wheat	78.00	73.53
Coarse Cereals	33.00	33.10
Pulses	15.00	13.79
Foodgrains	218.00	211.17
Oilseeds	28.00	21.16
Sugarcane	325.00	289.41
Cotton*	14.50	11.30
Jute and Mesta@	11.00	10.68

* Million bales of 170 Kgs.

@ Million bales of 180 Kgs.

The main reasons for shortfall in achievement of targets were due to adverse weather conditions and also less investment both in Private and Public Sectors.

[English]

Passengers Off loaded by Air India

5219. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn towards the news item under the caption "Get offloaded, make a packet" appearing in the Hindustan Times of the 12th March, 2002;

(b) if so, the number of bonafide passengers offloaded by Air India since September 11, 2001 till-date alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the facilities provided to the offloaded passengers and the expenditure incurred by Air India on each offloaded passenger;

(d) whether expenditure incurred on such offloaded passengers accounts for heavy losses to Air India; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to minimise such wasteful expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. 1065 passengers were offloaded at Mumbai airport from 30.9.2001 to 14.4.2002 and 741 passengers were offloaded by Air India at Delhi airport from 11.9.2001 to 31.3.2002. A sum of Rs. 35,71,613 and Rs. 27,25,764 has been incurred on offloaded passengers at Mumbai and Delhi airports respectively.

In keeping with international airline's practice, Air India overbooks flights to ensure they operate to optimum capacity. At times, however, passengers having confirmed tickets are offloaded which is a commercial risk that has to be taken by any airline. Such passengers are given top most priority. All arrangements are made by Air India for their boarding and lodging and they are accepted on the next flight. Air India has recently implemented an Automated Revenue Management System which stores historical data on flight performance and recommends optimal overbooking levels using sophisticated, statistical techniques. Moreover, in the peak season, extra flights are allowed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation. Air India has not suffered heavy losses due to payment of denied boarding compensation.

Wasteful Expenditure of ICFRE

5220. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to lack of deficient planning and inaccurate assessment, 80 staff quarters were constructed without any need with the result an expenditure of Rs. 3.33 crore has been incurred at Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into for wasteful expenditure;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to check wasteful expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) had constructed 80 additional residential quarters at the Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur at a total cost of Rs. 3.33 crore to accommodate all its staff. Due to the

ban imposed on filling up of the posts through direct recruitment, 72 out of 80 quarters have remained unoccupied. The matter has been reviewed by the Board of Governors of ICFRE and decision has been taken to rent out the surplus quarters to the Central Government Departments/Organisations based at Jodhpur.

Assistance for Setting up of FPI in Rural Areas

5221. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to sanction Central assistance for setting up of Food Processing Industries in the rural areas for generating adequate employment and eradication of poverty in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Government does not directly set up food processing industries. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes, which envisage provision of financial assistance in the form of grant to cooperatives, non-Governmental organisations, public sector undertakings, private sector, R and D institutions, etc., for the development of food processing industries. These plan schemes are not State or area specific.

[Translation]

Reservation System of Air India

5222. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India permits selected travel agents to have direct access to their computerised reservation system for confirmation of all the seats in flight;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these agents are booking more seats than available capacity thereby causing losses to Air India; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard and steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check irregularity in reservation booking system of Air India ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Air India signs participation agreement with the Global Distribution System (GDS) which defines the access to the Air India system. In turn, GDS extends this mode of participation to all travel agents who use their system. Air India has direct access agreements with the major GDS, eg. SABRE and GALILEO. In this direct access system, agents can view the flight availability dynamically as displayed in the Air India reservations system. If seats are available on the flight in the Air India system, any travel agent can obtain confirmed seats on the flight. However, if the flight is closed, travel agents will not be able to confirm seats on the flight.

(c) No, Sir. The agents cannot secure confirmed seats more than the available capacity.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Conversion of Hotel Janpath into Tourism Bhawan

5223. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to convert hotel Janpath into Indian Tourism Bhawan to function as International Information Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the losses likely to be suffered on account of the said decisions; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide all necessary information/facilities to the tourists at the said centre (Paryatan Bhawan) ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) Matter is under consideration and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Opening of New Colliery in Orissa

5224. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open to any new colliery in Orissa during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Coal India Limited (CIL) have planned to take up 19 new projects in Orissa during the Tenth Five Year Plan. Their location-wise details are as follows :—

Sl. No.	Projects	Location of Coal fields
1.	Basundhara West	IB Valley
2.	Bharatpur Expansion-II	Talcher
3.	Bhubaneswari	Talcher
4.	Garjan Bahal	IB Valley
5.	Gopal Prasad	Talcher
6.	Hingula-II Expansion	Talcher
7.	Jagannath	Talcher
8.	Jagannath Extension	Talcher
9.	Kaniha-II	Talcher
10.	Kaniha	Talcher
11.	Kartikachhar	IB Valley
12.	Kulda	IB Valley
13.	Lakhanpur Expansion	IB Valley
14.	Lingaraj Expansion	Talcher
15.	Jagannath West	IB Valley
16.	Siarmal	IB Valley
17.	Talabera-III	IB Valley
18.	Talabera-II	IB Valley
19.	Talchar West	Talcher
Total		

[Translation]

Development of Tourism

5225. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has formulated any comprehensive plan for development of tourism and its units in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to open some hotels in the country;

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

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) ITDC has entered into MOU with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan for the development and promotion of tourism. There is, however, no plan for expansion of its existing hotels in the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As per the existing policy, the public sector should play the role of a facilitator rather than being a direct provider of services.

Sea Journey between India and Sri Lanka

5226. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted sea journey between India and Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Environmental Atlas

5227. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Environmental Atlas of India brought out by the Central Pollution Control Board highlights that 500 kms. stretch of Yamuna between Delhi and Etawah as the country's most polluted river;

(b) if so, the details of other such grey and black spots and stretches brought out by the Atlas which require immediate attention of the Government for de-pollution purposes; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to erase these spots from the Atlas ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.. BAALU) : (a) According to the Environmental Atlas of India and the water quality monitoring results of the Central Pollution Control Board, Yamuna river is polluted and does not meet the desired water quality criteria in its stretch from Delhi to Etawah.

(b) Other polluted river stretches according to water quality monitoring results presented in the said Atlas are Sabarmati at Ahmedabad, Gomti at Lucknow, the entire stretch of the river Kali, Adyar and Cooum, Vaigai at Madurai and Musi down stream of Hyderabad. Similarly river stretches of Ganga, down stream of Kanauj, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varansi and Trighat; Godavari, down stream Nashik, Nanded and Rajamundry; Cauvery, down stream of Rangapattna, KRS Dam, Satyamangalam Bridge; Krishna between Mahabaleshwar and Sangli; Tapi between Nepanagar and Burhanpur; Mahanadi down stream of Cuttack, Mahi between Badnavar and Vasad, Brahmani down stream of Rourkela, Talcher and Dharmshala are also polluted.

(c) A scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) to take up pollution abatement works in 152 towns along the polluted stretches of 27 rivers spread over 16 States is under implementation. The Plan, among others, includes all the above rivers/towns.

[Translation]

Pending Applications for Mining Lease

5228. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) The number of applications pending with the Union Government particularly of Maharashtra seeking licence for prospecting and mining lease, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications disposed of during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to dispose of the remaining applications ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Under Section 10(3) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 Reconnaissance Permits, Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases are granted by the State Government concerned. Proposal for prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mineral concessions for minerals specified under the First Schedule to the aforesaid Act originate from the

respective State Governments and are processed and disposed of by the Central Government as per provisions of law. All efforts are made to expedite approval of Central Government in least possible time. In certain cases, the proposal received from the State Governments are found incomplete and consequently, in such cases, the State Governments are asked to furnish complete information/ additional information for expeditious disposal of such cases.

67 applications for grant of reconnaissance permits, prospecting licences and mining leases are pending with the Central Government including 4 proposal from Maharashtra on 26.4.2002. 762 applications for grant of mineral concessions have been disposed of during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of proposals disposed during 1999-2002	No. of proposals pending on 26.4.2002
1.	Andhra Pradesh	140	02
2.	Bihar	18	—
3.	Goa	12	01
4.	Gujarat	34	02
5.	Haryana	07	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	06	—
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	03	—
8.	Karnataka	80	14
9.	Kerala	22	05
10.	Madhya Pradesh	68	05
11.	Maharashtra	48	04
12.	Orissa	95	12
13.	Rajasthan	96	11
14.	Sikkim	02	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	115	01
16.	Uttar Pradesh	03	—
17.	Jharkhand	10	03
18.	Chhattisgarh	03	07
Total		762	67

*[English]***Desilting of Aya-Cut Tanks**

5229. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to desilt Aya-cut Tanks on which huge tracts of agricultural lands are depending for irrigation;

(b) if so, the details of such scheme in coordination with State Governments concerned;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to help the farmers on this count; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) to (d) Irrigation being a State subject, all Minor Irrigation Projects including Tanks, are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves from their own plan funds as per their own priority.

However Ministry of Rural Development has formulated a one time programme for restoration of traditional sources of water harvesting by desiltation of ponds/tanks at village level during 2002-03.

The programme will be implemented in a campaign mode and atleast one existing village pond/tank or any other village level water harvesting structure will be restored in the villages where no such activity has been taken up under any scheme of the State at Centre.

The funds for the programme will be pooled from the existing funds released for Watershed development programmes namely Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Integrated Wasteland Development Programme, including Employment Assurance Scheme component, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Pradhan Mantri gram Yojana (Drinking Water Supply Component).

Approval to New Projects

5230. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether IARI took approval of 210 new projects from the Board of Management and Staff Research Council in July, 2001 which should have been approved in July, 1999:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether more such projects are lying pending; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) All the 210 project started from 1994 were approved by the competent authority. As first meeting of newly constituted Staff Research Council (SRC) was held in 1997, the progress of 210 projects was discussed school wise during the meeting on different dates. However, as far as the matter of approval, extension of projects in SRC is concerned, all the approvals and extension of projects are firstly approved in Divisional Budget and Research Committee (DB and RC) and then put up to the competent authority for approval. The same projects are discussed at length in the SRC meeting and approved.

(c) and (d) No Sir, No new projects are pending. All the projects were discussed and reviewed in SRC.

*[Translation]***Adventurous Tourist Spots**

5231. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to develop tourist places as adventurous tourist spots on the line of foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds proposed to be provided by the Government therefor during 2002-2003 ?

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

(b) The Ministry of Tourism extends Central financial assistance to the States/UTs in consultation with them for prioritised projects every year for the procurement of skiing/ water and aero sports/mountaineering/trekking equipment and their accessories as a part of development of Adventure Tourism in the country.

(c) During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 2.00 crores has been kept for development of Adventure Tourism.

Distribution of Seed

5232. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the G.W. 173 seed variety of wheat distributed by the Seed Corporation in Khamba Tehsil of Amreli district in Gujarat has caused loss of several crores of rupees to the farming community;

(b) if so, whether the Union and State Governments have conducted any inquiry into it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) to (d) As per the information received from the Gujarat State Seed Corporation (GSSC), they had supplied 116 quintals of G.W. 173 certified seed to Khamba Cooperative Society. On receiving a complaint regarding the poor condition of the standing crop, GSSC officials inspected the fields and found that crop condition in late sowing was very good but poor in early sowing. The variety G.W. 173 of wheat is recommended for late sowing. The seed supplied to farmers was found to meet the standards prescribed for certified seed of wheat G.W. 173.

[English]

Shifting of Cultivation from Cereals to Edible Oilseeds

5233. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) The production of wheat and rice during 2000-01 and the estimated demand for the same;

(b) whether the Government are taking measures to encourage the cultivators to shift their crop from cereals to edible oilseeds and pulses for which there is a shortage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) The production of Wheat and Rice in 2000-01 and 2001-02 is as under :

(Million tonnes)

Year	Wheat	Rice
2000-01	68.76	84.87
2001-02 (estimated)	73.53	90.75

Separate demand estimates for Wheat and Rice are not generated.

(b) and (c) The Government is emphasizing crop diversification keeping in view the soil health problems being encountered by growing crops like cereals followed by cereals. The crop diversification is also advocated keeping in view imports of oilseeds and pulses. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are carrying out research in crop diversification. A number of pulse and oilseed crops have been identified and released by the ICAR for diversification of cereal based cropping systems in different regions of the country. ICAR is also conducting front-line demonstrations for the benefit of farmers. Besides a tilt has been built in favour of these crops under Minimum Support Price policy during the last two seasons, where relatively higher increases in prices have been given to Pulses and Oilseeds, than those for Wheat and Rice so as to encourage farmers to grow these crops.

[Translation]

National Museum

5234. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Pradhan Mantri karyalaya ke patron tak ko thande baste mein dal deta hai - Rashtriya Sangrahalaya Parbandh" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated February 18, 2002;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents ?

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

(b) and (c) There is no truth in the news item and therefore there was found no need for any action in the matter.

*[English]***Damage in Contai Coast of West Bengal**

5235.DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sea dykes along Contai coast, West Bengal have become very weak following the 1999 cyclone;

(b) whether any big upsurge from the sea can lead to widespread flooding and destruction of property, land and lives in several areas of Contai sub-division;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have asked the Government of West Bengal to attend to the repair work on an emergency basis; and

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

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

(a) As per the information received from the State Government, the Cyclone of 1999 caused some damage to the Sea Dykes along the Contai Coast of West Bengal and at some points, the Dyke got weakened.

(b) In the event of any big upsurge from the sea, the State Government has reported that the possibility of flooding of some sea-side areas causing damage to land and property of the local inhabitants and creating temporary disturbance to public life can not be ruled out.

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

The Government of West Bengal has informed that they have attended to the repair works of the damaged sea dyke on priority basis and have taken up the following works with their own resources, after the Cyclone of 1999 :-

- (i) Raising and strengthening of the sea dyke from 36.00 km to 41.00 km has already been completed.
- (ii) Raising and strengthening of the sea dyke from 27.50 km to 29.15 km and from 30.50 km to 36.00 km have been undertaken
- (iii) A scheme involving works on raising and strengthening of the sea dyke from 41.00 km to

48.00 km and 61.25 km to 65.40 km has been sanctioned.

- (iv) The scheme 'Protection of sand dune, sea dyke by brick and concrete block pitching in between the mouzas Gopalpur and Bhogpur' at an estimated cost of Rs. 64.66 lakhs is also under process in the State Government.

Employment Opportunity through Poultry

5236.SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have explored the possibility of employment generation through poultry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years particularly in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa ?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Governments have taken up employment generation through Poultry. The number of persons/employment generated during last three years in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa are as under :

State	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Madhya Pradesh	2099	1275	1703
Chhattisgarh	1430	1450	2900
Orissa	643	887	659

Utilisation of Funds

5237.SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have devised any strategy to ensure proper utilisation of funds allocated to the States for development and promotion of tourism; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India grants Central financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations every year for identified projects for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in the country.

Completion and maintenance of projects and utilisation of funds is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Department of Tourism, Government of India has set up a Monitoring Committee consisting of the officials of the Department of Tourism and the State Governments to monitor projects in various States/UT Administrations. Senior officers of the

Department of Tourism also monitor the progress of project during their official tours. Review meetings are also held with the officers of the State Governments.

(b) A statement showing information about the number of projects, amount sanctioned and amount released during last 3 years i.e. 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise Financial Assistances Sanctioned/Released during 1999-2000 to 2001-02

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	State	1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002		
		No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amount Released	No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amount Released	No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amt. Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	242.22	124.43	7	180.00	129.60	6	167.85	67.71
2.	Assam	17	357.35	92.76	12	298.35	125.02	—	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	239.28	102.18	6	49.78	17.50	14	224.90	104.40
4.	Bihar	7	150.75	49.01	13	324.48	98.22	1	1.35	1.35
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	3	115.28	36.75	2	30.00	15.00
6.	Goa	11	279.82	70.08	9	89.54	27.91	9	93.73	49.85
7.	Gujarat	23	407.64	136.42	19	510.85	152.86	11	315.50	100.30
8.	Haryana	9	238.33	155.94	6	112.63	46.86	7	125.44	40.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17	691.79	437.75	19	397.29	200.79	12	157.64	63.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	16	311.43	226.03	11	470.93	247.15	3	65.50	55.95
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	6	206.49	61.92	2	80.00	0.50
12.	Karnataka	38	890.70	459.67	19	489.30	248.41	8	206.26	71.00
13.	Kerala	19	772.28	289.56	7	407.85	122.65	10	841.87	239.52
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16	431.08	174.04	12	243.21	78.22	11	256.37	94.54
15.	Maharashtra	30	1003.69	260.21	10	270.81	142.01	13	1098.21	284.51
16.	Manipur	10	229.00	70.10	18	782.77	235.42	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	6	80.72	20.26	5	105.59	36.10	—	—	—
18.	Mizoram	13	297.23	235.08	13	309.19	208.66	6	75.25	41.77
19.	Nagaland	16	303.30	229.65	7	145.03	42.84	5	41.54	20.20
20.	Orissa	20	306.90	90.92	4	156.94	47.07	4	38.05	27.12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21.	Punjab	8	175.00	55.63	6	203.50	61.33	3	17.50	12.34
22.	Rajasthan	12	131.22	36.59	22	455.00	143.47	2	5.00	2.50
23.	Sikkim	12	118.98	48.57	33	376.49	172.32	—	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	27	531.95	168.07	8	113.83	37.30	17	542.83	128.77
25.	Tripura	7	340.76	187.80	13	333.23	151.55	—	—	—
26.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	7	70.19	29.78	3	65.51	32.04
27.	Uttar Pradesh	36	749.58	242.56	17	154.21	62.54	5	56.54	24.87
28.	West Bengal	6	194.01	76.56	20	412.68	268.14	11	229.85	88.63
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	1	32.37	16.18	1	1.78	0.89	—	—	—
30.	Chandigarh	4	68.44	15.37	5	22.13	8.50	5	22.13	8.50
31.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1	30.00	9.00	1	8.00	2.40	—	—	—
32.	Delhi	5	24.50	12.20	1	16.28	8.57	7	58.96	39.50
33.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35.	Pondicherry	10	163.89	56.24	3	26.18	9.09	3	78.61	31.98
Total		422	9794.21	4148.86	343	7859.81	3256.84	180	4896.39	1646.70

Technology Mission for Dairy Development

5238. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of States where Technology Mission for dairy development have been launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the schemes launched and funds allocated for each project, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the success of the schemes; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon ?

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

(a) The Technology Mission on Dairy Development (TMDD) was launched by Government of India in August, 1988 and

was completed in March 2000. It was implemented in sixteen States/Union Territories viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Pondicherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) Under TMDD the following activities were taken up :

1. Operational Linkage Programme.
2. Strengthening of Frozen Semen Station.
3. Liquid Nitrogen Delivery System.
4. Fodder Seed Production Programme.

No new projects were initiated during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The State-wise funds allocated during 9th Five Year are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government of India constantly reviewed the progress of TMDD implementation by Empowered Committee of the Mission chaired by the Cabinet Secretary.

By and large the desired results of the Mission were achieved.

Statement

*State-wise Fund Allocated during 9th Five Year Plan
under TMDD Programme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.01	31.78	27.29
2.	Bihar	36.89	149.21	5.56
3.	Goa	0.00	0.00	13.76
4.	Gujarat	78.10	119.01	72.48
5.	Haryana	2.05	0.41	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4.18	0.00	0.00
7.	Karnataka	138.41	22.11	38.68
8.	Madhya Pradesh	11.73	13.41	38.89
9.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.69	33.55
10.	Orissa	16.16	57.99	7.93
11.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Punjab	0.00	30.76	11.13
13.	Rajasthan	0.09	9.04	10.14
14.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	2.50	0.01
15.	Uttar Pradesh	58.75	34.83	20.86
16.	West Bengal	0.00	4.33	5.96

[Translation]

PATA Conference

5239. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI :
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :

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

(a) whether PATA Conference was organised recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of persons from India and abroad participated therein;

(c) the details of deliberations held alongwith the decisions arrived at; and

(d) the time by which the proposals are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The 51st Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Annual Conference was organised from 14th to 18th April, 2002 at Delhi.

(b) to (d) The total number of participants was 1015. The deliberations were held in the inaugural session, plenary sessions, breakout sessions as well as the concluding session. The theme of the deliberations was "Tourism : Looking Ahead and Beyond". PATA would be finalising and acting upon the recommendations emerging out of the Conference.

[English]

Effect of Coal Mine Dust on Human Health

5240. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has conducted survey of certain areas surrounding the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra to investigate effects of coal mines dust on human health;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) When compared with the health status in control locations i.e. places where no coal mines are located, it was found that the health status in urban and rural areas in the vicinity of coal mines in Chandrapur District is similar.

(c) Does not apply in view of reply to part (b) above.

Vacant Posts in FPI

5241. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : 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 as on March 31, 2002 alongwith the date since when these are lying vacant, category-wise;

(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 (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) The following posts under different categories have not been filled up on permanent basis from dates ranging from 1998 to 2002 except for the posts of Director (F and VP) and Deputy Commissioner (Dairy Product) which have been filled up by current duty charge since 1990 :

Group A :

1. Industrial Adviser
2. Director, F and VP (Fruit and Vegetable Preservation)
3. Deputy Secretary
4. Deputy Commissioner (Dairy Product)
5. Joint Industrial Adviser
6. Senior Inspecting Officer (F and VP)

Group B :

1. Junior Inspecting officer (F and VP)
2. Technical Officer, Industrial Advice
3. Research Officer
4. Inspector (F and VP)
5. Assistant
6. Stenographer Grade – 'C'
7. Senior Technical Assistant.

Group C :

1. Stenographer Grade – 'D'
2. Upper Division Clerk
3. Lower Division Clerk

(b) The reasons for not filling these posts include, inter-alia, court cases and court directions, time required for completion of procedural formalities in recruitment process like news paper advertisement, etc., consultation with Department for Personnel and UPSC for framing Recruitment Rules for new posts, posting of replacement hands in respect of Group B and Group C secretariat posts by the cadre authority, etc.

(c) Since UPSC and other Government Departments are involved in the Recruitment process, no time frame could be indicated.

Promotion of Inter-State Tourism

5242. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :
SHRI SHASHI KUMAR :

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

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has signed any memorandum of understanding with the Government of Tamil Nadu to promote Inter-State tourism;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to provide any assistance to State Governments; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it is likely to promote tourism between the two States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation and Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation have signed a MOU to promote tourism.

(c) and (d) Development of tourism infrastructure 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 for development of tourism infrastructure every year in consultation with them.

[Translation]

Assistance to Plantation Companies

5243. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of plantation companies engaged in plantation work, along with the year since when these are functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any financial assistance/subsidy is being provided to them for taking up the plantation work;

(c) if so, the year-wise details of assistance provided to each of them during the last five years indicating the source from where the said assistance has been provided;

(d) whether any complaints have been received regarding misuse of the aid provided to them;

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

(f) the details of achievements made by the said companies during the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (f) The information is neither collected nor collated in the Ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Marketing of Aviation Turbine Fuel at Airports

5244. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some public and private sector oil companies have demanded space at airports for marketing Aviation Turbine fuel; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has not received any request from any public/private sector oil company for space at airports for marketing aviation turbine fuel.

Vacant Posts in Schools under Ministry of Coal

5245. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in the school's under his Ministry at present, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No schools are run by coal companies or Department of Coal.

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

Decline in Sparrow Population

5246. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a study has been conducted in London on decline of sparrow population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether birds' population particularly of sparrow is dwindling in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to check the decline ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the studies of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom and British Trust for Ornithology, there has been decline in the population of the House Sparrow in United Kingdom.

(c) Bombay Natural History Society has reported a decline in House Sparrow population in certain cities of the country. This is due to rapid urbanisation and consequent loss of habitat as well as loss of nesting material in these cities. However, the sparrow population is found in almost all the regions of the country and there is no immediate threat to its existence.

(d) Afforestation programmes are taken up in urban and rural areas which serve as habitat of various bird species including sparrow.

[Translation]

Permission to Fly Free of Cost

5247. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons granted permission by the Ministry of fly free of cost in the country and abroad during the last three years, year-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(b) the annual financial burden borne by the Government as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Deep Sea Fishing Policy

5248. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised new deep sea fishing policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;
- (d) whether Fishery Survey of India is considering to map out new grounds for non shrimp fishery resources;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the measures proposed to be adopted to give boost to the fishing industry?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Besides, the ongoing programmes for demersal fisheries resources survey and long lining survey for tuna with existing fleet, the Fishery Survey of India is in the process of acquiring new vessels for further diversifying their resources survey efforts.

(f) Strengthening of existing infrastructure for harvest and post harvest operations, creating new facilities, improving quality and food safety standards and human resource development in the fisheries sector are measures that may give boost to the fishing industry.

Deployment of Police Guards at Airports in Andhra Pradesh

5249. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh requested to the Union Government for payment of Rs. 81,66,129/- for deployment of police guards at the Airports; and

(b) if so, the time by which the payment is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted request for reimbursement of expenditure incurred on deployment of State Police at airports. These claims so received from time to time are verified and due amounts are reimbursed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The claims have been settled based on actual deployment for the period after 1.1.1997 upto 30th November, 2001 for Rs. 99,28,177/- on 2.1.2002.

[Translation]

Coal India Limited

5250. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the demurrage charges paid by each subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) to the railways for delayed transportation of the goods and or for any other reasons during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to minimise the charges of demurrage to be paid to the railways by those subsidiaries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The demurrage charges paid to the Railways by the coal companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last four year is given below :-

(Figures in Rs. Crores)

Name of Company	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02*
1	2	3	4	5
Eastern Coalfields Limited	3.38	2.64	3.29	0.65 (upto July, 01)
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	7.83	6.07	7.26	4.58
Central Coalfields Limited	4.45	2.85	3.14	2.14
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	0.11	0.11	0.01	**
Western Coalfields Limited	1.43	0.38	0.69	0.25
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	2.30	1.43	1.16	0.83
Northern Coalfields Limited	0.03	0.00	0.70	0.10 (upto December, 01)

1	2	3	4	5
North Eastern Coalfields	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.01
Total : CIL	19.60	13.53	16.29	8.56

*Provisional

**Still under negotiation with the Railways.

(b) and (c) Coal India Limited and its coal companies have taken following steps to minimise the demurrage charges to the extent possible :—

- (i) Streamlining the loading infrastructure facilities.
- (ii) Close coordination with the Railways for placement of wagons to the sidings and monitoring of wagons indenting accordingly so that rakes are placed in those sidings where coal is available.
- (iii) Regular transportation of coal to the sidings in order to ensure adequate stock at the sidings for loading of the rakes/wagons within the stipulated time.
- (iv) Preventive maintenance is being done to minimise the breakdown of CHPs, Feeder Breakers and other Loading equipment.

[English]

Investment in FPI Sector

5251. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to step up investment in the food processing sector to tap the potential in international food trade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Government have taken various steps from time to time to step up investment in the food processing sector which have impact on domestic as well as international trade. These include inter-alia priority sector status to this sector, automatic approval for upto 100% foreign investment for most of processed food products, granting central excise exemption for processed products of fruits and vegetables and financial assistance under the plan schemes operated by the Ministry for Food Processing Industries.

Public Sector Aluminium Plant

5252. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Public Sector Aluminium Plants in the country at present; and

(b) the targets set and achievements made for the production and export of Aluminium in those plants during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) At present, National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) is the only Public Sector Undertaking producing aluminium.

(b) The production and export of aluminium by NALCO during the last three years was as under :

(Unit MT)

	1999-00		2000-01		2001-02	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Aluminium						
Production	2,18,000	2,12,663	2,18,000	2,30,516	2,30,000	2,31,674
Export	60,000	95,185	1,00,000	1,18,868	1,25,000	1,06,284

National Skill Development Fund

5253. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Skill Development Fund in the near future in order to restrict the loss of jobs in the changing economic scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the labourers are likely to be benefited by this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) A proposal for creation of a Skill Development Fund is under the consideration of the Government.

IB Report on Security at Airports

5254. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Intelligence Bureau has submitted its report to the Government regarding security arrangements at various Airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report pointed out many lapses in the security system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) Intelligence Bureau led teams carried out inspection of important airports, and suggested certain corrective measures which, inter-alia, related to the height of perimeter wall, perimeter road/lighting, removal of vegetation in operational area, provision of grating for drains, strict surveillance and access control etc. Corrective measures have been accordingly taken to strengthen security arrangements at all airports. A number of other measures have also been taken to further strengthen security arrangements which include :

- (i) Deployment of CISF at all operational airports;
- (ii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports;
- (iii) Deployment of Sky Marshals on all domestic routes on random basis.

Mis-Management at Bangalore Airport

5255. PROF. UMMAREDDY VANKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appeared in Indian Express dated April 8, 2002 captioned "Chips to biscuits, everything is down here";

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

(c) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is not maintaining the airport properly; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken against those who are responsible for such mismanagement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Bangalore airport belongs to Hindustan Aeronauticals Ltd. and Airports Authority of India (AAI) only maintains a civil enclave.

Restaurant and snack bars facilities are available in the domestic departure terminal and snack bar is available in the passenger concourse in the international terminal during the night times. Sufficient number of tea/coffee vending machines have been provided at different locations both in the domestic and international terminals. Chocolates, biscuits, etc. are available in TR stalls as also in the duty free shops. The chairs available in the departure concourse and security hold area are maintained in a satisfactory condition. The existing car park can accommodate upto 280 vehicles and this is being increased to facilitate parking of 360 vehicles. AAI has received any specific complaint of passenger being over-charged by the taxi drivers. AAI has also repositioned the X-ray machine of the Customs Department and has provided additional checking counters, provision for conveyors, etc. New trolleys have also been put into operation at Bangalore airport.

Free Health Care for Child Labour

5256. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent issue of Footprints (January 2002) brought out by Global March International New Delhi on the subject of domestic child labour in India and many other countries;

(b) if so, the estimates of the said class of Labour, State-wise;

(c) whether free health care is proposed to be provided to them by the Government as well as employers; and

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

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

(b) No specific survey has been made regarding number of domestic child labour.

(c) and (d) Free health care facilities are available to the general public with includes all children.

Improvement of Flower Sector in Karnataka

5257. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the enormous potential of grow flowers in and around some cities in Karnataka like Bangalore, Hassan, Bagalkot and Mysore;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted and study to develop international flower auction centres in Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details of facilities extended by the Union Government to improve the flower sector in Karnataka ?

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

(a) The Government of India is aware of the potential of growing flowers in different parts of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, have conducted pre-feasibility studies for market development and promotion of exports of flowers. APEDA has assisted the State Government of Karnataka in setting up a flower auction centre at Bangalore for which an amount of Rs. 3.57 crore has been sanctioned.

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is providing financial assistance to the State Government of Karnataka for development of floriculture under the Central Scheme, "Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of States' efforts through Work Plan" which provides flexibility to the State for pursuing the programmes as per its needs. The Government of Karnataka has taken several steps to promote floriculture in the State through area expansion programme and supply of quality planting material of improved varieties of various flowers. The State is also providing assistance for green house construction and developing marketing infrastructure facilities through cooperatives and registered flower growers' associations in the State.

Besides, National Horticulture Board under its scheme "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and post-harvest management" provides assistance in the

form of capital subsidy @ 20% of total project cost with maximum limit of Rs. 25 lakhs. The floriculture programme can be taken under the scheme. During 2001-02 NHB has made available subsidy of Rs. 112.739 lakh in Karnataka to various floriculture projects.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribals

5258. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

SHRI AMBAREESHA :

SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

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

(a) whether many tribal families have been displaced in the country due to formation of various National Parks and Sanctuaries;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have released any forest land to State Governments to rehabilitate these displaced tribals;

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

(e) the time by which these displaced tribals are likely to be rehabilitated in the same environment from where they have been displaced ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pant Committee on Disaster Management

5259. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted Pant Committee on Disaster management;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the committee; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(a) A High Powered Committee (HPC) on Disaster

Management Plans was constituted in August, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Shri J.C. Pant former Secretary to the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Major recommendations of the Committee are :-

- Setting up a separate Ministry of Disaster Management
- Set up National Council of Disaster Management
- Having State and Central level legislations in the field of Disaster Management
- Reconstitution of the Calamity Relief Fund
- Constitution of a separate National Fund for dealing with major disasters
- Setting up of State level Disaster Management Authority on the line of similar Authorities in Gujarat and Orissa.

After examination of the above recommendations by an Inter-Ministerial Group these have been referred to the National Committee on Disaster Management constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, as the National Committee is looking at major policy interventions in the area of Disaster Management, and the H.P.C. is functioning as the Working Group of that Committee.

The other major recommendations include National and State level institutions; mapping mission of Disasters; preparation of State and District level plans; strengthening of forecasting systems; conducting rehearsals; strengthening of fire service and civil defence; involvement of youth and NGOs; establishment of Control Rooms; establishing disaster knowledge network; using education as tool of mass awareness; linking development to disaster reduction; etc.

[Translation]

Change in Crop Cycle Pattern

5260. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments especially the Chhattisgarh Government are educating the farmers to change the crop cycle in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) and (b) Studies have shown that conventional farming with its traditional knowledge base (specific to the region and socio-ecologies) has some advantages. Further, for improving agricultural productivity and ensuring sustainability of the natural resources, interventions in the form of improved seeds, balanced and adequate nutrition, integrated weed and pest management and efficient water management practices are introduced to make the farming more profitable. An appropriate mix of 'conventional and scientific' cultivation depending upon socio-economic setting is considering rewarding. As regards Chhattisgarh, farmers are being educated and persuaded through organizing training and workshop at various level for changing the cropping pattern in the light of agro-climatic zones, soil type, farming situation, resources available with the farmers and market availability.

[English]

Opening of Self Financing ITI

5261. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any new policy for opening self-financing ITI; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of ITIs, proposed to be opened State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) ITIs are set up by the State Governments and private sector in different parts of the country. The policy of the Government is to encourage private investment in the Vocational Training sector to expand the vocational training base.

Spread of Diseases due to Pollution

5262. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of mounting pollution in the cities resulting in unprecedented increase in various ailment viz. cancer, breathlessness etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn up any plan to carry out indepth study on the co-relationship between air pollution and respiratory diseases;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the proposal Environmental Science Research Centres being set up in the country therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The incidences of respiratory ailments and other diseases have been reported in major cities. However, there is no conclusive data available indicating manifestations of various respiratory ailments like cancer, breathlessness etc. attributable to pollution. The Ministry of Environment and Forests constituted a Committee on Environment and Health to develop appropriate policy, strategy and action plan regarding environmental health. The Report of the Committee has been accepted by the Government. As a follow up of the recommendations, an Environmental Health Cell has been constituted and a number of environmental health studies have been commissioned to generate the data base including cause-effect relationship.

Granting of Mining Lease Right to Pechiney of France

5263. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the global corporate M/s. Pechiney of France has sought mining lease of bauxite ores in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the M/s Pechiney is also bidding for National Aluminium Company Limited; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Orissa for grant of mining lease for mineral bauxite in favour of M/s Pechiney of France.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) As per information furnished by Ministry of Disinvestment, the bids for NALCO have not been invited.
- (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Recommendations of Minerals Advisory Council

5264. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to transfer powers for the State Governments to approve the scheme relating to mining;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Minerals Advisory Council has submitted several recommendations to the State Governments to attract participation of private sector in the mining sector;

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

- (e) the reaction of the State Governments thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) Mineral Concession are granted under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the rules framed thereunder. Section 5(2) (b) of the Act, inter-alia, provides that no mining lease shall be granted by the State Government unless it is satisfied that there is a mining plan duly approved by the Central Government or by the State Government, in respect of such category of mines as may be specified by the Central Government, for the development of mineral deposits in the area concerned. Under Rule 22 (4A) of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, State Governments have been empowered to approve mining plan of open cast mines (mines other than the underground mines) in respect of 29 non-metallic or industrial minerals which were notified vide Gazette Notification number GSR 743(E) dated 25.9.2000, copy of which has already been laid on the Table of the House on 27.11.2000. In respect of all other mines, the power of approving mining plan continue to be exercised by the Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of the Department of Mines.

In the 26th meeting of Mineral Advisory Council held on 30.8.2000, several issues such as fixing of time frame for disposal of application for mineral concession, fixing time frame-work for approval of mining plan, examine/review the areas already reserved for exploitation by Central/State Public Sector Undertakings which are no longer required for public sector exploitation were discussed.

The Central Government vide Gazette Notification dated 11.1.2002 has amended Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 which prescribes a time limit for conveying decision on the application for grant of mineral concessions. In case of any delay beyond the prescribed period, the State Government has to record the reasons for delay in disposal of the application for mineral concession. Vide the aforesaid notification time limit of 90 days has also been prescribed for approval of mining plan. Some State Governments have undertaken the necessary exercise within the general policy frame-work of the respective State Governments for dereservation of areas reserved earlier for public exploitation.

[English]

Extension of Runway at Bhubaneswar Airport

5265. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the extension work of runway at Bhubaneswar Airport has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the extension work ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) The work of runway extension at Bhubaneswar airport has been completed by Airports Authority of India (AAI), except the portion through which a road runs, which has to be closed by the State Government. There is also a Public Interest Litigation pending in the High Court against taking up this work.

(d) AAI has been writing to the State Government of Orissa from time to time for the closure of traffic on the existing road passing through the proposed extension of runway.

Scheme for Welfare of Taxi/Auto Drivers

5266. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on the working conditions of Taxi and Autorickshaw operators/drivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons/labourers engaged in this sector in the major metro cities in the country;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring them under the social security net and ESI Scheme; and

(e) the details of schemes for the welfare of said persons being run at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) As per survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation, there are 3.7 crore workers in transport, communication and services. City-wise details are not available.

(d) and (e) The ESI provides social insurance benefits to the workers mainly in the organized sector. The feasibility of introducing a Pilot Scheme for taxi/auto rickshaw operators under the ESI Scheme is being examined. Also, Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is applicable to factories and non-factories establishments specified in the Schedule, which employ 20 or more persons.

[Translation]

Fund for Agriculture Water Management Scheme

5267. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allocated and sanctioned funds during the last three years and current year for Agriculture Water Management Scheme in the agriculture sector;

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

(c) the name of States which have utilized the said funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) In order to exploit the groundwater potential available in eastern region, Government of India has approved a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "On Farm Water Management" which has been launched during the year 2001-2002 for increasing crop production in Eastern India. Under the scheme financial assistance for sinking Shallow Tube Wells/Low Lift Irrigation points, electric/diesel water pumping sets and dug wells (for plateau regions only) will be provided to the farmers through NABARD as credit linked Scheme. The funding pattern of the scheme will be on 20:30:50 basis i.e. 20% as contribution from the beneficiaries, 30% as Government of India assistance as subsidy and remaining 50% as loan from the commercial/State cooperative/rural banks. This scheme is to be implemented in ten States viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. A sum of Rs. 15 crores as the share of GOI assistance under the scheme has been released to NABARD for the year 2001-02 and an allocation of Rs. 115 crores has been proposed for the year 2002-03. The Statewise details are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statewise Central Fund released for the year 2001-02 and allocation proposed for 2002-03 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "On Farm Water Management"

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Year	
		2001-02	2002-03
1.	Assam	0.522	8.970
2.	Bihar	5.370	41.400
3.	Jharkhand	1.884	12.250
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.171	5.370
5.	Orissa	1.200	13.800
6.	U.P. (35 eastern districts covered)	3.345	19.170
7.	West Bengal (9 districts covered)	1.068	9.200
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.480	1.730
9.	Manipur	0.480	1.730
10.	Mizoram	0.480	1.380
Total		15.000	115.000

*[English]***Study on Peninsular Water Grid**

5268. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the study conducted on the viability of Peninsular Water Grid has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have consulted the State Government concerned in the matter; and

(d) if so, the reaction of this State Governments thereto ?

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

(a) to (d) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for integrated water resources development through inter-linkages of several southern based Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers. Through this programme it is intended to assess the surplus basins as of now for

possible transfer of water from surplus to deficit basins in order to optimally utilize the water resources of the country. With this purpose the Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and feasibility studies of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers. Union Minister of Water Resources heads the Society and Chief Ministers/Irrigation Ministers of the States are its Members. There is also a Governing Body under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Water Resources) and a Technical Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission, where also State Governments are represented. These bodies meet regularly to review progress made in the National Perspective Plan and to decide the further course of action. NWDA has identified 16 links under Peninsular rivers component of National Perspective Plan for preparation of Feasibility Report through prefeasibility studies and has completed Feasibility Report of 6 links.

*[Translation]***Ganga Drag Line Machine**

5269. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRI B.K. PARTHASARTHI :

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 50 crore were spent in the rectification of Ganga drag line machine being used in the Jayant Project of the Northern Coal Fields Limited during 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of amount spent on such rectification work during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the reasons for conducting the rectification work by local companies instead of manufacturing company;

(e) whether the Government propose to investigate the entire matter after transferring the officers connected with the machine; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) It is not a fact that an amount of Rs. 50 crores were spent by NCL on the repair of Ganga Dragline machine during the year 2000-01. The actual expenditure incurred for the refurbishment of Ganga Dragline at Jayant project of Northern Coalfields Limited during the year 2000-2001 was Rs. 23.853 crores as under :

Spares utilised by procurement	Spares utilised from stock	Miscellaneous expenses (Iron and Steel). Insurance, Hiring of machining tools from M/s. BE and other contractual jobs	Technical service fee for overall supervision of refurbishment to M/s BEML (A Govt. of India undertaking and Indian manufacturing partner of OEM)	Total
Rs. 15.166 crores	Rs. 6.734 crores	Rs. 1.5 crores	Rs. 0.453 crores	Rs. 23.853 crores

(c) The details of amount spent by Jayant project of Northern Coalfields Limited on the Ganga Dragline during the last three years were as under :-

Year	Expenditure on refurbishment (in Rs. crores)		Running/regular expenditure other than refurbishment (in Rs. crores) approx.	Total expenditure (in Rs. crores) approx.
	Value of spares	Contractual Jobs		
1999-2000	13.55	0.1436	1.07	14.7636
2000-2001	8.35	1.3564 + 0.453 (BEML)	0.58	10.7394
2001-2002	Nil	Nil	0.49	0.49
Total	21.90	1.500 + 0.453 (BEML)	2.14	25.9930

(d) The entire refurbishment work was done departmentally except a few highly technical works under the supervision and technical assistance of M/s. BEML (a Government of India undertaking) who are the manufacturing partner in India of the original equipment manufacturer.

Some miscellaneous small jobs involving Rs. 64.63 lakhs like welding machining, denting and painting etc. for which company does not have infrastructure/facilities, were got done by local agencies following well laid down procedures, rules and regulations of the company.

(e) No irregularity has been committed and as such question of transfer of any official or inquiry does not arise.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (e) above.

[English]

World Bank Fund for VRS in AI and IA

5270. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approached the World Bank to fund VRS for Air India and the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith total fund sought for this purpose;

(c) the reasons of the World Bank thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to lay out long term plans for both airlines to become self-reliant and viable; and

(e) the details of such steps proposed by Government for Air India and Indian Airlines after completion of VRS ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Air India has taken various steps to improve revenue and reduce the operational costs, which include :-

(i) withdrawing of capacity from inherently loss making routes and redeploying it on more profitable routes; (ii) maximising the utilisation of the fleet within the constraints of pilot availability; (iii) dry leasing of aircraft to augment capacity; (iv) improvement in inflight service; (v) introduction of e-marking effective January 2002 to enable passengers to make on-line bookings through the net; (vi) reduction in staff strength in India and abroad; and (vii) abolition of several posts of India based officers abroad in the various departments.

Indian Airlines has taken following steps to improve revenue and contain operational costs; (i) Ban on direct recruitment from outside other than critical areas like operations and Engineering; (ii) Route rationalization and deployment of aircraft based on market requirements; (iii) Introduction of market responsive flexi fare policy; (iv) Innovative market strategies; (v) Acquisition of aircraft on lease to replace ageing aircraft/augmentation of capacity;

- (vi) Improvement in the quality of product/customer services and (vii) Cost control and Economy Measures.

[Translation]

Development of Tourism

5271. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate more funds to tourism industry during the Tenth Five Year Plan as compared to Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has approved a Plan Outlay of Rs. 2900 crores for the Department of Tourism, Government of India for the development and promotion of tourism in the country during the 10th Five Year Plan as compared to Rs. 595 crores actually allocated during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[English]

Bachawat Wage Board

5272. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that out of 1714 newspaper establishments in the country, 1043 establishments have not implemented the Bachawat Wage Board recommendations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) As per information available, out of 1714 newspaper establishments in the country, 1043 had not implemented the recommendations of the last Wage Board i.e. Bachawat Wage Board. The slow progress in the implementation was due to the financial constraints, contract employment, small size units etc. In the meantime, the award of the new Wage Board i.e. Manisana Wage Board has been notified vide orders dated 5.12.2000 and 15.12.2000.

The implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board is the responsibility of the State Governments. All the States/UTs have, therefore, been asked to take steps for effective implementation of the Manisana Wage Board Award. They have been specifically advised to form State-level Tripartite Committees/Implementation Cells for speedy and effective implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards. The Ministry has also set up a Monitoring Committee to oversee the progress of implementation and ensure the same by way of pursuing the matter with the States/UTs.

Fare of Indian Airlines

5273. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has decided not to hike passenger fare despite having suffered a loss of Rs. 950.65 crores during the just concluded financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines is purchasing Aviation Turbine Fuel at Rs. 19,000 kl. much higher than the current International price of Rs. 9,200 kl.; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has with the approval of the Government adopted a Flexible Fare Policy w.e.f. 25th May, 2001. The Flexible Fare Policy enables Indian Airlines to consider fare variations (increase or decrease) on sector to sector and season to season basis depending on a variety of factors including market size, share price sensitivity and other market related factors. With the Flexi Fare Policy an endeavour has been made to make the fares market based than cost based.

As per the Revised Estimates 2001-2002, the losses of Indian Airlines are 250.65 crores.

(c) and (d) The average price paid by Indian Airlines on purchase of ATF has been Rs. 18,500/KL. during 2001-2002 against the average international price of Rs. 9,200/KL. This is mainly due to high basic price and levy of Sales Tax by States at high rates averaging 25%. In order to rationalise sales tax on ATF, Indian Airlines had requested the Government to categorise ATF as 'declared goods' in the Central Sales Tax Act so as to cap maximum rate of

sales tax to 4%. The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

**Amendment in Flight Rules for
Conducting Mining Survey**

5274. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an assurance has been given for making amendments in the flight rules for conducting aerial survey by the companies willing to invest in mining sector;

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

(c) the altitude limit fixed for pilots in India and at International level for the research works;

(d) whether clearance from the Civil Aviation Ministry, Ministry of Home Affairs and Defence Ministry has been received in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has informed that due to safety considerations it is not considered desirable to amend the rules.

(c) to (f) DGCA has informed that the rule in India as also in other Countries provide for a minimum altitude of 300 Mts over populated areas and 150 Mts over water and unpopulated areas. There are procedures for granting permission for flying at lower altitudes by stipulating additional safety conditions.

[English]

**DNA Information for Manufacturers
of BT Cotton**

5275. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made mandatory the sharing of DNA information for manufacturers of BT Cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) have warned the Government that none of the conditions, impaired address health safety;

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

(e) the steps taken to ensure that small farmers are able to fulfill the conditions easily ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Applicants seeking environmental clearance for any transgenic crop/variety, including Bt. Cotton, are required to submit DNA informations under The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules thereunder.

(c) and (d) Health safety issue connected with Bt. Cotton have been extensively considered by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The GEAC is of the view that there is no health hazard involved in Bt. cotton.

(e) Bt. cotton seed packets are required to contain detailed descriptions for use including sowing pattern, pest management, suitability of agro-climatic conditions, etc. in vernacular languages for the benefit of all farmers, including small farmers.

**Accidents due to Hazardous
Chemical Substances**

5276. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of accident occurring due to hazardous chemical substances have increased in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last three years;

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

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

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate an effective policy to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) As per information made available by the Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health, Mumbai, the number of accidents occurred due to hazardous chemical substances during the last three years in Maharashtra is as follows :

Type	1998		1999		2000	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Explosion	16	86	10	22	22	68
Fire	12	76	11	63	11	26
Toxic release	3	16	3	64	7	20

(c) to (e) The Government of India has notified the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 and Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response), Rules, 1996 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to prevent accidents and minimise damage caused by accidents. Inter-alia, the rules stipulate preparation of On-site Emergency Plans and carrying out of Mock-drills and periodic safety audits. Compliance is monitored by the State Inspectorate of Factories.

[Translation]

Urn of Lord Buddha

5277.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether following an excavation carried out in 1958 in Vaishali of Bihar the holy urn of Lord Buddha was found which is now placed in the Museum of Patna;

(b) if so, whether a task force was constituted under the Chairmanship of the then Director General, Ministry of Tourism in the year 1984;

(c) if so, whether the said task force has suggested to consecrate the urn of Lord Buddha in the form of a Stupa;

(d) if so, whether the said task force has suggested that the entire expenditure in consecrate of the Holy urn of Lord Buddha should be borne by the Union Government;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to install the urn of Lord Buddha; and

(f) if so, by when ?

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

(b) Ministry of Tourism Government of India constituted a Task Force (TF) of which ADG (Tourism) was the convener).

(c) to (e) The Task Force in its report of 1986 recommend construction of a new stupa at Vaishali to house the urn. The Archaeological Survey of India did not support the proposal for constructing a new stupa for this purpose at the ancient site of Vaishali as this was against established archaeological norms.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Assistance to Gujarat for Tourism Development

5278.SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

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

(a) whether various State Governments including Gujarat and Maharashtra have sent proposals seeking financial assistance for development of tourism in the States; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposals during the last three years and funds allocated to the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India grants Central financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations every year for identified projects in consultation with them. The projects for the year 2002-03 are yet to be identified.

(b) The Department of Tourism sanctioned an amount of Rs. 225.50 crores for various projects to the State Governments/UT Administrations during last 3 years for development and promotion of tourism in the country including the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. A statement showing number of projects and amount sanctioned during last 3 years is enclosed.

Statement*Statement Showing State-wise Financial Assistances Sanctioned/Released during 1999-2000 to 2001-02*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	State	1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002		
		No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amount Released	No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amount Released	No. of projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	242.22	124.43	7	180.00	129.60	6	167.85	67.71
2.	Assam	17	357.35	92.76	12	298.35	125.02	—	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	239.28	102.18	6	49.78	17.50	14	224.90	104.40
4.	Bihar	7	150.75	49.01	13	324.48	98.22	1	1.35	1.35
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	3	115.28	36.75	2	30.00	15.00
6.	Goa	11	279.82	70.08	9	89.54	27.91	9	93.73	49.85
7.	Gujarat	23	407.64	136.42	19	510.85	152.86	11	315.50	100.30
8.	Haryana	9	238.33	155.94	6	112.63	46.86	7	125.44	40.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17	691.79	437.75	19	397.29	200.79	12	157.64	63.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	16	311.43	226.03	11	470.93	247.15	3	65.50	55.95
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	6	206.49	61.92	2	80.00	0.50
12.	Karnataka	38	890.70	459.67	19	489.30	248.41	8	206.26	71.00
13.	Kerala	19	772.28	289.56	7	407.85	122.65	10	841.87	239.52
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16	431.08	174.04	12	243.21	78.22	11	256.37	94.54
15.	Maharashtra	30	1003.69	260.21	10	270.81	142.01	13	1098.21	284.51
16.	Manipur	10	229.00	70.10	18	782.77	235.42	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	6	80.72	20.26	5	105.59	36.10	—	—	—
18.	Mizoram	13	297.23	235.08	13	309.19	208.66	6	75.25	41.77
19.	Nagaland	16	303.30	229.65	7	145.03	42.84	5	41.54	20.20
20.	Orissa	20	306.90	90.92	4	156.94	47.07	4	38.05	27.12
21.	Punjab	8	175.00	55.63	6	203.50	61.33	3	17.50	12.34
22.	Rajasthan	12	131.22	36.59	22	455.00	143.47	2	5.00	2.50
23.	Sikkim	12	118.98	48.57	33	376.49	172.32	—	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	27	531.95	168.07	8	113.83	37.30	17	542.83	128.77
25.	Tripura	7	340.76	187.80	13	333.23	151.55	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
26. Uttaranchal	—	—	—	7	70.19	29.78	3	65.51	32.04	
27. Uttar Pradesh	36	749.58	242.56	17	154.21	62.54	5	56.54	24.87	
28. West Bengal	6	194.01	76.56	20	412.68	268.14	11	229.85	88.63	
29. Andaman and Nicobar	1	32.37	16.18	1	1.78	0.89	—	—	—	
30. Chandigarh	4	68.44	15.37	5	22.13	8.50	5	22.13	8.50	
31. Dadra Nagar Haveli	1	30.00	9.00	1	8.00	2.40	—	—	—	
32. Delhi	5	24.50	12.20	1	16.28	8.57	7	58.96	39.50	
33. Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
34. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
35. Pondicherry	10	163.89	56.24	3	26.18	9.09	3	78.61	31.98	
Total	422	9794.21	4148.86	343	7859.81	3256.84	180	4896.39	1646.70	

Closure of MESO Steel Plant

5279. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers affected due to the closure of MESO Steel Plant in Jaipur District of Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken to provide them alternative employment or compensation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Methodology for Computing MSP

5280. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the methodology for computing the MSP of farm commodities;

(b) if so, whether the existing system of computing MSP of farm commodities have been found to be ineffective; and

(c) if so, the extent to which the upgradation of the methodology for computing MSP of farm commodities is going to help the farmers at large ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The methodology for computing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of farm commodities is periodically reviewed and necessary changes are effected keeping in view the changing economic scenario. In this context, a National Workshop on Estimation of Cost of Production of Principal Crops held recently considered and discussed suggestions for effecting improvements in the present system. The interests of the farmers have always been uppermost in the mind of the Government and policy measures are taken, whenever necessary, to protect and enhance the same.

Threat to Olive Ridley Turtles

5281. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prawn hatcheries and chemical factories situated on the east coast of Andhra Pradesh are a threat to the Olive Ridley Turtles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to protect the endangered species ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) According to the report received from the Chief Wildlife Warden of Andhra Pradesh, prawn

hatcheries and chemical factories do not pose any significant threat to the Olive Ridley turtle population along the east coast of Andhra Pradesh

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scheme for Migrated Labour Force

5282. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been large scale exodus of skilled and unskilled labourers from various States to the metro cities in search of jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any schemes under which these labour forces could be provided with gainful employment within the States to stop their migration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) According to 1991 Census, about 22.6 crore persons have changed their places of residence within the country, out of which 1.7 crore or 8.8 per cent persons are reported to have moved for employment reasons to other places including metro cities. Data on migration of skilled and unskilled labour is not maintained.

(c) and (d) The Government is implementing various employment oriented schemes and programmes to provide gainful employment to the poor in rural areas. Some of such schemes/programmes include Employment Assurance Scheme, Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, Sampoorn Gramin Rojgar Yojana etc.

Development of under Utilised Fruits

5283. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the development of value added products would play a significant role in increasing the employment opportunities for small and marginal farmers in the country;

(b) the details of cultivation of such fruits and its availability;

(c) whether these fruits are known for their therapeutic, medicinal and nutritive values;

(d) if so, the assistance provided for development of these fruits;

(e) whether the State Governments have submitted their proposal for the purpose; and

(f) 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. The Government is aware that value addition of horticultural produce including fruits would play a significant role in increasing the employment opportunities for small and marginal farmers in the country. The details of area under cultivation in the country during 1999-2000 are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Almost all the fruits as well known for their nutritive, medicinal and therapeutic values. The Government is providing assistance for the development of all types of fruits under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro-Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans. Under this, the State Government can prioritize their programmes depending upon the felt needs and requirement. Accordingly, most of the State Governments have included the programme for the development of fruits in the Work Plans, based on which funds have been released to them.

Statement

A : Area in 000' HA

P : Production in 000' MT

Details of Area and Production of Fruits in India (1999-2000)

Name of the Fruit	Area	Production
1	2	3
Apple	238.3	1047.4
Banana	490.7	16613.5
Citrus	526.9	4650.0
Grapes	44.3	1137.8
Guava	150.9	1710.5
Litchi	56.4	433.2
Mango	1486.9	10503.5
Papaya	60.5	1666.2

1	2	3
Pineapple	75.5	1025.4
Sapota	64.4	800.3
Others	601.9	5707.6
Total	3796.8	45496.0

**Modification of Rules and Regulations
for Grant of Mining Lease**

5284. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have modified the rules and regulations for grant of mining lease;

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

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful for the development of mining sector in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 (MCR) which lays down the rules and regulations for grant of mining lease have recently been amended vide Notification dated 11.1.2002. A copy of this notification has been laid on the Table of the House on 7.3.2002. The amendments inter-alia prescribe a time limit for conveying a decision on application for mining lease within twelve months and for any delay, the reasons would have to be recorded in writing by the State Government. A time limit of ninety days have been prescribed for Indian Bureau of Mines and State Government to convey decision on the mining plans submitted for approval. Also the fee structure for various applications under the rules have also been revised to make these pertinent to the cost of processing the application.

Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 (MCDR) which lays down the conditions for systematic and scientific mining have also been recently amendment vide notification dated 11.1.2002. A copy of this notification has also been laid on the table of the House on 7.3.2002. The amendments have inter-alia made the penalties for violation of provisions of MCDR much more stiffer.

(c) These amendments are expected to result in expeditious disposal of applications for mineral concessions in a transparent and fair manner leading to more private investment, Indian as well as foreign.

Effects of Organised Gangs on Tourism

5285. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

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

(a) whether tourism industry is affected badly by the organised gangs;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to formulate any scheme to protect the tourism industry from such gangs; and

(c) if so, the preventive measures taken by the Government for the safety of tourists ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To provide security and safety in general to the tourists, Department of Tourism, Government of India has addressed all States/U.Ts to introduce suitable legislation and deploy special Tourist Assistance Force or Tourist Police which could assist tourists and provide security to them. Some of the States which have already set up Tourist Police are Goa, Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. The Department of Tourism, Government of India has also set up a Complaint Cell to receive complaints from the tourists and redressal of the complaints is regularly monitored.

Illegal Trade in Wildlife

5286. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : 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 "E-auction of tiger skin raises a stink" appearing in the Times of India dated March 19, 2002;

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

(c) the details of the findings of inquiries, if any, made in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

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

(b) to (d) One Shri Deepak Chandra of Meerut had listed a trophy of tiger on Bazee com in November 2001 for Guinness book of records for having largest tiger skin. The Regional Deputy Director, Wild Life Preservation, New Delhi, conducted raid in the premises of Shri Chandra at Meerut on 8.3.2002 and found a mounted tiger skin displayed on the wall. On enquiry, it was revealed that Shri Chandra had a ownership certificate issued by the office of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttar Pradesh. According to Section 43 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 any person who has a wildlife article, duly covered by a certificate of ownership, can sell or offer for sale such article. As such Shri Chandra is not guilty of violation of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in any way.

[Translation]

Viral Disease in Plants

5287. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up any agency to tackle viral diseases in plants and ensuring quality control for the benefit of farming;

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

(c) the estimated demand of agriculture inputs for horticulture and floriculture, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for commercialisation of plant tissue culture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology has set up a national facility for virus diagnosis and quality control of Tissue Culture raised planting material as a multi-institutional network project to ensure availability to virus free and high quality tested tissue culture plants for the benefit of farming community. The main centre is located at Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi with five satellite centres at Institute of Himalayan Bioresources Technology (IHBT), Palampur; Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (IIHR), Bangalore; National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune; Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi and Southern Petro and Industrial Chemicals (SPIC) Science Foundation, Chennai.

(c) Tissue culture is a developing technology in the field of agriculture, horticulture and floriculture. The estimated demand is likely to increase.

(d) The Department of Biotechnology is making concerted efforts for promoting commercialization of plant tissue culture. Two Micropropagation Technology Parks have been established which act as an interface between the academia and industry. The Micropropagation Technology Parks also serve as an effective platform for transfer of proven technologies to the industry and provide consultancy for setting up of units on turn key basis. Training is an important component of the activity. The National Facility for Virus Diagnosis and Quality Control also aims at benefiting the industry through certification of the planting material which is produced.

[English]

Review and Evaluation of Research Projects

5288. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director, Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) has deviated from the procedure prescribed for approval, review and evaluation of research projects in SRC meetings held during 1995-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof and remedial steps taken by the Government;

(c) whether the SRC met only thrice against the mandate of 12 times during 1995-96 to 2000-2001 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) No, Sir. Director Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi did not deviate from the procedure prescribed for approval, review and evaluation of Research Projects. Director is the Chairman of Staff Research Council (SRC) and all the Project Directors, Heads of the Division and Project Coordinators are the members of SRC. Projects are approved as per well laid out procedure in the Divisional Budget and Research Committee (DB and RC) and then approved by SRC.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There were 20 sittings of SRC during 1995-96 to 2000-2001.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Fuel by Air India

5289. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India has spent more than estimated amount on fuel during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the actual amount spent on fuel vis-a-vis the estimated amount;

(c) the reasons for this additional expenditure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) For the financial year 2001-02, the budgeted expenditure on fuel is Rs. 1062 crores while the estimated expenditure on fuel for the said financial year is Rs. 892 crores.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Heritage Properties in Gujarat

5290. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether, inspite of having maximum Heritage Properties in Gujarat, the heritage tourism has not been developed/encouraged in the State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to develop Heritage Tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) There is no separate scheme for Department of Tourism, Government of India for development of privately owned heritage properties. However, development of tourism including heritage tourism is a continuous process in all the States including Gujarat. The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for development of tourist destinations identified in consultation with the State/UT Governments.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Publications

5291. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the publications published in Hindi and English by his Ministry and its attached offices;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of the publications every year; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to discontinue the publications which are costly and not published regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Ministry of Water Resources publishes the following reports on a regular basis :-

Ministry of Water Resources (Proper)

1. Annual Report

Central Water Commission (Attached office)

1. Annual Report

2. Bhagirath

Central Soil and Materials Research Station (Attached office)

1. Annual Report

2. CSMRS Newsletter

(b) The period for which the information is desired has not been specified. The information for the last five years is, however, given as under :-

Annual Report of the MoWR

Year	Amount incurred
1	2
1997-98	Rs. 3,37,300/=
1998-99	Rs. 3,49,200/=
1999-2000	Rs. 3,95,000/=
2000-2001	Rs. 6,26,000/=
2001-2002	Rs. 6,06,986/= (anticipated)

Central Water Commission

Annual Report

1997-98	Rs. 1,57,000/=
1998-99	Rs. 1,61,000/=
1999-2000	Rs. 1,64,000/=
2000-2001	Rs. 1,67,000/=
2001-2002	Rs. 1,76,000/=

1	2
Bhagirath (Quarterly)	
1997-98	Rs. 5,87,000/=
1998-99	Rs. 7,57,000/=
1999-2000	Rs. 11,36,000/=
2000-2001	Rs. 8,51,000/=
2001-2002	Rs. 3,58,000/=
Central Soil and Materials Research Station	
Annual Report	
1997-98	Rs. 33,100/=
1998-99	Rs. 28,966/=
1999-2000	Rs. 20,907/=
2000-2001	The report is under publication.
2001-2002	The report is under preparation
CSMRS Newsletter	
1997-98	Rs. 30,130/=
1998-99	Expenditure is nil as the Publication is taken out by using in house facilities.
1999-2000	
2000-2001	
2001-2002	

(c) There is no such proposal as the publications being brought out are very important and useful not only for technical organisations/personnel but also for general public.

[English]

Nabakajora Colliery

5292. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI has raided the office of Nabakajora Colliery under Kajora area of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) in the last week of December, 2001.

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

(c) the number of officials found guilty;

(d) whether one of the officials involved in the alleged racket, got promotion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No such information is available with the Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Utilisation of Calamities Relief Fund

5293. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General in its report No. 3 of 1999 (Civil) has highlighted diversion of Rs. 519.54 crore by State Governments on activities not connected with relief measures;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken any action thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken to ensure that Calamity Relief Fund is used for the purpose for which it is given to the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) Comptroller and Auditor General of India had brought out instances of inappropriate and inadmissible expenditure by various States from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and from allocations made from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR). These findings, together with the recommendations thereon by the Public Accounts Committee, in its 28th Report, have been brought to the notice of the State Governments with the directions that each and every instance of this nature be inquired into and specific responsibility be fixed for lapses noticed, alongwith remedial action.

Release of Funds under CRF and NFCR

5294. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) were constituted as per recommendations of the Ninth and Tenth Finance Commissions respectively and the central contribution to

the CRF was to be released automatically on quarterly basis;

(b) if so, the money released under CRF and NCFR since inception till date and how much of that has been expanded, State-wise;

(c) whether the audit found that from 1992-98 most of the States failed to adhere to the stipulation to keep separately CRF from that of general revenues of the State and crores of rupees were accounted for as State receipts in many States; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to ensure that the State Governments release simultaneously matching grant and to account for the money properly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) was constituted on the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission for the 5-year period 1990-91 to 1994-95 and the CRF was continued from 1995-96 to 1999-2000, on the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission (TFC), and contributed by the Government of India and State Governments concerned in the ratio of 3:1. The Central Share was normally released in four quarterly instalments. In addition, the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) was constituted on the recommendations of the TFC for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000, to deal with natural calamities of rare severity. Statement indicating State-wise details of release of Central share of CRF for the period 1990-91 to 1999-2000 and assistance from NFCR for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000, is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India had brought out instances of inappropriate and inadmissible expenditure by various States from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and from allocations made from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR). These findings together with the recommendations thereon by the Public Accounts Committee, in its 28th Report, have been brought to the notice of the State Governments with the directions that each and every instance of this nature be inquired into and specific responsibility be fixed for lapses noticed, alongwith remedial action. The responsibility for ensuring timely contribution of State's share to CRF vests with the State Government concerned. Guidelines have been issued to the State Governments, from time to time, regarding proper utilisation of funds.

Statement

State-wise details of release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the period 1990-91 to 1999-2000 and assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Central share of CRF released		Assistance released from NFCR
		1990-1991 to 1994-1995	1995-1996 to 1999-2000	1995-1996 to 1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	322.50	490.33	306.86
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.50	27.79	26.47
3.	Assam	112.50	197.46	80.90
4.	Bihar	131.25	193.88	87.63
5.	Goa	3.75	4.23	—
6.	Gujarat	318.75	551.17	196.83
7.	Haryana	63.75	98.93	52.68
8.	Himachal Pradesh	67.50	106.41	47.85
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	45.00	77.80	91.59
10.	Karnataka	101.25	165.23	89.07
11.	Kerala	116.25	218.74	12.91
12.	Madhya Pradesh	138.75	201.67	141.62
13.	Maharashtra	165.00	254.50	—
14.	Manipur	3.75	9.25	4.93
15.	Meghalaya	7.50	11.01	10.00
16.	Mizoram	3.75	5.00	10.71
17.	Nagaland	3.75	6.71	—
18.	Orissa	176.25	193.51	912.90
19.	Punjab	105.00	213.80	16.16
20.	Rajasthan	465.00	706.89	145.91
21.	Sikkim	11.25	18.59	20.19

1	2	3	4	5
22. Tamil Nadu		146.25	234.33	25.00
23. Tripura		11.25	17.75	10.39
24. Uttar Pradesh		337.50	494.00	147.83
25. West Bengal		150.00	202.63	116.85
Total		3015.00	4701.61	2555.28

Bilateral Agreements with Foreign Airlines

5295. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government restrictions have forced foreign airlines to opt out of India as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 17, 2002 under the Caption "Cruise control Government restrictions made foreign airlines think twice before setting up shop in India";

(b) whether India has bilateral agreement with as many as 96 countries all over the world;

(c) if so, whether out of 96, 46 airlines have exercised the options of operating out of India;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to attract foreign airlines to operate from India ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir. Government has not placed any restriction forcing foreign airlines to opt out of India. Bilateral air services agreements are concluded on the basis of principle of reciprocity and equality of benefits to both sides. To achieve this the airlines sometimes enter into commercial arrangements to compensate for imbalances in operations and advantages.

(b) to (e) India has so far entered into bilateral Air Services Agreements with 97 countries. Presently a total of 50 foreign airlines are operating scheduled international services to/from India. Although traffic rights have been granted to foreign airlines for operating international services to/from India under these agreements, actual operations are decided by airlines concerned according to their commercial judgement and comparative yields on different routes.

Production of Onion

5296. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers are facing the problem of excess production of onions in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to compensate such farmers ?

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

(a) and (b) The production of onion in the country is estimated to be 54.84 lakh MT during 2001-02 as compared to 52.32 lakh MT (2000-01) and 48.99 lakh MT (1999-2000). In the State of Maharashtra production during 2001-02 is estimated to be 14.16 lakh MT which is slightly more than the average production of last five year i.e. 12.72 lakh MT.

(c) In order to safeguard the interest of farmers in getting remunerative prices, Government of India has increased allocation of onion of exports to the tune of 7 lakh MT this year, as compared to 5 lakh MT in the preceding year. Besides, financial assistance is also being made available by National Horticulture Board, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, National Cooperative Development Corporation, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. and National Horticulture Research Development Foundation for developing onion storage facilities in the country including Maharashtra. Government of India also implements Market Intervention Scheme on the request to State Government in a situation when there is an increase of at least 10% in the production over the previous year's normal production or if there is reduction in the market prices by at least 10% over the rates of previous normal season.

Revision of GDP Growth Rate

5297. SHRI Y.V. RAO :

SHRI A. NARENDRA :

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Statistical Organisation has revised the Gross Domestic Product growth rate;

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

(c) whether the reduction is likely to have a negative impact on all sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (d) The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) compiles the estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) based on the information on various economic activities made available by the concerned agencies and releases the same at different points of time.

For the year 2000-01, the growth in GDP at factor cost at constant (1993-94) prices has been revised to 4.0 per cent in the Quick estimates released in January 2002, as

against the earlier estimate of 5.2 per cent growth in GDP for the same year, released in June 2001. The downward revision in the overall GDP growth rate for the year 2000-01 is mainly on account of negative growth rates in the "agriculture" and in the "banking and insurance" sectors. The estimated GDP and the growth rate at sectorial and overall level for the year 2000-01 released in June 2001 and in January, 2002 are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement : Estimates of GDP and sectoral growth rate at constant (1993-94) prices released in the Revised and Quick Estimates of National Income, 2000-01

	Revised Estimate Released in June 2001		Quick Estimate Released in Jan. 2002	
	GDP (Rs. crore)	Growth rate (%)*	GDP (Rs. crore)	Growth rate (%)**
1. agriculture, forestry and fishing	290895	0.2	289194	-0.2
2. mining and quarrying	27432	3.7	27796	3.3
3. manufacturing	207750	5.6	205220	6.7
4. electricity, gas and water supply	29557	4.7	30406	6.2
5. construction	61942	5.5	62801	6.8
6. trade, hotels, transport and communication	270208	6.9	266817	5.3
7. financing, insurance, real estate and business services	159919	9.1	150051	2.9
8. community, social and personal services	164043	7.8	161637	6.0
GDP at factor cost	1211747	5.2	1193922	4.0

* growth rate over the Quick Estimates for the year 1999-2000, released in January 2001

** growth rate over the Estimates for the year 1999-2000, released in January 2002

Development of Pasture Land

5298. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sponsored any scheme for the development of pasture land into grassland as the problem of grazing animal is on increase in several States;

(b) if so, the funds provided to various States for the purpose during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the States in the development of grassland ?

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

(a) Government of India was implementing a scheme "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development" during 9th Plan in which two components on 100% Central Grant basis viz. Establishment of silvipasture system for increasing bio-mass production and Development of grass land including grass reserves were meant for the develop-

ment of pasture lands and grasslands. The implementing agencies for these components were the State Departments of Animal Husbandry and Forest. During 10th Plan, a new scheme "Feed and Fodder Production Enhancement including improvement of common Property Resources" has been proposed in place of above scheme which is under formulation and approval.

(b) Funds provided to various States for the above purpose are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The State Governments are requested and persuaded for effective implementation of the scheme and furnishing the funds utilization certificates for the grants released to them.

Statement

Funds provided to the various States for pasture lands/grass lands development during last three years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

States	Establishment of Silvipasture system for increasing Bio-mass Production			Grassland Development including Grass Reserves		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Mizoram	7.89 *					19.60
Sikkim	6.00 *			5.60 *	28.00 *	14.00
Jammu and Kashmir	—			25.20 *		47.60
Gujarat				28.00		
Orissa				56.00		
Himachal Pradesh		3.00 *				
Maharashtra					7.60	
Arunachal Pradesh					7.00	
Karnataka		25.00			25.00	
Nagaland					14.00 *	
Tripura						2.80
Total	13.89	28.00	—	114.80	81.60	84.00

*Funds utilization certificates have been furnished.

Level Playing Field for Domestic Airlines

5299. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need in the domestic civil aviation sector of level playing field for sharing non-operative revenues with other airlines as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 14, 2002 under the caption "Level playing field crucial for domestic airlines";

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allow level playing fields in the domestic aviation sector also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) The primary objective of most commercial arrangements is to compensate the Indian carriers from imbalances in operations such as unilateral operations, loss of revenue due to the traffic carried by foreign airlines to points beyond their home country etc. Since Air India is India's primary international carrier enjoying the first right of refusal They are also impacted most by such diversion of traffic, and therefore in most cases they have been designated to enter into the requisite commercial agreements. Indian Airlines is also allowed to have commercial agreements with foreign airlines wherever they are affected financially due to operation of foreign airlines.

Air Cargo Traffic

5300. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether sea freight and express industry are increasingly turning out to be a serious threat to air Cargo;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make air cargo more attractive and efficient;
- (c) the anticipated annual rate of growth of air cargo traffic in the country in the coming decade; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to further increase the air cargo services ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Air Cargo handled during the last five years at the four metro airports of Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata has shown a growth of 3.73%. As per Export Promotion Board guidelines, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has extended the working hours to facilitate air cargo during normal working days and on holidays w.e.f. 24.09.2001 at the four metro airports besides simplification of clearance procedures by AAI and Customs. Annual growth rate of over 7% in the air cargo traffic at our metro airports in the coming decade is anticipated. AAI in order to facilitate air cargo traffic through its four metro airports has created requisite infrastructure facilities.

National Water Grid

5301. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up National Water Grid; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for integrated water resources development through inter-linkages of several southern based Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers. Through this programme it is intended to access the surplus basins as of flow for possible transfer of water from surplus to deficit basins in order to optimally utilize the water resources of the country. With these purpose the Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carry out

water balance and feasibility studies of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers. NWDA has identified 30 links under National Perspective for preparation of Feasibility Report and has completed Feasibility Report of 6 links. Implementation of the water transfer links would only be possible if the concerned cobasin States agree to the water linkage proposal provide other logistical support necessary for project implementation and availability of funds are ensured.

Amount disbursed by N.C.D.C. in Andhra Pradesh

5302. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of amount disbursed by National Co-operative Development Council (NCDC) to various industries and institutes in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the difficulties in providing term loan directly to the industries/institutions on the basis of bank guarantees without involving State Government.
- (c) whether the Government are considering to amend the rules of NCDC accordingly; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has disbursed following amounts during last three years for the cooperative societies in Andhra Pradesh :

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Amount
1999-2000	1661.27
2000-2001	2083.42
2001-2002	3401.7

(b) Under the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962, NCDC can not provide funds directly to the cooperative societies except the National level Cooperative Societies and multi-state cooperative societies without the guarantee of the concerned State Governments.

(c) and (d) The NCDC (Amendment) Bill, 1995 (Bill NO. LVII of 1995) which inter alia seeks to make amendments in the NCDC Act, 1962 to enable NCDC to provide funds directly to the cooperative societies without

Government guarantee was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 25.8.1995 and the same is pending for consideration and passing.

**Legislation to Reduce Government
Control on Co-operative**

5303. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take legislative measures to reduce Government Control on Co-operatives strengthen them to face competition from private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said legislative measures are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. After considering the report of Chudhury Brahm Perkash Committee, recommending inter alia, a Model Co-operatives Act, for the guidance of the State Governments to restore the autonomy and democratic management of co-operatives, it was decided, to give a lead to the State Governments, to replace the existing Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 by a new legislation on the lines of the Model Co-operatives Act. Accordingly, the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Bill, 2000 for replacing the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984, has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 24th November, 2000. The Bill is pending for consideration and passing by the House. The objective of the Bill is to remove the so identified restrictive provisions in the existing Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984, and to provide full functional autonomy and democratic management of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies and to infuse professionalisation in the management of these institutions to face the challenges of the open and competitive market economy.

[Translation]

Labour Strike against Labour Laws

5304. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :
SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the demands behind the March 16, 2002 labour strike;

(b) if so, the details of demands put forth by each of the organisation participated in the strike;

(c) the remedial steps Government propose to take on the demands of each of the above organisation; and

(d) the total loss suffered in physical and financial terms as a result of the strike ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No strike was reported on March 16, 2002.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Production of Soyabean in Andhra
Pradesh**

5305. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of soyabean production in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether soyabean farmers of the State are not getting remunerative prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to provide remunerative price to soyabean producers and increase its production in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The production of soyabean in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years is as under :

Year	Production ('000 tonnes)
1998-99	16.8
1999-2000	13.9
2000-2001	11.8

(b) to (d) Due to the heavy import of edible oil there has been a decline in the prices of oilseeds including soyabean in the domestic market. The Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for oilseeds including soyabean in order to provide remunerative price

o soyabean growers. NAFED is the central nodal agency to carryout purchase operation in case market price falls below the Minimum Support Prices. Since the market prices of soyabean of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) generally remained above minimum Support Prices (MSP) this year (2001-2002), no procurement was made.

For increasing the production of soyabean in the country including Andhra Pradesh, a centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is being implemented. Under the scheme, various incentives by way of subsidy are provided to soyabean growers in order to motivate them to take-up the cultivation of soyabean on a large scale.

[Translation]

**Import/Export of Chilli, Garlic,
Mustard and Onion**

5306. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose to ban on import of chilli, garlic, mustard, onion etc. and are contemplating to export the said items; and

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

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

(a) and (b) There is no proposal to ban the import of chilli, garlic, mustard, onion etc.

The export of chilli, garlic and mustard is freely permitted under Current Exim Policy. The export of onions is allowed under quota released by Government from time to time through certain designated State Trading Enterprises.

The policy of the Government for export of agricultural products is governed principally by the consideration of country's food security, maximizing farm incomes and earning incomes.

Payment of LTC by BCCL and CCL

5307. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the payment of LTC and LLTC to the employees of the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) has been stopped;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of employees who have not been reimbursed their LTC and LLTC claim in the BCCL and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) as on date;

(d) whether the payment of LTC claim of such employees has been pending for the last 10 to 15 years; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regards ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The payment of LTC and LLTC is not being made to the Employees of BCCL except to those who are retiring or going outside the company on transfer due, to acute liquidity crisis. In other subsidiaries of CIL, LTC and LLTC facility was banned in March 2001, as a consequence of order of Department of Public Enterprises. However, on 28th February, 2002 DPE has lifted the ban on LTC in respect of PSU employees whose wage revision w.e.f. 01.01.1992 to 01.01.1997 have been implemented.

(c) As on 01.4.2002 there were 108043 employees whose claims are pending in BCCL except those who are retiring or have retired or have been transferred to other coal companies. In CCL, the payment of LTC and LLTC is being made regularly except during the suspension period of these facilities.

(d) No, Sir. However, LTC claims of all employees in BCCL with the exception of those retiring to transferred to other company are pending since 1995-96.

(e) The financial position of BCCL is very bad and it has been incurring huge losses and has been referred to BIFR. The position would be reviewed after financial condition of the company improves.

[English]

**Pending Irrigation Projects of
Andhra Pradesh**

5308. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether irrigation projects such as Janjhvathi Velingonda, Hyderabad Water Supply of Andhra Pradesh are pending with the Union Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for pendency; and

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

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

(a) The Janjhavati Irrigation Project of Andhra Pradesh was considered by Advisory Committee on 28.03.81 in its 16th meeting and the same was deferred because concurrence of Orissa for submergence in their territory was not obtained by Government of Andhra Pradesh. Compliance to the above was not received and the project was finally sent back to Government of Andhra Pradesh in April, 1987.

The Velligonda Irrigation Project Report was received in Central Water Commission (CWC) in March, 1996. The project was examined by the Screening Committee of CWC and not found suitable for detailed examination because availability of water had not been established. The project was sent back to the State Government in November, 1996.

(b) The Project Report of Second Hyderabad Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project was received in CWC in May, 1998. The same was examined and comments of CWC on the inter-state aspects were sent to State Government in July, 1998, the replies to these have been received in September, 2001. The replies indicate that the additional utilization of 3.30 TMC, over and above the committed utilization of 3.90 TMC of Krishna waters is proposed to be met from the quantity of 10.70 TMC of water saved due to reduction in evaporation losses from the Srisaillam Reservoir of Andhra Pradesh. However, keeping in view the award of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT), the claim of Government of Maharashtra on the augmented waters in Krishna and also since according to the Government of Karnataka the entire gamut of issues connected with construction of Srisaillam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) including any scheme drawing water from SLBC, is before the Supreme Court, water availability for project has not yet been clearly established.

(c) Clearance of the projects is linked to the promptness with which the State Government complies with the outstanding observation of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

Employment on Compassionate Ground

5309. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4292 dated August 21, 2001 regarding Pending Cases for Employment on Compassionate Ground with BCCL and state :

(a) the details of each pending case regarding employment on compassionate ground in Bharat Coking coal Limited (BCCL) till date;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the cases are being delayed and then rejected as 'belated';

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

(d) whether there is any provision of rejecting such cases as 'belated' in the National Coal Wage Agreement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) As reported by Coal India Limited, 171 cases are yet to be cleared. These cases are under process. It is a continuous process. While earlier cases are being cleared, fresh cases are also received.

However, main reasons for delay in final disposal of cases may be summarised as below :-

1. Due to variance in information given in the application by the claimants, report of police verification is essential, to ascertain the genuinity, and it takes time for submission of such reports by the State authorities.
2. In some cases, the claimant was below the age of 15 years on date of death of the employee. As per provisions of National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA) the age of dependent must be above 15 years on the date of death of the employee.
3. In some cases, male dependents who are above 35 years of age as per service excerpts submitted by the employee are asking for age determination.
4. In case of female dependents, where only monetary compensation is offered, they are also asking employment claiming to be below 45 years, though as per service excerpts submitted by the ex employee their age is above 45 years.
5. There are cases, where the applicant has submitted application after a lapse of up to 15 years. In such cases, in order to ascertain the exact position, it requires some verification to ascertain the correct dependent.
6. There are claims and counter claims from different dependents and there are some cases which are sub judice.

7. There are cases of second and third wife, all claiming to be dependents.
8. In some cases, employment is provided to the dependent who are declared medically unfit for underground job and subsequently another dependent claims for employment.
9. Name of the claimants as available in Company's records, varies from those mentioned in educational qualification certificates.
10. There are cases of adopted son which also takes times to verify/process.
11. There is wide gap between last day of working and reported date of death. Checking of such variation also takes time.

(b) and (c) As reported by CIL, no case is being delayed. However, in certain cases, the dependents fail to furnish the desired documents in support of genuinity of relationship etc. If the dependents fail to furnish the documents for years together, such cases are being treated as doubtful and not considered.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no such provision under NCWA. However, being cases of employment on compassionate ground, it is expected that the claim should be made within reasonable limits.

Protection of Forest Area

5310. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is provided by the Union Government for protecting measure forest area in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of States where CRPF has been provided for the purpose.

(c) whether the Government have now taken a decision to withdraw CRPF from forest area; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Central Government provides funds to State Governments for deployment of dedicated strike forces comprising of para-military forces/ Provincial Armed Constabulary in insurgency prone areas. The choice of the force to be deployed is with the State Governments. Home Ministry has not found it feasible to deploy the central para-military forces for protection of

forests and wild life at present. Therefore, the States have to utilise their own armed constabularies for this purpose.

Evaluation of Funds spent under MPLADS

5311. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any critical evaluation of funds spent under MPLADS has been made so far by CAG etc. and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government are aware that a good deal of the funds have been spent in Delhi by MPs on paving the service lanes in colonies and providing streetlights far in excess of the real need.

(c) if so, whether paving the service lanes is leading to stopping of water returning to the soil and causing shortage of water thereby; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The CAG in its report for the period ending March, 2000 has pointed out certain violation of the guidelines on MPLADS, such as execution of works without recommendation of the concerned MP, sanction of works for commercial/private organisation, irregular expenditure on repair and maintenance works, purchase of stores, etc.

(b) Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has informed that some cases of paving the service lanes in colonies and providing street lights have been taken up under MPLADS. The need for paving of service lanes and providing street lights was examined and approved by the competent authority.

(c) and (d) Paving of lanes is decided keeping in view the essential requirements like mobility of pedestrians, vehicles, improving hygiene, reducing mosquito breeding etc. Now-a-days water harvesting measures are available which help the return of water to the soil.

Free Air Journeys

5312. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH :
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines/Air India and other airlines, as a measure of incentive, are allowing free journeys both on domestic and international routes;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether a Government official travelling for official purpose can avail benefits of the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the income generated or losses suffered by these airlines under the scheme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) It is a common practice for airlines world over to offer free ticket for journeys under various schemes wherein members can earn bonus points and can redeem them for free tickets. Air India and Indian Airlines have a similar "Joint Frequent Flyer Programme". Jet Airways also has a similar frequent flyer programme namely "Jet Privilege Programme" wherein members of the programme are awarded JP Miles and can be redeemed for international travel on KLM, North West and British Airways.

Further Indian Airlines offers international incentive tickets under its "Desh Videsh" Scheme for all passengers who travel on revenue tickets and on the basis of travels made on domestic sectors. Air India also has another "Companion Free Scheme" under which passenger travelling on International Air Travellers Association (IATA) published fares to any international destinations on Air India's route network except India/Gulf routes can take along a companion free of cost.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government servants can accept the free tickets earned by them under such schemes offered by any airline. Whereas, in so far the "Free Companion Scheme" is concerned, the availing of this facility is confined to National Carriers only.

(e) These schemes have had a positive impact on the airlines high yield traffic and revenue by attracting passengers on their networks.

Coal Production

5313. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details both coking and non-coking coal produced in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the offtake of coal is decreasing because of recession in the steel industry;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to promote use of coal in Power and Cement Sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are accumulation of coal stocks at pitheads for want of rakes; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken to clear the stocks?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The details of total production of coal during the last three years category-wise is given below :-

(In million tonnes)

Year	Coking	Non-Coking	Total
1999-2000	32.98	267.06	300.04
2000-2001	30.90	278.73	309.63
2001-2002*	29.01	293.60	322.61

*Provisional

(b) to (d) The overall offtake of coal is not decreasing. The overall offtake of coal during 2001-02 was 325.41 million tonnes (provisional) as against 315.60 million tonnes of 2000-01. The offtake of coal by Power and Cement Sectors has been on the increase but Steel Sector showed decline.

(e) and (f) During the last three years, offtake of coal has been more than production, thereby reducing the coal stocks. Railways have no shortage of wagons and are in a position to move all coal offered.

Expenditure Reforms Commission

5314. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Expenditure Reforms Commission has been set up in his Ministry to give recommendations for reducing the existing wasteful expenditure in the Ministry and its departments;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) the details of recommendations made by this Commission so far;

(d) the details of the recommendations which are yet to be implemented by his Ministry or departments alongwith the reasons for not implementing them till date; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Refusal to Air India's Pilots for Landing in UK

5315. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some Air India pilots are not allowed to land in United Kingdom because of certain technical reasons;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) There are no pilots in Air India who are not allowed to land in United Kingdom because of technical reasons.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Supply of Inferior Quality of Coal by MCL

5316. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has made a complaint that the Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) has been supplying inferior quality of coal to its Super Thermal Power Plant at Talcher (Orissa);

(b) if so, whether the NTPC has deducted certain amount from the bills of MCL as the inferior quality of coal has damaged the machineries of the said plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether other power plants in Orissa are also getting said coal from MCL;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to get the issue investigated by an independent agency, other than Coal India Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Coal India Limited has reported that no such complaint has been received by it.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The payment is being made on the basis of the quality as per analysis/results of joint sampling.

(d) Other power plants in Orissa are being supplied similar type of coal by MCL, that is, grade 'F'

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Concept of Crop Rotation

5317. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have requested the Union Government for Central assistance to the farmers who are willing to adopt the concept of crop rotation to improve their economic condition;

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

(c) the Central assistance proposed to be provided to the States particularly Karnataka and Maharashtra in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, ICAR institutes have developed economically viable crop rotations for different agro climatic regions of the country. Through State Agriculture Universities and other agencies, this information is made available to the concerned line departments. Limited demonstrations are also conducted to demonstrate the superiority of the improved crop rotations.

(c) Does not arise.

Mining of Sand and Raw Granite in Tamil Nadu

5318. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified several areas in Tamil Nadu for mining of sand and raw granite blocks;

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

(c) the details of the parties who were awarded the mining project of sand and granite blocks in the State location-wise; and

(d) the approximate quantity of sand and granites extracted annually and the income generated therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) Sand (except when used for refractory and manufacture of ceramic, metallurgical purpose, optical purpose, stowing in coal mines, etc.) and Granite are minor minerals defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. For minor minerals, the State Governments are fully empowered to regulate and grant mineral concessions according to the Minor Mineral Concession Rules (MMCR) framed by the State Government concerned under section 15 of the Act and therefore such information is not centrally maintained.

The number of reporting mines for silica sand (including the quantity and value of production) in the State of Tamil Nadu during 2000-2001 is given below :-

(Quantity in tonnes)
(Value in '000 Rs.)

2000-2001

No. of Mines	Quantity	Value
2 (Chengapatta District)	2687	1778

Sales Tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel

5319. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has represented that the Sales-tax on ATF (Aviation Turbine Fuel) should be removed as has been done for foreign airlines;

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

(c) the total Sales-tax paid by Indian Airlines on ATF in 2001-02;

(d) whether the Government propose to extend subsidy to Indian Airlines if the Sales-tax is not removed in 2002-03; and

(e) if so, the details of such assistance planned for Indian Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines has suggested an exemption from sales tax on ATF for international operations. In respect of domestic operations, the request is for categorizing AFT as "Declared Goods" under the Central Sales Tax Act resulting into uniform levy of 4% Sales Tax.

(b) The proposal is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) Sales Tax on ATF for Indian Airlines including Alliance Air works out to Rs. 175 crores for 2001-2002.

(d) and (e) At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Irregularities in Publication Division of N.G.M.A.

5320. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :
YOGI ADITYA NATH :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Prakashan Vibhag mein aniyamtaon ke chalte karoddon rupaye ka nukshan" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated March 19, 2002;

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

(c) the value of material published by National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) alongwith the losses suffered during each of the last three years; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officials for irregularities being committed in the Publication Department ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item published in Rashtriya Sahara on 19th March, 2002 has been examined and found that it was published without ascertaining the factual position from the Government i.e. National Gallery of Modern Art or Department of Culture. The allegations made therein are unfounded and baseless.

(c) The Actual expenditure incurred on Publications of National Gallery of Modern Art during the last three years is as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Actual Expenditure
1999-2000	4.41
2000-2001	6.72
2001-2002	Nil

(There is no loss on account of printing of publications such as catalogues, portfolios, greetings cards, picture post cards etc., since these publications are sold to public on no profit no loss basis).

(d) Does not arise.

Merger of NMI with Institute of Archaeology

5321. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to merge the Delhi based National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conversation and Museology (NMI) with the Institute of Archaeology;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to renovate the Museum in various States which are lying in and dilapidated condition ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) The Government of India is primarily responsible for development of museums under the administrative control of the Department of Culture. States are responsible for looking after their museums. However, the Government of India provides financial assistance for development of the museums in the States under the "Scheme of financial assistance for Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums" subject to availability of funds

Mica Reserves

5322. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mica reserves in different States including Maharashtra are depleting;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to set-up Mica based industries ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) As per National Mineral Inventory prepared by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate Office of the Department of Mines as on 1.4.1995, the recoverable reserve of mica in the country are placed at 59980 tonnes. As per available information with IBM, no economically viable mica deposits have been located in Maharashtra.

As per the National Mineral Policy 1993, the exploration/exploitation of the minerals including mica has been thrown open to private entrepreneurs. In this liberalized set up, it is for the private initiatives to explore and exploit minerals and set up mineral based industry which in turn depends on the economic viability of such projects. The Government does not have any proposal to set up mica based industry at present.

Dairy Development

5323. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any step for the development of dairy in the scheduled areas in various States;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard in the country particularly in Orissa during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether any assistance is being extended to motivate the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes to promote dairy and live stock in the scheduled districts in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme 'Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas'. This scheme is funded on 100% grant in aid basis to the concerned State Governments/Union Territories. This is a demand driven scheme being implemented in the States/ Union Territories including scheduled areas. A statement showing State-wise details of Integrated Dairy Development Projects approved including for the State of Orissa during the last three years is enclosed as statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for promotion of dairy and livestock. No scheme is, however, meant exclusively for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As per information received from the Government of Orissa about 32% of farmer members of the village level dairy cooperative societies organised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas' belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (as on 31.3.2001).

Statement

State-wise details of Integrated Dairy Development Projects approved during 1999-2000 to 2001-02

Sl. No.	State/Project	Year of Approval and Approved Outlay (Rs. in Lakh)		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Andhra Pradesh-II	—	934.28	
2.	Bihar-V	—	447.73	
	Bihar-VI	—		279.78
3.	Chhattisgarh-II	—		700.63
	Chhattisgarh-III	—		849.16
4.	Meghalaya-II	—	472.52	
5.	Mizoram-III	—		199.41
6.	Orissa-IV	—	784.53	
7.	Sikkim-III	—	368.16	
8.	Uttar Pradesh-IV	—	758.44	
	Uttar Pradesh-V	—		1231.32

Note : No Project was approved during the year 1999-2000 due to ban imposed by the Department of Expenditure, on sanction of new projects till fresh approval of the schemes at appropriate level is obtained.

Inclusion of additional Areas for OFD Works

5324.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 inclusion of additional areas for OFD work of Mahi Irrigation

Project, Sidlimukh Nahar Irrigation Project and Bilaspur Project, in Centrally sponsored Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposals are likely to be given approval ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposal for inclusion of Sidhmukh Nohar Project with ultimate irrigation potential of 42759 ha (CCA 84170 ha) in the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme was received from Government of Rajasthan in July, 1997. The Inter Ministerial Sanctioning Committee agreed in principle to include the project in September, 1997 subject to the condition, inter alia, that correct figures of potential created will be given by Government of Rajasthan which are yet to be received.

The proposal for inclusion of Bisalpur drinking water cum irrigation project with ultimate irrigation potential of 55224 ha (CCA 76700 ha) was received from Government of Rajasthan in February, 2001. The proposal could not be included under Command Area Development Programme as the potential created was much less than the minimum requirement of 60%.

The proposal for inclusion of an additional area of 18095 ha under Mahi Irrigation Project in the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme was received from Government of Rajasthan in June, 2001. As the 9th plan was coming to close, the Government of Rajasthan was intimated that the project could not be included at that stage.

(c) The time by which the proposals are likely to be included under CAD programme depends upon fulfillment of all the requisite conditions by the Government of Rajasthan.

Unviable Irrigation Projects

5325.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that crucial irrigation projects of the country have been rendered unviable due to erratic expenditure, mismanagement and excess payments;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take remedial measures to make the projects viable;

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

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

(a) to (d) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. State Governments are empowered to accord investment clearance for major and medium irrigation projects on Intra-State rivers. Only major and medium projects on Inter-State rivers are required to be referred to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic appraisal, which includes economic viability, acceptance by the Advisory Committee and according investment clearance by the Planning Commission after statutory clearances are also obtained. Due to thin spreading of resources by the States by taking up too many projects and other factors like resettlement of project affected families, land acquisition, contractual problems, law and order problems etc., many irrigation projects have suffered from time and cost overruns. State Governments are also required to furnish revised project reports for projects approved by the Planning Commission where the revised estimates of the project have increased by more than 15% of the original cost, including escalation due to price rise or where there is a change in the scope of the project. In some cases, this procedure is not being followed by the State Governments.

Scheme for Development of Water Resources

5326. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scheme for application of remote sensing in water resources development and management was approved during the Eighth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, whether this scheme was not completed in Eighth Plan and lingered on to Ninth Plan; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be completed?

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

(a) to (c) The Scheme "Remote Sensing Application in Water Resources Development and Management" at an

estimated cost of Rs. 202.75 lakh, was taken up in December, 1994 during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Total expenditure of Rs. 121.57 lakh was incurred in the financial years 1994-95 to 1996-97. Due to delay in approval of the scheme and non-availability of required budget as planned, the activities envisaged under the scheme during the Eighth Plan could not be completed, and as a result, the scheme spilled over to the Ninth Plan and was approved for Rs. 336.11 lakh. In order to make use of Remote Sensing Techniques, infrastructural facilities in the form of image processing units, GIS analysis unit and related hardware and software were taken up under this scheme which have been completed. Studies related to various aspects of water resources development like, estimation of water logged areas, changing morphological behaviour of rivers, reservoir sedimentation status etc., are taken up periodically. The studies are required to be continued by using the Remote Sensing Techniques for continuous updating of the acquired data base.

Recommendation of Technical Evaluation Committee

5327. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Air India has received report from Technical Evaluation Committee for its aircraft purchase programme;
- (b) if so, the detail thereof alongwith the recommendations;
- (c) whether financial modalities for purchase of aircraft has been finalised;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government propose to acquire separate jet planes for transportation of VVIPs in the country and abroad; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government has set up a Committee for acquiring plan for VVIPs.

Fraud in Stocks of Diamond and Precious Stones

5328. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases of shortage in diamond and precious stones stocks and some other similar frauds have been detected during the period from 1996-97 onwards in various diamond fields and precious stone mines in the country;

(b) if so, the details of cases detected so far in each diamond field;

(c) whether the Government have constituted several Committees to examine such cases;

(d) if so, the details of such Committees and their salient features;

(e) the details of recommendations made by each Committee thereon;

(f) whether all the guilty officials/employees have so far been punished according to the recommendations of the Committees;

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor indicating the details of case which have not been finalised will date; and

(h) the efforts being made by the Government to dispose of the remaining cases expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) State Governments grant mineral concessions and collect royalty in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by the lessee and dead rent under Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 1957. Collection of royalty is based on removal and consumption of minerals. As on royalty is collected by the Central Government, no information relating to removal of diamond and precious stones or any other minerals and shortage thereof, is centrally maintained.

(c) to (h) In recent past, no Committee for the said purpose has been set up by the Central Government.

Development of Tourism

5329. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a bid to diversify its business and ensure growth after privatisation of hotels, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has tied-up with Tamil

Nadu, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh for providing support in infrastructure development and travel-related services;

(b) if so, whether some more States have been identified for similar tie-ups;

(c) if so, the names of those States; and

(d) the extent to which these tie-ups have helped to improve growth in tourism sector ?

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

(b) and (c) ITDC has indicated the possibility of similar tie-ups with other State Tourism Corporations/Governments.

(d) The State Governments would be benefited by way of synergising resources and efforts of both ITDC and the respective State Governments in developing tourism infrastructure and promotion/marketing of tourist facilities.

Production of Paddy

5330. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of production of paddy is growing high due to lifting of the subsidy from the fertilizer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the farmers specially in Andhra, Karnataka and Maharashtra are still committing suicide for not getting remunerative prices of their foodgrains; and

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

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No State Government has reported suicide by the farmers due to not getting remunerative price for their crops, during the last two years.

[Translation]

Investment In Agricultural Sector

5331. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for increasing investment in the agricultural sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the investment made in this sector during the last three years and projected for the next three years, State-wise ?

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

(a) and (b) The Government have taken a number of steps for increasing capital formation in agriculture. These, inter alia, include the following :

- (i) The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for the year 2002-03 has noted that the total credit flow to agricultural sector through institutional channels is expected to increase to Rs. 75000 crore in 2002-03 from the level of Rs. 64000 crore in 2000-01.
- (ii) Specialized Agricultural Finance Branches (SAFB) by commercial banks for promoting investment in high tech. areas such as aquaculture, floriculture, pisciculture etc., have been opened. So far 61 such SAFBs have been opened by the Public sector banks.
- (iii) Reshtriya Krishi Bima Yojana has been launched to provide a comprehensive risk insurance to encourage farmers to increase investment in agriculture.
- (iv) Rural infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) with NABARD has been set up to help the States in investing in rural infrastructure. The funds for RIDF VIII will be enhanced from Rs. 5000 crores to Rs. 5500 in 2002-03 while the rate of interest will be reduced from 10.5 percent in 2001-02 to 8.5 per cent in 2002-03.
- (v) Micro-finance Development Fund has been set up in NABARD with a corpus of Rs. 100 crores for scaling up the Self Help Group Linkage Programme and supporting other credit delivery models. The scheme of micro credit through Self Help Groups is targeted to cover 1.25 lakh families in 2002-03 as against 70 lakh families in 2001-02.
- (vi) Watershed Development Fund has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 200 crores with contribution of Rs. 100 crore each from NABARD and Government of India.
- (vii) Allocation of Rs. 2800 crore is proposed in the year 2002-03 as against Rs. 2000 Crore in the previous year for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit

Programme (AIBP) to help the States in completing major and medium irrigation projects.

- (viii) An outlay of Rs. 164 crore is proposed to be provided in the year 2000-03 for electrification of villages under Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (Interest subsidy scheme)
- (ix) For construction of Rural Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana an additional allocation of Rs. 2,500 crore is proposed for 2002-03 over and above Rs. 5000 Crore allocated so far.

National Accounts Statistics (NAS) compiled by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) is the source of information on capital formation in the economy, including agriculture, at the national level. The gross capital formation in the sector, "Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing" for the years, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, as estimated by CSO, are Rs. 26714 crore, Rs. 30252 crore and Rs. 31630 crore respectively. The State-wise details of capital formation in agriculture and the projection thereof are not available.

[English]

Decline in Marketing of Coal of NECL

5332. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the marketing of coal of North Eastern Coalfields Limited (NECL) is showing declining trend;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the remedial steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Offtake of coal from North Eastern Coalfields has been on the decline in the recent years. Offtake of coal for the last three years in NEC has been as under :-

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Offtake
1999-2000	8.40
2000-2001	7.70
2001-2002 (Prov.)	6.25

(c) The reasons for decline in offtake are non acceptance of coal by Bongaigaon Power Station, less acceptance of coal by regular customers like Hindustan Paper Corporation, Cement Corporation of India, Bokajan, Tea Gardens, brick industry.

(d) The following steps have been taken by NEC to improve the offtake of coal :

- (i) Regular follow up being made with linked consumers for stepping up intake.
- (ii) Coal is being offered under Open Sales Scheme.
- (iii) Regular public notice is being given for booking of coal by rail against sponsorship.

Encouragement to Lift Irrigation

5333. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many districts of Maharashtra have been severely affected by drought during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the farmers of drought affected areas are being encouraged to adopt Lift Irrigation for purposes of Irrigation;

(c) if so, whether the Government have formulated any action plan to fund Lift Irrigation Points in the drought prone areas of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) The Government of Maharashtra reported that 12 districts of the State have been affected by drought due to deficient rainfall during South-west Monsoon, 2001.

(b) to (d) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary action and no specific assistance has been sought by the State Government in the matter.

Setting up of Forest Commission

5334. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Forest Commission to go into restructuring of the entire forests:

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof;

(c) the strategy of the Government regarding wildlife conservation during 2002-2003; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to save the forests and wildlife from Mafia ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objective of the Forest Commission is to look into restructuring, reform and strengthening the entire forest set up and affiliated institutions in the country

(c) Salient features of the Wild Life Conservation Strategy-2002 adopted during the 21st meeting of Indian Board for Wildlife held on 21st January, 2002 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister are furnished in the Statement enclosed

(d) The steps taken by the Government to save the forests and wildlife from mafia are as under :-

(1) Steps taken at the State level :

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

(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) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

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

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

(vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.

(vii) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(3) Steps taken at International level

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

(ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and a MOU has been signed with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

(iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Statement

Salient features of the Wildlife Conservation Strategy-2002 adopted by the Indian Board for Wildlife.

1. Wildlife and forests shall be declared priority sector at the national level for which funds should be earmarked.
2. Law enforcement agencies must ensure that those engosed in poaching, illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products, destruction of their habitat, and such other illegal activities are given quick and deterrent punishment.
3. The potential in wildlife tourism should be fully tapped, taking care that it does not have adverse impact on wildlife and protected areas. The revenue earned from increased tourism should be used entirely to augment available resources for conservation.
4. No diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes from critical and ecologically fragile wildlife habitat shall be allowed.
5. Lands falling within 10 km. of the boundaries of National Parks and Sanctuaries should be notified as Eco-fragile zones under section 3(v) of the Environment (Protection) Act and Rule 5 Sub-rule 5(viii) and (x) of the Environment (Protection) Rules.
6. Removal of encroachments and illegal activities from within forestlands and Protected Areas.
7. Settlement of rights in National Parks and Sanctuaries should not be used to exclude or reduce the areas that are crucial and integral part of the wildlife habitat.
8. More than 2000 vacant posts in the frontline staff of Protected Areas shall be filled immediately and provided basic infrastructure for efficient discharge of duties. Ban on recruitment of staff against vacant post should be lifted on lines with the Police Department.

Intensive Co-Operation Development Programme In Andhra Pradesh

5335. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had received any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh for

implemen-tion of intensive co-operation development programme in all the districts of the State;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has since been accepted; 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) In Andhra Pradesh ICDP projects in eight districts have been sanctioned for implementation and detailed project reports in four districts are under preparation. ICDP projects in remaining districts have not been sanctioned due to constraints in overall availability of resources for the scheme; need to cover districts in other States of the country and slow pace of implementation of projects currently under implementation in the State.

Northern Coalfields Limited

5336.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether many officials are working for the last 10 to 15 years in a single project particularly Nigahi, Jayant and Bina projects out of various projects to Northern Coalfields Limited. Singrauli as a result of which corruption is rampant;

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

(c) the details of transfer policy of the department and the reasons for not implementing this policy;

(d) the time by which the said officials are likely to be transferred;

(e) whether the number of officers in NCL has risen sharply during the last two years;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) In Nigahi, Jayant and Bina projects, there are some officers who are working at one project for the last 10 to 15 years. However, according to the coal company, it is not time that due to this reason, corruption is rampant in these projects.

(b) Out of total 1410 officers working in Northern Coalfields Limited there, are 268 officers who are posted at one project for more than 10 years and 34 officers posted

at one project for more than 15 years. As regards Nigahi, Jayant and Bina projects total strength of executives is 466 out of which there are 121 officers posted for more than 10 years and out of this 17 officers are posted for more than 15 years.

(c) Coal India Limited has a well defined transfer policy. As per this policy the executives of MI and above grades who are working for more than 10 years in the same company and having more than 2 years for retirement are transferable. The transfer policy further stipulates that large scale transfer is to be avoided but at least 10% of the executives specifying the criteria should be transferred each year. In order to effectively implement this transfer policy, a decision has been taken in the year 1998 to transfer 20% of executives each year based on station seniority. As per the said policy, executives of MI and above grades working in sensitive discipline are transferable from existing company on completion of 5 years. Executives working in sensitive discipline in E1 to E5 grades are to be rotated within the company on completion of 3 years. In the year 2001 a policy decision was taken to transfer all the executives of M1, M2, and M3 grades who had remained in the same, company/place of posting for 20 years and more. However, executives working in medical discipline, World Bank Project, Longwall and new technology and in project costing Rs. 100 crores and above have been excluded.

(d) Transfer will be considered as per the transfer policy and other relevant factors as explained in answer to part (b) above.

(e) No, Sir. The strength of executives in NCL has decreased in last two years.

(f) and (g) Does not arise in view of reply at (e) above.

Assistance to Andhra Pradesh for Anti-Erosion on Godavari

5337.SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government for financial assistance under Anti-Erosion Scheme on Godavari river; and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Planning Commission, Government of India has released an additional Central Assistance of Rs. 5 00 crore for Annual Plan 2000-01 of Andhra Pradesh for the scheme titled "Re-construction of outfall sluices across flood banks of the branches on river Godavari" and an additional Central Assistance of Rs. 2.31 crore for the Annual Plan of 2001-02 towards the scheme "Completion of schemes of re-construction of sluices across flood banks as Godavari in East Godavari district".

[Translation]

Coal Production by Surface Miners

5338. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether coal production is undertaken by surface miners in subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) particularly Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL);

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and as on February 28, 2002, subsidiary-wise;

(c) whether the subsidiaries of the CIL and the power plants have got any agreement for production of 4 inch sized coal;

(d) if so, the reasons for loading of coal by pay loader in place of coal surface mining in the MCL despite the agreement in this regard;

(e) if so, whether this process result in small particles of coal causing pollution and loss to the company; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Coal Production is undertaken by surface miners in one subsidiary of Coal India Limited namely Mahanadi Coalfields Limited. The details of production are as under :—

(In million tonnes)

1999-2000	1.844
2000-2001	6.084
2001-2002 (upto February)	6.935

(c) There is no agreement on production. But in the coal supply agreement with State Electricity Boards,

normally the top size of coal to be supplied to power plants is limited to (-) 250 mm. However, in the case of agreement with Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited, MCL has agreed to make efforts for supply of (-) 100 mm size coal.

(d) There is no agreement for coal loading by surface miner in MCL.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

[English]

Free Passage to Foreign Journalists

5339. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA

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

(a) whether the Department of Tourism extend free passage and hospitality to foreign journalists, photographers and tour-operators;

(b) if so, the details of such persons category-wise for whom such facility extended during 2000-01 and the total expenses incurred thereon;

(c) the manner and extent to which India was projected as an attractive multidimensional destination to attract tourists from abroad;

(d) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has adversely commented upon the credentials of such overseas guests; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) In the past, the practice of giving free passage on hospitality has been there. But the matter is now under review.

(b) The journalists and other categories of persons who were extended hospitality for familiarization tours to India during the year 2000-01 is as under :

— Media Representative	132
— T.V. Teams	7
— Travel Agents/Tour Operators	112

These Mandatory Order passages were sanctioned by the Ministry of Civil Aviation on Air India/Indian Airlines.

The total expenditure incurred under the above scheme during the year 2000-01 was Rs. 38.97 lakh excluding air travel expenses.

(c) With a view to attract foreign tourists to India as a tourist destination the following themes were projected.

- Culture
- History
- Beaches
- Royal Splendour
- Spiritualism/Health Rejuvenation
- Shopping opportunities
- Himalayas
- Adventure Tourism
- "Discovery of roots" for NRI's and PIO's

(d) The Comptroller and Auditor General has commented on the grant of hospitality in one case to the same journalist, 3 times, without publicity return accruing after the visit of India.

(e) The Department of Tourism has decided to provide hospitality to a repeat departmental guest, if required, not earlier than three years, barring any exceptional case.

Working Group of Coal and Lignite

5340. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working group on Coal and Lignite has estimated that the demand of Coal would be pick up and grow to 453 million tonnes by the second year of the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether this estimate will result in an increase in demand for coal to an annual rate of 4.8 percent;

(c) if so, whether the Government have examined the report;

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

(e) the manner in which projected demand of coal is proposed to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Working Group on Coal and Lignite

for the Xth Five Year Plan (2002-07) has estimated the demand at 402.84 million tonnes (including middlings) and at 453.29 million tonnes (including middlings) for the second year (2003-04) and the terminal year (2006-07) of Xth Five Year Plan respectively. The increase in demand during the Xth Five Year Plan over the IXth Five Year Plan comes to a compounded annual growth of 5.05%.

(c) and (d) The Government had finalised the report of the Working Group on Coal and Lignite and had submitted the report of the Working Group to the Planning Commission.

(e) The Working Group had proposed to meet the demand of the terminal year of the Xth Five Year Plan (453.29 million tonnes) through a production programme as shown below :

In million tonnes	
Company/Agency	Projected Production of Coal (2006-07)
Coal India Limited	350.00
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	36.13
Other Public Sectors (IISCO/DVC/Jammu and Kashmir/BSMDCL)	
Private Sector (TISCO)	
Captive Mining	13.60
Meghalaya	-
All India - Total	399.73

These projections have since been revised in consultation with the Planning Commission. The revised projections of coal production are as under :

In million tonnes	
Company/Agency	Projected Production of Coal (2006-07)
Coal India Limited	350.00
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	36.13
Other Public Sectors (IISCO/DVC/Jammu and Kashmir/BSMDCL)	240
Private Sector (TISCO)	5.24
Captive Mining	6.73
Meghalaya	4.50
All India - Total	405.00

Arsenic Menace in West Bengal

5341. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of arsenic menace in West Bengal and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government of West Bengal has approached the Union Government for financial assistance to combat this menace; and

(c) if so, the action taken so far in this regard ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A project proposed by the Government of West Bengal with the objective to study the nature extent and cause of arsenic pollution was sanctioned by the Union Government under the aegis of Technology Mission at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.82 lakh.

Four schemes have so far been sanctioned with financial participation of 75:25 between the Central and State Government respectively. Out of this, the first phase action plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 858.33 has been completed. Malda Surface Water Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 8848 lakh has been partially commissioned. South 24 Parganas Surface Water Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 23248 lakh has been taken up. The second phase action plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 1733 lakh has been taken up for execution. A scheme for supplying surface water to 4 block of North 24 Parganas district has been taken up for execution at an estimated cost of Rs. 124.82 lakh.

Besides, the Central Ground Water Board has approved three schemes for implementation, two under its Pilot Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" at a cost of Rs. 18.96 lakh and one for R and D study on causes, effects and remedial measures of arsenic contamination in ground water in parts of West Bengal at a cost of Rs. 21.00 lakh.

Utilisation of Funds

5342. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds allocated for Kolab, Rengali and Hirakud Irrigation Projects between 1997 and 2001 have not been properly utilised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the allocation made to Orissa Government from the Union Government and external agencies for implementing these projects ?

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

(a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the planning investigation, finding, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects as also flood control and drainage projects is done by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Upper Kolab and Rengali Projects are getting Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for their expeditious completion. Instalment of CLA due to any project is released based on the utilization of the previous instalment and the monitoring report of Central Water Commission.

(c) CLA amounting to about Rs. 142 crores and Rs. 32 crores has been released to Rengali and Upper Kolab Project since 1996-97 upto March, 2001. Rengali Irrigation Project is also receiving external assistance from Japanese Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). Out of 7760 million yen allocated, 3399.68 million yen has been utilized upto January, 2002.

Utilisation of Additional Surface Water

5343. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Government of Rajasthan for utilization of additional Surface Water in Tribal Sub Plan Area costing Rs. 413.00 crores during May 2001;

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

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be approved ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India received 18 project proposals from the State Government of Rajasthan for the year 2001-02, under Article 275 (I) of the Constitution. Out of these, one of the proposals was for Development of Small Scale Surface Water Resources in the Scheduled Areas of Rajasthan costing Rs. 413.45 crores spread over a period of 5 years.

(b) and (c) The Proposal for utilization of Additional Surface water could not be approved.

**Farmers' Threat on Commercialisation
of BT Cotton**

5344. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that farmers have threatened to carry out civil disobedience movement on commercialization of BT cotton;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any preventive steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

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

**Discount to Domestic Tourists from
Foreign Countries**

5345. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI SAIDUZZAMA :

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

(a) whether Malaysia, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Hongkong, Singapore and some other countries are wooing the Indian travellers;

(b) if so, whether heavy discount alongwith other incentives are being offered to the tourists; and

(c) if so, the extent to which this has helped to increase outbound travellers ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Malaysia, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Hongkong, Singapore have their own policies and promotional strategies, which could include discounted packages and other incentives. These policies, however, are not within the purview of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

Cleaning of Dal Lake

5346. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the grants sanctioned to Jammu and Kashmir so far for cleaning of the Dal Lake;

(b) whether the sanctioned funds have been fully utilised and the desired results in cleaning up the Dal lake have been achieved;

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

(d) the steps taken to utilize the funds and achieve the goal within stipulated time ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Dal Lake has been identified as one of the 10 lakes for conservation and management under National Lake Conservation Plan. A project proposal (Detailed Project Report) for conservation of Dal and Nagin lakes has been prepared with the consent of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The estimated cost is Rs. 162.87 crore for a period of 3 years. The Detailed Project Report has been sent to the State Government for final concurrence. Government of India's approval of the proposal can be granted only after the concurrence of the State Government. Planning Commission has, however, separately allocated Rs. 102.42 crore for Dal Lake as additional Central assistance to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir during the period from 1997-98 to 2001-02. As per the Jammu and Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Development Authority, an amount of Rs. 71.70 crore has been spent on Dal Lake Conservation till February, 2002.

[Translation]

Horticultural Schemes

5347. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented by the department for improvised horticultural farming in the areas dominated by scheduled tribes in Bihar and Jharkhand;

(b) whether several horticultural schemes are facing crisis due to paucity of funds in these States;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to revive these schemes; and

(d) the time by which the funds are likely to be provided in this regard ?

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

(a) For the development of horticulture in potential areas including areas dominated by scheduled tribes in Bihar and Jharkhand, following schemes are implemented;

- (i) Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plan,

- (ii) Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas (Ranchi district),

- (iii) Programmes of Coconut Development Board.

(b) to (d) Funds are released to the States under different schemes depending on spending capacity and unutilized funds already available with them. During the year 2001-2002, funds were released to Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand as given below :—

(Rupees in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	Funds released	
	Bihar	Jharkhand
(i) Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plan	1800.00	10.95
(ii) Programmes of Coconut Development Board	6.99	—
(iii) Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas	—	220.75*

*Funds were released to Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi the State Designated Agency to implement the Scheme in Ranchi district.

[English]

Periodical Reports from Coal Companies

5348. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been receiving the periodical reports from various coal companies particularly Western Coalfield Ltd., Eastern Coalfields Ltd. etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning and net profit earnings of the various coal companies in the country;

(d) whether the Government have the updated statistical details of the total expenditure incurred on the development of the coal units in the county during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, company-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This Department has been receiving periodical reports from Coal India Ltd., subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. including monthly D.Os. from Chairman/CMDs of the concerned companies to Secretary (Coal) which reflects the physical/financial performance of the

company during the month and cumulative upto the month of the related financial year.

(c) The following strategies have been formulated to improve the functioning and net profit earnings of the various coal companies in the country :

- (1) To open new mines and increase efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and to ensure timely availability of inputs and infra-structural facilities.
- (2) To take steps to remove the bottlenecks in land acquisition and forest land clearance for speedier implementation of coal projects.
- (3) To take steps to securities the outstanding coal sale dues to coal Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) against defaulting SEBs.
- (4) To take steps in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in coalfield areas having potential for enhanced production.
- (5) Apart from above coal companies are making concerted efforts to reduce the production cost of coal by resorting to various measures viz. rationalisation of manpower, improvement in

capacity utilisation, removal of bottlenecks in timely completion of coal projects, judicious planning, economy in expenditure, and maintaining good industrial relations.

- (6) To take steps to improve the quality of coal through selective mining and beneficiation.
- (7) To supplement the resources required for investment in new projects and infuse modern technology and management systems and practices by entering into joint venture for development of green field project.
- (8) To integrate environmental and social mitigation measures with mine development plans.
- (9) The Government is also planning to effect necessary legislative amendments to facilitate entry of private sector in commercial coal mining.

(d) and (e) The details of the total expenditure incurred on the development of Coal India Ltd. including its subsidiaries and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. during the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in Crores)

Company	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	131.23	119.91	106.58
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	172.02	102.18	62.74
Central Coalfields Ltd.	181.46	236.74	113.72
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	342.73	1080.20	250.66
Western Coalfields Ltd.	359.82	281.59	167.91
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	309.74	594.40	204.14
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	326.57	345.44	145.80
Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd.	2.91	5.76	3.35
Northern Coalfields Ltd. and Coal India Ltd.	5.49	3.44	4.42
Total – Coal India Ltd.	1831.97	2769.66	1059.32
Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.	206.99	145.20	194.10
Grand Total	2038.96	2914.86	2253.42

Safeguarding Taj

5349. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : 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 "Safeguarding Taj: Forces don't even have decent patrol boat" appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated January 7, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken for safety and security of the Taj ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) As per information furnished by the district police authorities Agra, regular patrol boats have not been deployed on account of insufficient water in the Yamuna.

The Agra Development Authority has provided adequate number of flood-lights along the rear wall of Taj Mahal which are functioning.

Additional security and river patrolling is provided for the security of Taj Mahal on special occasions and also during rainy seasons by the State Police.

Water Supply Projects of Orissa

5350. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of water supply projects of Orissa lying pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) the time by which the projects are likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Central Water Commission received 22 major/medium irrigation projects from Orissa for techno-economic appraisal. Out of these, 17 projects have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations and 5 projects are under correspondence with the State Government.

Clearance of the projects is linked to the promptness with which the State Government complies with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

*[Translation]***Developmental Schemes**

5351. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of developmental schemes relating to horticulture, plantation and fisheries launched so far in the country particularly in tribal areas during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the said period, the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether assessment in regard to the achievement of these schemes has been made or proposed to be made during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and some other institutes have evolved any new techniques for the said areas; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to create awareness about the said techniques among the tribal people ?

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

*[English]***Passenger Facilities at Hyderabad Airport**

5352. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) has conducted any survey on the problems being faced by the passengers and public at the Hyderabad Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the parking of cars and the arrival point outside the building are too crowded and not passenger friendly;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve passengers facilities at the airport;

(e) whether any outside agency is likely to be asked to design the parking facilities for speedy entrance and exit; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India conducts Customer Surveys on regular basis. The 1st round of survey at Hyderabad airport was conducted in December, 2000 and 2nd round was conducted in April-May, 2001.

(c) Yes, Sir. Sometimes the Car Parking area becomes crowded with vehicles when more than one flight arrives at the same time;

(d) A new Car Park is planned which will accommodate additional 150-200 cars. The work is likely to start in June, 2002 and completed by October, 2002.

(e) and (f) No outside agency has been engaged for redesigning the parking facility as expertise exists within the organisation.

Palace-on-Wheels in Maharashtra

5353. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of Palace-on-wheels submitted by the Government of Maharashtra long time back to the Union Government seeking assistance from his Ministry and Planning Commission is still pending for clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a long pendency; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be given approval ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal of the Government of Maharashtra for introduction of Luxury Train has been sanctioned in Financial year 2001-2002 for Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 8.49 Crores.

Conservation of Water Resources

5354. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any village free from drought in the drought prone areas even after spending huge amounts on irrigation projects;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to conserve water resources;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to popularise the community water conservation projects to reduce the cost of water conservation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) As per the study conducted by Central Water Commission during 1975-82 covering 99 districts in the country, an area of 51.13 million hectare lying in 315 Talukas of these districts was identified to be drought prone. Water, being a State subject, schemes for water conservation, including those benefiting drought prone areas, are planned, investigated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Since the beginning of the planned development, major and medium schemes with utilised irrigation potential of 5.8 million hectare, partially or fully benefit these drought prone areas. Similarly, an irrigation potential of 4.3 million hectare has already been created by the major and medium schemes under construction, which also partially or fully benefit these drought prone areas.

(c) By the end of the Eighth five year plan, about 4291 dams have been taken up in the country. As a result of this, the live storage capacity of the dams completed in the country has since gone upto 177 (BCM) by construction of large dams upto 1995. An additional live storage capacity of 75 BCM will be created on completion of dams, which are under various stages of construction. Proposals to take up additional dams to create a live storage capacity of 132 BCM are also under formulation/consideration. Besides, about 3,76,000 Tanks (minor dams) and ponds have also been constructed in the country.

To help the State Governments in their efforts to harness water 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 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. National Water Development Agency have also formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development for meeting requirements of water, in water short areas of

the country, which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. The implementation of the link proposal would depend on various factors like consensus among the States, preparation of detailed project report after completion of feasibility report and availability of funds, etc.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Rural Development has launched a National Human Resources Development (NHRD) Programme in 1994 all over the country, under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission with the objectives of training at least one grassroot level worker in each village to enable the Panchayati Raj Institutions and communities to take up Operation and Maintenance activities and community participation, related to rural water supply programme and sanitation systems, besides capacity building of the line department in State Governments. Ministry of Agriculture under the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas also envisages involvement of Non-Government Organisations, Panchayats and other rural institutions.

[Translation]

Amount Spent in NCL on Monsoon Preparation

5355.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether crores of rupees are spent in various projects of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), Singrauli (MP) for 'monsoon preparation;

(b) if so, the details of the amount spent on each of the projects during the last three years;

(c) the amounts proposed to be spent in various projects during 2002-03, project-wise;

(d) whether any Committee is proposed to be constituted by NCL to control and monitor the expenditure on the said work; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) In order to ensure uninterrupted coal production and coal supply to power stations during the monsoon, activities like haul road maintenance, draining of run-off water, protection of OB dump from sliding, etc. are necessary. Project-wise expenditure incurred on monsoon preparation during the last three years is as under :—

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs) (Prov.)

Sl. No.	Project	1999-00	2000-01	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jhingurdah	206.41	1001.15	174.16
2.	Dudhichua	789.20	1207.74	800.23
3.	Jayant	128.00	162.05	285.06
4.	Nigahi	235.65	267.94	385.01

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Amlohri	100.03	138.01	126.75
6.	Khadia	156.50	428.82	371.84
7.	Bina	266.76	467.02	370.99
8.	Kakri	57.29	60.04	68.01
Total		1939.54	2831.77	2582.05

(c) The details of amount proposed to be spent in various projects during 2002-03 is as follows :—

(Rs. lakhs)

Jhingurdah	Dudhichua	Jayant	Nigahi	Amlohri	Khadia	Bina	Kakri	Total
143.00	773.24	490.00	362.38	162.09	450.00	367.52	86.00	2834.23

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A Committee consisting of CGM, GM(C), CGMs of concerned projects and GM(F/P and P) was constituted in January, 2002 for control of expenditure on monsoon preparation work and monitoring activities.

[English]

Assistance to Andhra Pradesh for Cyclone Relief Work

5356. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a request to the Union Government for allocation of Rupees 278.26 crores of financial assistance for construction of rural and urban houses of victims of recent cyclone;

(b) if so, since when these requests are pending with the Union Government;

(c) the reasons for pendency; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :
(a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a Memorandum in the wake of heavy rains/flash floods during September-October, 2001, seeking inter-alia assistance of Rs. 278.26 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). This was considered by the High Level Committee (HIC), in its meeting held on

28.12.2001 and, taking into account the request of the State Government, the report of the Central Team and the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon, the HIC approved an assistance of Rs. 20.44 crore to the State of Andhra Pradesh and the amount has been released to the State Government.

New Investment in Singareni Collieries

5357. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved new investment in Singareni Collieries to open new pitheads for additional coal production;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the approved investment;

(c) the targets set for the Tenth Five Year Plan for coal production at collieries in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether there is any proposal to seek World Bank assistance for the purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir. The Government have progressively stopped providing budgetary support to their Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs). However, as per the procedural requirements, the PSUs seek approval of the Government for investments above a specified level.

(b), (d) and (e) Do not arise in view of answer given to part (a) above.

(c) The targets set for the Tenth Five Year Plan for coal production at collieries in Andhra Pradesh by the Singareni Collieries Company Limited is as follows :—

(in million tonnes)

Year	Target
2002-03	32.50
2003-04	34.23
2004-05	35.78
2005-06	36.04
2006-07	36.13

Funds for Procurement of Agricultural Products

5358. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of funds made to various States for procurement of various agricultural products under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) since 1998-99, year-wise;

(b) whether his Ministry has to settle huge amount of money incurred by State Government of Karnataka during procurement operation; and

(c) if so, the year-wise details of amount pending since 1998-99 till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No state-wise allocation of funds is made for Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). Specific proposals received from States are considered and implemented.

(b) and (c) Market Intervention Scheme for procurement of oilpalm during 2000 and 2001 season was implemented in Karnataka. The accounts of 2000 season were received as per the terms of the sanction and the same have been settled. The accounts of oilpalm of 2001 season have not been received so far from the Government of Karnataka for settlement.

No other claims are pending for the period under reference.

Construction of Hospital for CIL and its Subsidiaries

5359. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of hospital for Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies particularly Central Coal fields Limited (CCL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the medical expenses incurred by each subsidiary companies during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether huge amount is incurred by these companies for medical treatment of officers and staff and reimbursement of medical bills of private hospitals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in respect of answer to (a) above.

(c) Medical expenses incurred by the above three subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited during the last three years are given below :

(Rupees in Crores)

Company	1998-99 (Exp.)	1999-2000 (Exp.)	2000-2001 (Exp.)
ECL	8.99	9.68	11.82
BCCL	12.86	12.39	11.30
CCL	8.56	9.30	8.95

Expenditure for the year 2001-02 is yet to be audited/ finalised.

(d) The expenditure on Medical Treatment of officers and staff and reimbursement of bills is not huge. As per existing practice for certain diseases/operations where facilities are not available in company hospitals, patients are referred to recognized/approved hospitals for treatment. Reimbursement is made only for cases referred for treatment in private hospitals as per entitlement.

(e) Amount of expenses incurred towards reimbursement of medical expenses for outside treatment including private hospitals for last three years in respect of above mentioned companies are given below :—

(Rupees in Crores)

Company	1998-99	1999-200	2000-2001
ECL	4.50	4.67	5.74
BCCL	4.99	5.70	6.44
CCL	4.27	4.67	4.00

Income from Chartered Flights

5360. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of income generated through chartered flights and special flights in the country;

(b) the amount owed by the chartered flight operators to the Government; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to collect the dues owed till date ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Theft of Dairy Products from Plants of Delhi Milk Scheme

5361. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some incidents of theft of large quantity of dairy products from the plants of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) have come to light during last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have also received some complaints from the public representatives in this regard during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of persons/employees convicted; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to prevent recurring of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) No such incidents of theft of large quantity of dairy products including complaints from the public representatives have come to light during the last three years. However, some incidents of handling losses etc. do occur and action is taken as per Government rules.

System of strict security exist to prevent any incidents of theft etc. from dairy.

[English]

Flights for Haj Pilgrims

5362. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Haj passengers carried by Air India and Indian Airlines during the last five years;

(b) the total earnings from Haj passengers as well as amount spent by the Government on Haj pilgrims as subsidy during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the number of Haj flights operated from various airports in the country during this year and likely to be operated in the next year, airport-wise;

(d) whether the Government has received any representations from certain religious organisations to extend such concession to pilgrims of other religious faiths; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) The details regarding number of haj passengers carried on chartered flights through Air India, the amount received from haj passengers and the subsidy paid by the Government during the last 5 years are as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No. of Pax	Amount received from haj passengers	Amount spent by Government as subsidy
1997	53766	6451.92	7851.02
1998	63648	7637.36	11078.18
1999	62103	7452.36	9846.22
2000	71924	8630.88	11885.51 (Prov.)
2001	71215	8545.80	14836.00 (Prov.)

(c) Details of flights operated during Haj 2002 are as under :-

Stations	Number of flights
Ahmedabad	21
Bangalore	10
Chennai	07
Delhi	43
Hyderabad	22
Kolkata	15
Calicut	17
Lucknow	34
Mumbai	49
Srinagar	30

The number of flights likely to be operated in next year would depend on the pilgrims' quota to be decided for next year Haj.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no proposal to subsidise such air travel for any other pilgrim groups.

"IA loss is ATC Officials Gain"

5363. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item "IA loss is ATC officials gain" appearing in the 'Asian Age' dated January 8, 2002;

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

(c) whether any action has been taken against the culprits who created loss to the exchequer;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (e) A complaint was received through Press Clipping entitled "IA loss is ATC officials' gain" dated 7th January, 2002 of the Asian Age. It was alleged that ATC at Ahmedabad was having understanding with pilots of private airlines and the Indian Airlines' flights are put "on hold" in the air. The matter has been investigated and it was found that the complaint was baseless. Ahmedabad Airport is equipped with the state-of-art MSSR Radar. The traffic density at Ahmedabad Airport is very low and all the aircraft are provided radar services both in the Approach Control and Area Control.

Ahmedabad ATC is maintaining safe, orderly and expeditious flow of air traffic. No complaint has, however, been received from any airlines in this regard.

Self-Employment for Unemployed Agriculture Engineers/Scientists

5364. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any self-employment scheme for unemployed agriculture-engineers/scientists;

(b) if so, the number of beneficiaries in the country particularly in Orissa under this scheme recorded during last two years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make this scheme more effective?

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

(a) Department of Agriculture and Co-operation has launched a scheme on Agribusiness and Agri-clinics for self-employment of Agriculture and allied Science graduates. Under the scheme, loan would be provided to the entrepreneur through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

(b) Five thousand ventures would be established every year under the scheme. Since the scheme has been operationalized recently, the state-wise figures would be available only after a year.

(c) The details of the scheme has been notified widely through National and Regional Dailies, Radio and other Press Media. Further to strengthen the skills and built in confidence, of the graduates, structured training would be imparted at State Agricultural Universities, ICAR institutes and other scientific agencies.

Interest Rate on EPF

5365. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBT in its earlier meeting in the month of January has recommended 9.5 per cent interest to EPF subscribers for 2002-03

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to reduce the interest rate of EPF subscribers;

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

(d) whether the Government had called a meeting of the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund recently to review the overall situation regarding interest earnings by the fund; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its meeting held on 22nd January, 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.

(b) to (e) EPFO was informed of the Government view that the rate of interest at 9.5% would not be sustainable. The CBT (EPF) in its special meeting held on 12th April, 2002 has again considered the matter and has 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.

ICAR

5366. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have formulated Plans/schemes to meet the challenges of a changed global agriculture scenario under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regime;

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

(c) the details of ICAR research institutes, agricultural universities and krishi vigyan kendras functioning in the country, state-wise;

(d) whether the ICAR propose to start some new research institutions, universities and krishi vigyan kendras;

(e) if so, the details with locations and the funds required for the purpose; and

(f) the details of steps taken by the Government for infrastructure development in research centres and universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has identified areas in which ICAR's efforts need to be strengthened to meet the challenge of WTO. These areas are agricultural biotechnology, bio-diversity, bio-systematics, pest disease and weed management and first rate human resources development.

(c) The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) No, Sir. Not at present.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education and ICAR had proposed Rs. 500 crore as One Time Catch up Grant, during IX Five Year Plan, for infrastructure development in National Agricultural Research System. Though the Planning Commission had agreed in principle for one time catch up grant, there was no separate allocation as such for one time catch up grant. However, the Planning Commission have allocated Rs. 3376.95 crore as total IX Plan Outlay which was inclusive of Rs. 400 crore as one time catch up grant. For X Five Year Plan, the ICAR have proposed Rs. 1000 crore as catch up grant of which, Rs. 200 crore has been proposed for 2002-03 for infrastructure development in research centres and universities.

Statement

State-wise list of ICAR Institutes/NRCs/PDs/AICRPs, and its Regional Stations/Research Centres

Name of State	Name of Institutes/NRCs/PDs/AICRPs	Location
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	Central Agricultural Research Institute	Port Blair
Andhra Pradesh	Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Rajamundhry
	National Academy for Agricultural Research Management	Hyderabad
	N.R.C. - Sorghum	Hyderabad

1	2	3
	N.R.C. – Oil Palm	Pedavegi
	NRC – Meat	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate – Oilseed Research	Hyderabad
	Directorate of Rice Research including AICRP Rice	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate – Poultry Research	Hyderabad
	AICRP – Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	AICRP – Sorghum	Hyderabad
	AICNP – Tobacco	Rajamundhry
	AICRP – Agro-meteorology	Hyderabad
	Network – Economic Ornithology	Hyderabad
	AICRP on Sunflower, Safflower and Castor	Hyderabad
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Eluru
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Vijayawada
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP centre	Kankipadu
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Guntur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Kakinada
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Vishakhapatnam
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Kakinada
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Vishakhapatnam
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Guntur
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Jeddangi
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Kandukur
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Hyderabad
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Kaovvur
	Directorate of Maize off season nursery	Hyderabad
Arunachal Pradesh	N.R.C. – Yak	Dirang
	Regional Station/Research Centre	
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Basar
Assam	NRC Pig	Khanapara, Guwahati
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	CRRI Research Station on Rainfed Lowland Rice	Gerua
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres	Sorbhog
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Guwahati
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kahikuchi
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Jorhat

1	2	3
Bihar	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region	Patna
	Project Directorate – Water Management	Patna
	NRC for Litchi	Muzaffarpur
	NRC Makhana	Darbhanga
	AICRP on Water Management	Patna
	AICRP on Optimization of Groundwater Utilisation	Patna
	AICRP on Management of Diaralands	Patna
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Potato Research Institute	Patna
	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (Crop. Res. Stn.)	Pusa
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Pusa
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Motipur
Chandigarh (UT)	Central Soil and water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Chandigarh
Goa	ICAR Research Complex for Goa	Goa
Gujarat	N.R.C. – Groundnut	Junagadh
	N.R.C. – Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	Anand
	AICRP – Groundnut	Junagadh
	AICRP Betelvine	Anand
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Bhuj
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Vadodara
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Surat
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Veraval
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Veraval
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Valsad
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Anand
	Central Institute for Arid Horticulture	Godhra
Haryana	National Dairy Research Institute	Karnal
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Karnal
	Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes	Hisar
	National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources	Karnal
	N.R.C. – Biotechnology (Part of NDRI)	Karnal
	N.R.C. – Equine	Hisar
	Directorate of Wheat Research	Karnal
	AICRP – Blood Protista	Hisar

1	2	3
	AICRP – Buffalo	Hisar
	AICRP – Honey Bees	Hisar
	AICRP – Mgmt. of Slat Affected Soil and Use of Saline Water	Karnal
	R and D Support for Process Upgradation of indigenous Milk Products	Karnal
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Karnal
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Hisar
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Sirsa
	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Sirsa
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Rohtak
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Karnal
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Karnal
Himachal Pradesh	Central Potato Research Institute	Shimla
	N.R.C. – Mushroom	Solan
	AICRP – Micro Biological Decomposition	Palampur
	AICRP – Mushroom	Solan
	AICRP – Potato	Shimla
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Potato Research Institute	Kufri
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Garsa, Kullu
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Kullu
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Katrain
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Tutikandi, Shimla
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Amartsar, Shimla
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute	Palampur
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Palampur
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Shimla
	Project Directorate – Wheat Research	Shimla
	Project Directorate – Wheat Research	Lahul Spiti
Jammu and Kashmir	Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture	Srinagar
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Sapore, Srinagar
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Srinagar
Jharkhand	Indian Lac Research Institute	Ranchi

1	2	3
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (H and AF Progr.)	Ranchi
	Central Rainfed Upland Rice Res. Station	Hazaribagh
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP centre	Ranchi
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Ranchi
Karnataka	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Bangalore
	National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology	Bangalore
	N.R.C. – Cashew	Puttur
	Project Directorate – Biological Control	Bangalore
	Project Directorate – Animal Disease and Monitoring Surveillance	Bangalore
	AICRP – Tropical Fruits	Bangalore
	AICRP – Cashew	Vittal
	AICRP – Small Millets	Bangalore
	Network – Agricultural Acarology	Bangalore
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Bangalore
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Bangalore
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Dharwad
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Karwar
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Bangalore
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Hirehalli
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Vittal
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kidee
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Bellary
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Hunsur
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Dharwad
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute	Dharwad
	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Chethali
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Bangalore
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Bangalore
	National Dairy Research Institute	Bangalore
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Jamkhandi
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Hunsur
Kerala	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Cochin
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Cochin

1	2	3
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kasargod
	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	Thiruvananthapuram
	Indian Institute of Spices Research	Calicut
	AICRP – Palms	Kasargod
	AICRP – Spices	Calicut
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Alappuzha
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP Centre	Kollamparambii
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Narakkal
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Calicut
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Vizhinjam
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kayangulam
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kannara
	Indian Institute of Spices Research	Apangala
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Trichur
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Cannanore
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Agali
Lakshdweep	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Minicoy
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Minicoy
Madhya Pradesh	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering	Bhopal
	Indian Institute of Soil Science	Bhopal
	N.R.C. – Soybean	Indore
	N.R.C. – Weed Science	Jabalpur
	AICRP – Energy Requirement in Agricultural Sector	Bhopal
	AICRP – Farm Implements Machinery	Bhopal
	AICRP – Human Engineering and Safety Studies	Bhopal
	AICRP – Micro Secondary Nutrients	Bhopal
	AICRP – Power Tiller	Bhopal
	AICRP – Renewable Energy Sources	Bhopal
	AICRP – Soil Test Crop Response	Bhopa
	AICRP – Soybean	Indore
	AICRP – Utilisation of Animal Energy	Bhopal
	AICRP – Weed Control	Jabalpur
	AICRP Sesame and Niger	JNKVV, Jabalpur
	RNAM Phase-VI	Bhopal

1	2	3
	AICRP – on Long Term Fertilizer Experiments	Bhopal
	AICRP – on Biological Nitrogen Fixation	Bhopal
	AICRP – on Tillage Management of Indian Soils	Bhopal
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Hoshangabad
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Akola
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP Centre	Balghat
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Powarkhera
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Hoshangabad
	Central Potato Research Institute	Gwalior
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Datia
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Indore
	High Security Animal Diseases Laboratory	Bhopal
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	IGKV, Ambikanagar
Maharashtra	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Nagpur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Mumbai
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Nagpur
	N.R.C. – Citrus	Nagpur
	N.R.C. – Grapes	Pune
	N.R.C. – Onion and Garlic	Pune
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Mumbai
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP Centre	Bhandra
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Nagpur
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Mumbai
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Mumbai
	Indian Agriculture Research Institute	Pune
	N.R.C. – Sorghum	Solapur
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Akola
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Amravari
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Nagpur
Manipur	Central Agricultural University	Imphal
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Imphal
Mizoram	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Kalasaib
	College of Veterinary Science, CAU	Selesch

1	2	3
Meghalaya	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Barapani
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Potato Research Institute	Shillong
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	West Garo Hills
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Shillong
	College of Home Science, CAU	Tura
Nagaland	N.R.H. – Mithun	Jharnapani
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Khanakhuru
New Delhi	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	New Delhi
	Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute	New Delhi
	National Bureau of Agriculturally Micro-Organisms	New Delhi
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	New Delhi
	N.R.C. – Agricultural Economics and Policy and Research	New Delhi
	N.R.C. – on Plant Biotechnology	New Delhi
	N.R.C. – Integrated Pest Management	New Delhi
	N.R.C. – DNA Fingerprinting	New Delhi
	Directorate of Maize Research	New Delhi
	AICRP – Agricultural By-product	New Delhi
	AICRP – Agricultural Drainage	New Delhi
	AICRP – Engineering Measures for Efficient Land and Water Mgmt.	New Delhi
	AICRP – Floriculture	New Delhi
	AICRP – Nematode	New Delhi
	AICRP – Pesticide Residue	New Delhi
	AICRP – Post Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops.	New Delhi
	AICRP – Under-utilised and Under-exploited Plant	New Delhi
	AICRP – on Home Science	New Delhi
	Integrated Krishi Vigyan Kendras	New Delhi
	National Seed Project	New Delhi
	Network Scheme – Animal Genetic Resources	New Delhi
	Network Scheme – Embryo Transfer Technology	New Delhi
	Agricultural Human Resource Development (W.B.)	New Delhi
	Indo-Israel Demonstration Project (IARI)	New Delhi
	National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)	New Delhi
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Issapur
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	New Delhi

1	2	3
Orissa	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Bhubaneswar
	Central Rice Research Institute	Cuttack
	NCR for Women in Agriculture	Bhubaneswar
	Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region	Bhubaneswar
	AICRP – Tuber Crops	Bhubaneswar
	ORP on Processing and Utilisation of Organic Waste for Aquaculture	Bhubaneswar
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Avian Research Institute	Bhubaneswar
	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Burla
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Puri
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied fibres	Bamra
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Koraput
	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	Bhubaneswar
	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Bhubaneswar
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Cuttack
Punjab	Central Institute for Post Harvest Engg. and Technology	Ludhiana
	AICRP – Application of Plastics in Agriculture	Ludhiana
	AICRP – Harvest and Post Harvest Technology	Ludhiana
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Ludhiana
	Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes	Nabha
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Ludhiana
	Central Potato Research Institute	Jalandhar
Rajasthan	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Jodhpur
	Central Institute for Arid Horticulture	Bikaner
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Avikanagar
	N.R.C. – Camel	Bikaner
	N.R.C. – Rapeseed and Mustard	Bharatpur
	N.R.C. – Seed Spices	Ajmer
	N.R.C. – Equines	Bikaner
	AICRP – Sheep	Avikanagar
	AICRP – Pearl Millet	Jodhpur
	AICRP on Arid Zone Fruits	Bikaner
	AICRP – Rapeseed and Mustard	Bharatpur
	AICRP – Arid Legumes	CAZRI, Jodhpur

1	2	3
	AICRP – Rodent Control	Jodhpur
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Pali
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Jasailmer
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Bikaner
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Sri Ganganagar
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Bikaner
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Kota
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute	Avikanagar
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	RAU, Mandor
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Udaipur
Sikkim	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Gangtok
	N.R.C. – Orchids	Tadong
Tamil Nadu	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Chennai
	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Coimbatore
	N.R.C. – Banana	Tiruchirapalli
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Coimbatore
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Coimbatore
	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Coimbatore
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Mandapam
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Tutocorin
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Chennai
	Central Potato Research Institute	Udhagamandalam
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Kodaikanal
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Udhagamandalam
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Vedassundur
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Wellington
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Aduthurai
	AICRP Cotton	Coimbatore
Tirupura	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Lembucherra
Uttar Pradesh	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Izatnagar
	Central Avian Research Institute	Izatnagar

1	2	3
	Central Institute for Research on Goats	Makhdoom
	Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture	Lucknow
	Central Institute of Pulses Research	Kanpur
	Central Institute of Sugarcane Research	Lucknow
	Central Institute of Vegetable Research	Varanasi
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute	Jhansi
	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources	Lucknow
	N.R.C. – Agroforestry	Jhansi
	AICRP – Agroforestry	Jhansi
	Project Directorate – Cropping System Research	Modipuram
	Project Directorate – Cattle Research	Meerut
	AICRP – Chick Pea	Kanpur
	AICRP – Gastrointestinal Parasitism	Izatnagar
	AICRP – Goat	Makhadoom
	AICRP – Haemorrhagic Septicaemia	Izatnagar
	AICRP – Jaggery and Khandasari	Lucknow
	AICRP – Pig	Izatnagar
	AICRP – Pigeon Pea	Kanpur
	AICRP – Pulses (MULLARP)	Kanpur
	AICRP – Sugarcane	Lucknow
	AICRP – Vegetable Research	Varanasi
	AICRP on Management of Diaraland Improvement	Modipuram
	AICRP on Forage Crops	Jhansi
	AICRP – Sub-tropical Fruits	Lucknow
	Vegetable Seed Project (National Seed Project)	Varanasi
	AICRP Linseed	Kanpur
	Network Scheme – Crop Based Animal Production System	Jhansi
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Allahabad
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP Centre	Allahabad
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Chinhat
	Central Potato Research Institute	Modipuram
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres	Pratapgarh
	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Agra

1	2	3
Uttaranchal	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute	Dehradun
	Vivekanad Parvataiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala	Almora
	N.R.C. – Cold Water Fisheries	Bhimtal (Nainital)
	PD on Foot and Mouth Disease	Mukteshwar
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Institute for Temperate Horticulture	Mukteshwar
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Mukteshwar
	N.R.C. – Cold Water Fisheries	Champawat
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Bhowali
West Bengal	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Barrackpore
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres	Barrackpore
	National Institute of Research on Jute and Allied Fibre Technology	Kolkatta
	AICRP – Jute and Allied Fibres	Barrackpore
	AICRP White Grub	Durgapur
	Regional Stations/Research Centres	
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Malda
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Kolkatta
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Rahara
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Kolyani
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture – ORP Centre	Kolkatta
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Kolkatta
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	KakdwEEP
	Central Institute of Sub-tropical Horticulture (Proposed)	Malda
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Jalpaiguri
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres	Bud Bud
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Canning Town
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Dihata
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	Kalimpong
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Kolkatta
	National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning	Kolkatta
	National Dairy Research Institute	Kalyani
	NRC – Orchids	Darjeeling

List of Agricultural Universities

1. Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500 030, Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat (Assam) – 785 003
3. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Mohanpur (Wes Bengal) – 741 252
4. Birsa Agricultural University Ranchi (Bihar) – 834 006
5. Chandra Azad University of Agriculture and Technology Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) – 208 002
6. Chaudhary Charan Haryana Agricultural University Hissar (Haryana) – 125 004
7. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola (Maharashtra) – 444 104
8. Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Distt. Solan (Himachal Pradesh)– 173 230
9. Gobind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology Pantnagar (Uttaranchal)–263 145
10. Gujarat Agricultural University Sardar Krushinagar, Distt. Banaskantha (Gujarat) – 385 506
11. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) – 176 062
12. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) – 482 004
13. Maharana Pratap Agriculture University Udaipur-313 001, Rajasthan
14. Central Agricultural University, Imphal-795 004 (Manipur)
15. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Raipur-492 012 (Madhya Pradesh)
16. Kerala Agricultural University Trichur-680 656 (Kerala)
17. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth Ratnagiri-415 712 (Maharashtra)
18. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth Rahuri – 413 722 (Maharashtra)
19. Marathwada Agricultural University Parabhani-431 402 (Maharashtra)
20. Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology Faizabad – 224 229 (Uttar Pradesh)
21. Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology Bhubaneswar-751 003 (Orissa)
22. Punjab Agricultural University Ludhiana-141 004 (Punjab)
23. Rajasthan Agricultural University Bikaner- 334 002 (Rajasthan)
24. Rajendra Agricultural University Samastipur – 848 125 (Bihar)
25. Shere-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology, Srinagar-191 121 (Jammu and Kashmir)
26. Shere-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology, Jammu-180 004 (Jammu and Kashmir)
27. Tamil Nadu Agriculture Univesity Coimbatore-641 003 (Tamil Nadu)
28. Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Chennai-600 051 (Tamil Nadu)
29. University of Agriculture Sciences Bangalore-560 065 (Karnataka)
30. University of Agriculture Sciences Dharwad-580 005 (Karnataka)
31. West Bengal University of Agriculture and Fisheries Sciences, Calcutta – 700 037 (West Bengal)

List of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

S.N.	Name and Address of KVK	Host Organization	Est. Year
1	2	3	4
Anadaman and Nicobar Islands (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra,, C/o CARL, Port Blair – 744101	The Director, Central Agril, Research Institute, Port Blair – 744101 (A and N)	1992 1

1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Behind M.R.O. Office, Kotha, Madanpur, Mahboobnagar (AP)	The Executive Director, Youth for Action, 1-8-702/26/1, Padma Colony, Hyderabad – 500044 (AP)	1992 N
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadipalli – 508201, Nalgonda (AP)	Secretary, Aurobindo Institute of Rural Development, Gadipalli – 508201 (AP)	1983 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalvacherla, Rajahmundry, East Godawari – 533105	The Director, Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry – 500 044 (AP)	1992 I
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CRIDA, Hyatnagar, Ranga Reddy (AP)	The Director, CRIDA Complex Saidabad P.O. – Santoshnagar, Hyderabad (AP)	1976 I
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RASS Vanasthali, Vill.–Karakambadi, Chittoor – 517501 (AP)	Chairman, Rayalseema Seva Samiti, 9, Old Hazur Office Building, Tirupathi (AP)	1992 I
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jamikunta, Karimnagar – 505112 (AP)	Director, Gram Nava Nirman Samiti, H.No. 1-9-639/1, Vidyannagar, Hyderabad	1992 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Banaganapalli, Kurnool – 508201 (AP)	Secretary, Shri Hanumantharaya Educational and Charitable Society, Rendakanti Public School, Illuru, Kothapeate, Kurnool	1989 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam – 531005 (AP)	The Secretary, Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam – 531005 (AP)	1995 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Box No. 214, Zahirabad. Medak – 502220 (AP)	Chairman, Deccan Dev. Society, A-5, Meera Apartments, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad (AP)	1992 N
10.	Training Organiser, N.G. Ranga Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vinayashram, Kavur, Guntur (AP)	Chairman, Vinayashram Kavur, Guntur (AP)	1992 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, OCMS Building, Kamlanagar, Anantpur (AP)	Vice – Chancellor, Andhra Pradesh Agril. University, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad – 500030	1983 S

1	2	3	4
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Opp. Rama Krishnan Temple UMDI, Rayalam Bhimavaram West Godavari – 534208 (AP)	Vice – Chancellor, Andhra Pradesh Agril, University, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad – 500030	1995 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malyal Farm, Village Malyal, Warangal – 506101 (AP)	-do-	1984 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agril. Research Station Amadalavalsa, Shrikakulam – 532523 (AP)	-do-	1984 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rastakuntabai, Vizianagaram – 535523 (AP)	-do-	1984 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nandyal, M.C. Farm, P.O. Kurnool (AP)	-do-	1992 S
Arunachal Pradesh (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Basar, West Siang – 791101 (Arunachal Pradesh)	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani 793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Assam (4)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sonitpur, Tezpur, C/o P.B. No. 51, Main Post Office Tezpur (Assam)	Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat – 785013 (Assam)	1979 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Arunachal Silchar – 788025, Cachar (Assam)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khuontail, Golahat – 785601	-do-	1993 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gossaigaon – 783360, Distt. Kokrajhar (Assam)	-do-	1985 S

1	2	3	4
Bihar (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sankarpur, Munger – 811201 (Bihar)	Vice-Chancellor, Rajendra Agricultural Univesity Samastipur – 848125 (Bihar)	1979 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Darbhanga (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hajipur Farm, Vaisali (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Meghaul, Khodawanpur, Begusarai (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agwanpur, Saharsa (Bihar)	-do-	1979 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Harnaut, Nalanda (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Vijai Nagar, Banka – 813101 (Bihar)	-do-	1983 S
8.	Chief Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barh, Patna (Bihar)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sekhupura (Bihar)	-do-	1996 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saraiah Farm, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	-do-	1997 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SCADA P.O. Arra, Bhojpur – 802301 (Bihar)	Chairman, Sone Command Area Deve. Agency, Sone Bhavan, Patna (Bihar)	1993 O
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jahanabad (Bihar)	-do-	1997 O

1	2	3	4
13	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sokhodega, Nawad – 805016 (Bihar)	General Secretary, Gram Nirman Mandal Ashram, Sokhodega, Nawada – 805106 (Bihar)	1979 N
14	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vanavasi Seva Kendra, P.O. Adhaura, Bhabua – 821116	President, Banavasi Seva Kendra, Adhaura, Bhabhua – 821116 (Bihar)	1992 N
15	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharma Bharti Khadigram, Khadigram, P.O. Jamui – 811313	Chairman Khadi Gramydog Sangh, Khadigram, Jamui – 811313	1994 N
16	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, VPO Basaith, Chandpura, Madhubani – 847102 (Bihar)	Chairman S.K. Choudhary Education Trust, New Delhi	1994 N

Chhattisgarh (4)

1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Research Station, Sarkanda Farm, Bilaspur – 495001	Vice-Chancellor, IGKV, Raipur	1984 S
2	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sarguja	-do-	1994 S
3	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Animal Husbandry Science, Gokulan, G.E. Road, Anjhora, Durg – 491001	-do-	1992 S
4	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Via. Dimrapal, Jagdalpur, Bastar – 494001	-do-	1992 S

Delhi (1)

1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ujwa, New Delhi	The Director, NHRDF, Janakpuri, New Delhi	1995 O
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Goa (1)

1	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex, Ela, Old Goa – 403202	The Director, ICAR Complex, Ela, Old Goa – 403202e, Goa	1984
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1	2	3	4
Gujarat (10)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Deesa, Banaskantha – 385535	Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat Agricultural University Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	1976 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Hill Millet Research Station, Waghai, Dangs (Gujarat)	-do-	1985 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Devgarh baria, Dahod – 389380	-do-	1976 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Devraj (Sojitra), Distt. Kheda – 387240 (Gujarat)	-do-	1985 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Randheja, Gandhinagar – 383630	Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad	1977 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Ambeti Ashram, Valsad (Gujarat)	-do-	1992 O
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bharauchi	Chairman, Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Pune	1994 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti Golagamadi, Golag Mandi Vadodara (Gujarat)	Chairman, Mangal Bharti Bahadurpur, Baroda – 391125	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Samoda, Sidhpur, Mehsana – 384130	Director, Sarswati Gram Vidyapeeth Samoda, Mehsana	1992 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mundra, Kuchchh-370130	Chairman, Rural Agro, Research and Development Society, Jhuhu, Bombay	1992 N
Haryana (12)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Seema Theater Commercial Complex, Court Road, Panipat	Vice-Chancellor, H.A.U., Hissar (Haryana)	1993 S

1	2	3	4
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Peoda, Kaithal – 132027	Vice-Chancellor, H.A.U., Hissar (Haryana)	1992 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 2131, Urban Estate, Jind – 126102 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Plot No. 82, Auto Market, Sadalpur, Hissar – 125052 (Haryana)	-do-	1989 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 430/13, Urban Estate, Kurukshetra – 132118 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 604, Sector-16A Faridabad – 121001 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, House No. 269-4, Model Town, Yamunanagar – 135001 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sector-14, House No. 449, Sonipat – 131001 (Haryana)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, No. 2 Rajendra Park, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cant, Ambala (Haryana)	President, Society for Creation of Heaven on Earth, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi	1993 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NDRI, Karnal – 132001 (Haryana)	Director, NDRI, Karnal – 132001 (Haryana)	1976 I
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Bhagvat Bharati Asharam, Rampura, Rewari – 123401 (Haryana)	Secretary, Bhagwat Bhakti Ashram, Rampura, Rewari – 123401	1983 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sikohpur, Gurgaon – 122001	Director, IARI, Pusa, New Delhi – 110012	1983 I

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh (8)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Research Station, Bajaura, Kullu – 175125 (H.P.)	Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur (H.P.)	1993 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sultanpur, Baloo, Chamba – 176314 (H.P.)	-do-	1991 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rampur, Una – 174303 (H.P.)	-do-	1991 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mandi (H.P.)	-do-	1993 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Dhaula Kuan, Sirmur – 173001 (H.P.)	-do-	1982 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bara, Hamirpur – 177044 (H.P.)	-do-	1989 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharbo at Rekong Peo, Kinnaur (H.P.)	Vice-Chancellor, YSPUH and F Solun (H.P.)	1995 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Petrol Pump, Rohru, Shimla	-do-	1995 S
Jammu and Kashmir (4)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Research St., R.S. Pura, Jammu – 181102 (J and K)	Vice-Chancellor, S.K. University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu	1992 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Leh (J and K)	Vice-Chancellor, S.K. University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Srinagar	1993 S
3.	Chief Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malangpura, Anantnag	-do-	1983 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalibari, Kathua – 184104 (J and K)	Secretary, Shiv Gramodyog Mandal, Kathua (J and K)	1993 N

1	2	3	4
Jharkhand (5)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Jagannathpur, West Singhbhum – 833203	Vice-Chancellor, Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi – 834006 (Bihar)	1983 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sujani, P.O. Gharlash, Devgharh – 814152	General Secretary, Santhal Paharia Seva Mandal, Deoghar – 814152 (Bihar)	1985 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Morabadi, Ranchi – 834008	Secretary, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Morabadi Ranchi	1977 N
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh – 825301	Directress, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh – 825301 (Bihar)	1984 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sindhri, Dhanbad – 828122	Chairman, Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, New Delhi	1994 S
Karnataka (11)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Raichur (Karnataka)	Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hegari, Bellary (Karnataka)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanmatti, Distt. Dharwad (Karnataka)	-do-	1977 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Res. Station, Janawada, Bidar (Karnataka)	-do-	1985 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kandil, Hassan (Karnataka)	Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, Mudigere – 577132, Chickamaglure (Karnataka)	-do-	1985 S

1	2	3	4
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonikoppal – 571213 Distt. Coorg (Karnataka)	The Director, IIHR, 255, Upper Palace, Orchards, Bangalore – 79	1976 I
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttoor, Mysore (Karnataka)	President, JSS, Rural Development Foundation, Mysore	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkabalapur, Kolar (Karnataka)	President, Karnataka Welfare Society, Chikabalapur, Kolar	1994 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tukanatti Gohak, Belgaum – 591319 (Karnataka)	President, Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum	1994 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, Distt. – Gadag	Chairman, K.H. Patil Agricultural Sciences Foundation, Distt. Gadag – 582205	1985 N
Kerala (9)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Pattambi – 679306 (Kerala)	Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agriculture University, Mannuithy, Thrissure – 680651	1979 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sadanandapuram, Quillon (Kerala)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Stn., Ambalavayal, Wynad – 673593 (Kerala)	-do-	1984 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kasargod – 671124 (Kerala)	Director, CPCRI, Kasargod – 671124	1991 I
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan, Velland, Tiruvananthapuram (Kerala)	President Mitraniketan, Velland – 696543, Tiruvananthapuram	1979 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chakkupallam, Idukki (Kerala)	President, Bapooji Sewak Samaj, Chakkopallam, Idukki	1994 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathenamthitta (Kerala)	Chairman, Christian Agency for Rural Development, Thiruvalla, Pethennamthitta	1994 N

1	2	3	4
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CMFRI Res. Stn., Narakal, Ernakulam – 682505 (Kerala)	Director, CMFRI, Cochin	1976 I
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Peruvannamuzhi, Calicut – 673012, Kozhikode (Kerala)	Director, Indian Spices Research Institute (Regional Centre), Calicut (Kerala)	1991 I
Lakshadweep Island (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Cilton Island (Lakshadweep)	Directorate of Agriculture, Union Territory of Lakshadweep and Monicoy Islands Karavatti, Lakshadweep	1996 O
Madhya Pradesh (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Agricultural Res. St., Chandagaon, Chhindwara – 480001 (M.P.)	Vice-Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur	1983 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JNKVV Farm, Jhabua – 457661 (M.P.)	-do-	1984 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Goviana Site Post Box – 7, Sidhi – 486661 (M.P.)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Birhulla farm, Shahdol	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, College of Agricultural, Warwadi Farm, East Nimar (Khandawa)	-do-	1994 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Lalitpur Naka, Tikamgarh – 472001 (M.P.)	-do-	1994 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Block Office Compound, Seoni (M.P.)	-do-	1994 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JNKVV Campus, Gwalior (M.P.)	-do-	1997 S

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9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kathi Bagh, Rajgarh (M.P.)	Vice-Chancellor, JNKVV, Jabalpur	1994 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Araon, Guna (M.P.)	-do-	1994 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badagaon Block – Kornapur, P.O Pala Balaghat – 481115 (M.P.)	Vice – Chancellor, IGKVV, Raipur	1992 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Joara, Kalukeda, Ratlam – 457340	President, Kalukheda Shiksha Samiti, Ratlam	1994 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti P.O. Sirjon, Vidisha – 464228 (M.P.)	President, Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti, 32, Niyamatpura, Shajanabad, Bhopal (M.P.)	1992 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jagdalpur, Bastar (M.P.)	Vice-Chancellor, IGKVV, Raipur	1976 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Majhgaon, Satna (M.P.)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhopal (M.P.)	The Director, CIAE (ICAR), Nambiagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal	1979 I
Maharashtra (23)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Selsura, Wardha, (MS)	Vice – Chancellor, Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola (MS)	1976 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Paithan Road, Aurangabad (MS)	Vice – Chancellor, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani 415725 (MS)	1983 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shirgaon, Ratnagiri (MS)	Vice – Chancellor, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Ratanagiri (MS)	S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Res. Station Dhule – 424004 (MS)	Vice – Chancellor, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (MS)	1983 S

1	2	3	4
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Y.C. Maharashtra Open University, Nasik – 422005 (MS)	Vice – Chancellor, Y.C. Maharashtra Open University, Nasik (MS)	1994 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagyanagar, Parbhani – 431401 (MS)	President, Jeevan Jyoti Charitable Trust, Parbhani (MS)	1994 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Talasadi, Kolhapur – 416012 (MS)	President, D.Y. Patil Education Society, Talahande, Kolhapur	1994 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana – 443402 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Education Society Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana – 443402 (MS)	1994 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ghatkhed, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Sudhna Trust, 57, Congress nagar Amravati	1995 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Safalya Foundation, Madhuban Colony Camp, Amravati	1995 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, HIG Colony, Near ITI, Nanded (MS)	President, J.N. Institute of Education Sciences and Technology Research, Nanded (MS)	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 51, Railways Lines, Solapur – 413001 (MS)	President, Shabari Krishi Pratshtan, Solapur (MS)	1994 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karda, Risod, Akola – 444106 (MS)	President, SUVIDE Foundation, Risod, Akola (MS)	1994 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Poip Adarsh Krishi, Sindhudurg – 416622 (MSS)	President, Poip Falaotpadan Sankar Samiti, Sindhudurg (MS)	1995 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gokhle Education Society, Kosbad Hill, Thane – 401703 (MS)	Secretary, Gokhle Education Society, BYK College of Commerce, Nasik (MS)	1976 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Satpura Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon – 425508 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon – 425508 (MS)	1984 N

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17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adarsh Colony, Village – Ambajogai, Distt. Beed – 431517 (MS)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Res. Institute, Rani Jhansi Marg, New Delhi	1992 N
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalavade, Karad, Satara – 415110	Chairman, Kalayani Gorakshan Trust, Koregaon Road, Pune (MS)	1992 N
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Agricultural Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune – 413115 (MS)	Chairman, Agricultural Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune – 413115 (MS)	1992 N
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Babhleshwar, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar – 4137336 (MS)	Chairman, Pravara Institute of Res. and Education, In Natural and Society, Science, Parvaranagar, Ahmednagar	1992 N
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C-413, Vasant Dada Sahakari Sakhar, Karkhana, Sangli – 416416 (MS)	President, Vasant Prakash Vikas Pratisthan, Sangli (MS)	1992 N
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Marathwada Sheti Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 225, S.P. Road, Jalna – 431203	Secretary Marathwada Shethi Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 45, S.P. Road, Jalna – 431203	1992 N
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. No. 225, Nagpur – 440001 (MS)	The Director, Central Institute for Cotton Research, P.O. No. 225, Nagpur	1994 I
Manipur (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Lamphelpet, Imphal – 795004	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani – 793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Meghalaya (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Sansan Girri Bobasipara, Tura, West Garro Hills – 794005	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani – 793103 (Meghalaya)	1979 I
Mizoram (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, State Deptt. Of Agriculture, Hnahthial, Lunglei, (Mizoram)	The Director of Agriculture, Government of Mizoram, Aizawal (Mizoram)	1995 O

1	2	3	4
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Farm Science Centre, Kolasib – 796081 (Mizoram)	The Director of Agriculture, Government of Mizoram, Aizawal (Mizoram)	1976 O
Nagaland (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Jharnapani, Medziphema	The Director ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Barapani – 793103 (Meghalaya)	1977 I
Orissa (12)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Res. Station, Semiliguda, P. Box 10, Sunabeda – 763002 Koraput (Orissa)	Vice – Chancellor, OUAT, Bhubneswar, (Orissa)	1982 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kendrapara (Orissa)	-do-	1994 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, Judia Farm, P.O. Keonjhar (Orissa)	-do-	1982 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Devog via Singila, Baliapal, Balasore – 756026	-do-	1983 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhanjanagar, At : Benakunda, P.O. Dihapadhal Ganjam – 768012	-do-	1985 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gambhirpalli, P.O. Larambha, Sambalpur – 768102	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Udyagiri, Phulbani – 762100	-do-	1982 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, MARP Campus Bhowani Patana, Kalahandi	-do-	1992 S

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9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhenkennal (Orissa)	The Director, Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack	1994 I
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Angul (Orissa)	-do-	1994 I
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Cuttack – 763006 (Orissa)	-do-	1992 I
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kausalayaganga, Dhauili, Bhubneswar – 751002 (Orissa)	The Director, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kausalyaganga, Dhauili Bhubneswar	1976 I
Pondicherry (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madur, Karaikal, (Pondicherry)	Chief Secretary, Government of Pondicherry, Chief Secretariate, Bldg., Pondicherry	1974 O
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kusambapet, (Pondicherry)	Chief Secretary, Government of Pondicherry, Chief Secretariate, Bldg., Pondicherry	1994 O
Punjab (10)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Res. Station, Faridkot – 151203 (Punjab)	Vice – Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Haridochani Road, Old Gurunanak College Building, Gurudaspur	-do-	1982 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Malwa Farm, G.T. Road, Firozpur – 152001 (Punjab)	-do-	1988 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Kheti Bhawan, Dabawali Road, Bhatinda – 151001 (Punjab)	-do-	1989 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur – 146105	-do-	1989 S

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6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 22, Village : Rauni, Patiala – 147001 (Punjab)	Vice – Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)	1989 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sultanpur Road, Near New Grain Market, Kapurthala – 144601	-do-	1989 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kheri, Sangrur (Punjab)	-do-	1993 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Langroya, Nawanashaher (Punjab),	-do-	1994 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Abohar (Punjab)	The Directorate, Central Institute of Post Harvest Engg. and Technology, Ludhiana (Punjab)	1992 I
Rajasthan (31)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Teachers Colony, Gupteswar Road, Dausa – 303303 (Rajasthan)	Vice – Chancellor, Rajasthan Agricultural University Bikaner – 334001	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, B-33 Man Nagar, Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan)	-do-	1989 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fodder Farm, Village – Beechwal, Bikaner – 334002 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1983 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Post Box No. 16, Swaimadhopur – 322001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station Tabiji Farm, NH 08, Ajmer – 305001	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Old City, Dhaulpur (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S

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7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Fatehpur Sekhwati, Sikar - 332301	Vice - Chancellor, Rajasthan Agricultural University Bikaner - 334001	1976 S
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Keshwana, Jalore - 342001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1985 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Villa, Navgaon, Alwar (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kisan Vidyapeeth, Near Sarag Guest House, Kumher, Bharatpur - 321001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1988 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 46, Jaisalmer - 345001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sanjay Colony, Nagaur (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonera, Deepak Bhawan, Dabla Road, Kotputli - 303108, Jaipur	-do-	1989 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Near Badat Mat, Sastri Colony, Dungarpur - 314001 (Rajasthan)	Vice - Chancellor, Agricultural University, Udaipur	1992 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borwat Agricultural Research Station, Banswara - 327001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1983 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Station Road, Anta Baran - 325202 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1994 S
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kolar Farm, Ambasweiji Gate, P.O. Palri, Sirohi - 307001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1989 S

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18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chittorgarh – 312001 (Rajasthan)	Vice – Chancellor, Agricultural University, Udaipur	1992 S
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Borkhera Farm, Kota – 324001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chhittarapura Road, Bundi (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talai, P. Box 16, Jhalwar – 326001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhoinda, Rajasmand – 313342 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1994 S
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Res. Station, Amajia Farm, Gandhinagar, Bhilwara – 311001 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 S
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P. Tankadra, Chomu, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	The Secretary, Pragati Trust, Chomu, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	1992 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Tonk – 304022 (Rajasthan)	The Secretary, Banasthali Vidyapith, Banasthali, Tonk (Rajasthan)	1992 O
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur – 313001(Rajasthan)	The President, Vidya Bhawan Society, Badgaon, Udaipur – 313001	1983 N
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sardarb Shahar, Churu – 311401 (Rajasthan)	The Registrar, Gandhi Vidhya Mandir, Sardar Shahar, Churu	1992 N
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gayatri Shanti Pith, Barmer – 344001 (Rajasthan)	The Secretary, Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer (Rajasthan)	1992 N
29.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Rajasthan)	President, Keshyanand Memorial Trust, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Rajasthan)	1989 N

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30.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur – 342003 (Rajasthan)	The Director, CAZRI (ICAR), Jodhpur – 342003 (Rajasthan)	1983 I
31.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Reg. Res. Station, CAZRI (ICAR), Pali – Marwar – 304401 (Rajasthan)	-do-	1992 I
Sikkim (1)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Saramsa, Ranipool – 7371351 East Sikkim	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH, Region, Umroi Road, Barapani – 793103 (Meghalaya)	1982 I
Tamil Nadu (16)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Salem (Tamil Nadu)	Vice – Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	1994 I
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station (TNAU) Vridhachalam, South Arcot – 606001 (Tamil Nadu)	-do-	1985 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kumara Parumal Farm, Science Surugama, Trichy – 639115 (Tamil Nadu)	-do-	1977 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kattupakkam – 603203, Changi MGR Distt. (Tamil Nadu)	-do-	1985 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kanatchipuram, Via Thenni, Madurai – 626520 (Tamil Nadu)	Chairman, Centre for Development and Communication, Trust, Theni, Maduari – 626520	1994 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor – 643101, Nilgiri Distt. (Tamil Nadu)	Secretary, UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor – 643101 Nilgiri Distt. (Tamil Nadu)	1983 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram – 624302 Dindigul Anna (Tamil Nadu)	The Secretary, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram – 624302 Dindigul Anna (Tamil Nadu)	1989 O

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8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kilneli Village, Vembakkam Block, Thiruvannamalai, Sambuvarayar (Tamil Nadu)	President, Tamilnadu Board of Rural Development, No. 13, Crescent Park Street, T. Nagar, Madras - 500017	1991 N
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tenkosi, Nellai Kattaboman, Distt. Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu)	Chairman, R.V.S. Education Trust, Dindigul Anna (Tamil Nadu)	1994 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kundrakudi, PMT District (Tamil Nadu)	Vice - Chancellor, Tamil Nadu University of Vety. and Animal Science, Madras - 600051	1996 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri (Tamil Nadu)	President Tamil Nadu Board of Rural Development, T. Nagar, Madras - 500012	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RVS Campus, Usilampatti Tanjavur (Tamil Nadu)	President Bhakva Memorial Trust, 596, A-1 and A-2, TNHB Colony, Periyar Nagar, Korathur, Madras - 600080	1995 N
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Allikulam, Mundradajpu, P.O. Kariaptti, Kamarajar - 626102 (Tamil Nadu)	Chairman Meyer's Trust, Madurai (Tamil Nadu)	1995 N
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talamali Centre of MYRADA, Talawadi Block, Sathyamangalam Taluk, Periyar - 638468 (Tamil Nadu)	Executive Director, MYRADA, Domlur Layout, Banglore - 560071	1991 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vegaikulam, Chidambarnar (Tamil Nadu)	Chairman SCAD Cherandevi, Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu)	1995 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Avinashilingam Rural Centre, Vivekanandapuram, Karamadai Block, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	The Secretary Sri Avinashilingam Institute of Higher Educational and Home Science, Coimbatore - 641113 (Tamil Nadu)	1979 O
Tripura (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra Divyodaya, Dibanandapali, Cenbr, Khowali Sub Division, West Tripura - 799207	The General Secretary Sri Ramkrishna Seva Kendra, 23, R.N. Mukherjee Road, Calcutta (West Bengal)	1979 N

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2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR Complex for NEH, Birchandra Manu, South Tripura	The Director, ICAR Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Raod, Barapani – 793103 (Meghalaya)	1984 I
Uttra Pradesh (28)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bachat Bhavan, Collectorate Compound, Shahjahanpur	Vice – Chancellor, G.B. Plant Uni of Agril. and Technology, Pantnagar (U.P.)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rice Research Station, Nagina, Bijnore – 246762 (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chandra Nagar, Saharanpur (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badaun – 243601 (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 243, Vikas Bhawan, New Collectorate, Rajnagar Ghaziabad – 201001 (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Zila Panchayat Bhawan, Rampur – 244901 (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalalpur, Muzzaffarnager (U.P.)	-do-	1994 S
8.	Training Organiser, Swami Kalyan Dev Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hastinapur, Meerut (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pilibhit (U.P.)	-do-	1998 S
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Crop Research Station, Behraich (U.P.)	Vice – Chancellor N.D. Uni. of Agricultural and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad (U.P.)	1983 S
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ballia, P.O. Sohoan, Ballia – 277504	-do-	1984 S

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12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Haldhapur, Mau – 221705 (U.P.)	Vice – Chancellor N.D. Uni. of Agricultural and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad (U.P.)	1989 S
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, S-4/50 A, Mahaveer Road, Ardally Bazar, Varanasi – 221001 (U.P.)	-do-	1989 S
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banjaria Farm, P.O. Karya, Basti (U.P.)	-do-	1989 S
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station, Bharai P.O. Bhojla, Jhansi (U.P.)	Vice – Chancellor, C.S. Azad. Uni. of Agricultural and Technology, Kanpur (U.P.)	1989 S
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dairy Farm, Vety. Collage, Mathura – 281001 (U.P.)	-do-	1984 S
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dariapur Farm, P.O. Munisganj, Raibareilly – 229405 (U.P.)	-do-	1984 S
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tharion Farm, Allahabad – G.T. Road, Fatehpur (U.P.)	-do-	1989 S
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Central Dairy Farm, Aligarh (U.P.)	-do-	1992 S
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lucknow (U.P.)	Director, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow (U.P.)	1994 I
21.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur – 228118 (U.P.)	Secretary, Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur – 228118 (U.P.)	1976 N
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Etah – Tundala Road, Awagarh, Etah (U.P.)	Principal, Raja Balwant Singh College, Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.)	1982 O
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jai-Prabha, Gram-Gopalgram Khargu Chandpur, Gandhi Park, Gonda – 271001 (U.P.)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1989 N

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24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganiwan, Banda – 210206 (U.P.)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Allahabad Agricultural Research Institute, Allahabad – 211007 (U.P.)	The Director, Allahabad Agricultural Research Institute, Allahabad – 211007 (U.P.)	1992 O
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sohna, Sidharthnagar – 272193 (U.P.)	The Secretary, Leond Tel Area Deve. Society, Sohnā, Sidharthnagar – 272193 (U.P.)	1992 N
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Barakachha, Mirzapur – 231001 (U.P.)	Vice – Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi – 110005 (U.P.)	1984 O
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Izatnagar, Bareilly – 243122 (U.P.)	The Director, Indian Vet. Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly – 243122 (U.P.)	1985 I
Uttaranchal (2)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, (Lohaghat) Pithoragarh	Vice – Chancellor, G.B. Pant Uni. of Agricultural and Technology, Pantnagar (U.P.)	1994 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal – 249199	-do-	1983 S
West Bengal (9)			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalimpong, Darjeeling – 734301 (W.B.)	Vice – Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Haringhata, Mohanpur, Nadia (W.B.)	1992 S
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Ramkrishnan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24 – Parganas (WB)	Chairman, Sri Ramkrishnan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24 Parganas – 743338	1979 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kapgri, Midnapore – 721505 (WB)	President, Sewa Bharati, Kapgari, Midnapur – 721505	1976 N
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Burdwan – 713212	Chairman, Hindustan Fertilizer Corp. Ltd. New Delhi	1994 O

1	2	3	4
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Niketan, Birbhum – 731236 (W.B.)	Vice Chancellor, Vishwa Bharti Shanti Niketan, Bolepur	1994 O
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sonamukhi, Bankura – 722207 (WB)	Executive Vice Chairman, WB Comprehensive Area Development Corporation, 6-A, Raja Subodh Mullick Square, Calcutta	1983 O
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vivekanand Nagar, Purullia – 735219 (WB)	President, Kalyan P.O. Vivekanand Nagar Purulia	1992 N
8.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Brackish water experimental FishFarm, P.O. Kakdweep South Parganas – 24 (WB)	Director, Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore – 743101	1979 I
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramshali, Jalpaiguri – 732519 (WB)	Vice Chancellor, WBUA and F, Calcutta (WB)	1983 S

I – ICAR

S – SAUs

N – NGOs

O – Others, includes State Government, Central/State Public undertaking, Educational Institutions including Central Universities

List of Krishi Vigyan Kendras under NGO

S.N.	Name and Address of KVK	Host Organization	Est. Year
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Behind M.R.O. Office, Kotha, Madanpur, Mahboohnagar (AP)	The Executive Director, Youth for Action, 1-8-702/26/1, Patma Colony, Hyderabad – 500044 (AP)	1992 N
2.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gadipalli – 508201, Nalgonda (AP)	Secretary, Aurobindo Institute of Rural Development Gaddipalli – 508201 (AP)	1983 N
3.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RASS Vanasthali, Vill. – Karakanbadi, Chittoor – 517501 (AP)	Chairman, Rayalseema Seva Samiti, 9, Old Hazur Office Building, Tirupathi (AP)	1992 N

1	2	3	4
4.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jamikunta, Karimnagar – 505112 (AP)	Director, Gram Nava Nirman Samiti, H.No. 1-9-639/1, Vidyanagar, Hyderabad	1992 N
5.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Banaganapalli, Kurnool – 508201 (AP)	Secretary, Shri Hanumantharaya Educational and Charitable Society, Rendakanti Public School, Illuru, Kothapeate, Kurnool	1989 N
6.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam – 531005 (AP)	The Secretary, Bhagya Tula Charitable Trust, Yellamanchily, Vishakhapatnam – 531005 (AP)	1995 N
7.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Box No. 214, Zahirabad, Medak – 502220 (AP)	Chairman, Deccan Development Society, A-5, Meera Apartments. Basheerbagh, Hyderabad (AP)	1992 N
8.	Training Organiser, N.G. Ranga Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vinayashram, Kavur, Guntur (AP)	Chairman, Vinayashram Kavur, Guntur (AP)	1992 N
Bihar			
9.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Sokhodeora, Nawada – 805106 (Bihar)	General Secretary, Gram Nirman Mandal Ashram, Sokhoderia, Nawada – 805106 (Bihar)	1979 N
10.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vanavasi Seva Kendra, P.O. Adhaura, Bhabua 821116	President, Banavasi Seva Kendra, Adhaura, Bhabhua – 821116 (Bihar)	1992 N
11.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sharma Bharti Khadigram Khadigram, P.O. Jamui – 811313	Chairman, Khadi Gramydog Sangh, Khandiogram, Jamui – 811313	1994 N
12.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, VPO Basaith Chandpura, Mudhubani – 847102 (Bihar)	Chairman, S.K. Choudhary Education Trust, New Delhi	1994 N
Gujarat			
13.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bharauch	Chairman, Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Pune	1994 N

1	2	3	4
14.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangal Bharti Golagamadi, Golag Mandi Vadodara (Gujarat)	Chairman, Mangal Bharti Bahadurpur, Baroda – 391125	1994 N
15.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Samoda, Sidhpur, Mehsana – 384130	Director, Sarswati Gram Vidyapeeth, Samoda, Mehsana	1992 N
16.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mundra, Kuchchh – 370130	Chairman, Rural Agro Research and Development Society, Jhuhu, Bombay	1992 N
Haryana			
17.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, No. 2 Rajendra Park, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cant., Ambala (Haryana)	President, Society for Creation of Heaven on Earth, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi	1993 N
18.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Shri Bhagvat Bharati Asharam, Rampura, Rewari – 123401 (Haryana)	Secretary, Bhagwat Bhakti Ashram, Rampura, Rewari – 123401	1983 N
Jammu and Kashmir			
19.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalibari, Kathua – 184104 (J and K)	Secretary, Shiv Gramodyog Mandal, Kathua (J and K)	1993 N
Jharkhand			
20.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sujani, P.O. Ghorlash, Devgharh – 814152	General Secretary, Santhal Paharia Seva Mendal, Deoghar – 814152 (Bihar)	1985 N
21.	Chief Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Morabadi, Ranchi – 834008	Secretary, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Morabadi Ranchi	1977 N
22.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh – 8253	Directoress, Holycross V.T.I., Hazaribagh – 825301 (Bihar)	1984 N
Karnataka			
23.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Suttoor, Mysore (Karnataka)	President, JSS, Rural Development Foundation, Mysore	1994 N

1	2	3	4
24.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkabalapur, Kolar (Karnataka)	President, Karnataka Welfare Society Chikkabalapur, Kolar	1994 N
25.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tukanatti Gohak, Belgaum – 591319 (Karnataka)	President, Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum	1994 N
26.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, Distt. – Gadag	Chairman, K.H. Patil Agricultural Sciences Foundation, Distt. Godag – 582205	1985 N
Kerala			
27.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan, Velland, Tiruvananthapuram (Kerala)	President, Mitraniketan, Vellanad – 696543, Tiruvananthapuram	1979 N
28.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chakkupallam, Idukki (Kerala)	President, Bapooji Sewak Samaj, Chakkopallam, Idukki	1994 N
29.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathenamthitta (Kerala)	Chairman, Christian Agency for Rural Development, Thiruvalla, Pethenamthitta	1994 N
Madhya Pradesh			
30.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jora, Kalukeda, Ratlam – 457340	President, Kalukheda Shiksha Samiti, Ratlam	1994 N
31.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sri Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti P.O. Sirjon, Vidisha – 464228 (M.P.)	President, Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti, 32, Niyamatpura, Shajanabad, Bhopal (M.P.)	1992 N
32.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Majhgaon, Satna (M.P.)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
Maharashtra			
33.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhagyanagar, Parbhani – 431401 (MS)	President, Jeevan Jyoti Charitable Trust, Parbhani (MS)	1994 N
34.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. Talasadi, Kolhapur – 416012 (MS)	President, D.Y. Patil Education Society, Talashande, Kolhapur	1994 N

1	2	3	4
35.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana – 443402 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Education Society Jalgaon, Jamod, Buldana – 443402 (MS)	1994 N
36.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ghatkhed, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Sadhna Trust, 57, Congress Nagar, Amravati	1995 N
37.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Durgapur, Amravati (MS)	President, Sharam Safalya Foundation, Madhuban Colony Camp, Amravati	1995 N
38.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, HIG Colony, Near ITI, Nanded (MS)	Chairman, J.N. Institute of Education Science and Technology Research, Nanded (MS)	1994 N
39.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 51, Railway Lines, Solapur – 413001 (MS)	President, Shabari Krishi Pratshtan, Solapur (MS)	1994 N
40.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karda, Risod, Akola – 444106 (MS)	President, SUVIDE Foundation, Risod, Akola (MS)	1994 N
41.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Poip Adarsh Krishi, Sindhudurg – 416622 (MS)	President, Poip Falaotpadan Sankar Samiti, Sindhudurg (MS)	1995 N
42.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Gokhle Education Society, Kosbad Hill, Thane – 401703 (MS)	Secretary, Gokhle Education Society, BYK College of Commerce, Nasik (MS)	1976 N
43.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Satpura Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon – 425508 (MS)	Chairman, Satpuda Vikas Mandal Pal, Raver, Jalgaon – 425508 (MS)	1984 N
44.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Adarsh Colony, Village – Ambajogai, Distt. Beed – 431517 (MS)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Res. Institute, Rani Jhansi Marg, New Delhi	1992 N
45.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kalavade, Karad, Satara – 415110	Chairman, Kalayani Gorakshan Trust, Koregaon Road, Pune (MS)	1992 N
46.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Agricultural, Development Trust, Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune – 413115 (MS)	Chairman, Agricultural Development Trust Sharda Nagar, Baramati, Pune – 413115 (MS)	1992 N

1	2	3	4
47.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Babhleshwar, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar – 4137336 (MS)	Chairman, Pravara Institute of Res. and Education. In Natural and Soc. Science, Parvaranagar, Ahmednagar	1992 N
48.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C-413, Vasant Dada Sahakari Sakhar, Karkhana, Sangli – 416416 (MS)	President, Vasant Prakash Vikas Pratisthan, Sangli (MS)	1992 N
49.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Marathwada Sheti Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 225, S.P. Road, Jalna – 431203	Secretary, Marathwada Shethi Sahayya Mandal, P.B. No. 45, S.P. Road, Jalna – 431203	1992 N
Rajasthan			
50.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P. Tankadra, Chomu, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	The Secretary, Pragati Trust, Chomu, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	1992 N
51.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon, Udaipur – 313001 (Rajasthan)	The President, Vidya Bhawan Society, Badgaon, Udaipur – 313001	1983 N
52.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sardarb Shahar, Churu – 311401 (Rajasthan)	The Registrar, Gandhi Vidhya Mandir Sardar Shahar, Churu	1992 N
53.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gayatri Shanti Pith, Barmer – 344001 (Rajasthan)	The Secretary, Society to Uplift Rural Economy, Barmer (Rajasthan)	1992 N
54.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Rajasthan)	President, Keshyanand Memorial Trust, Sangaria, Hanumangarh (Rajasthan)	1989 N
Tamilnadu			
55.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dharmapuri (Tamilnadu)	President, TN Board of Rural Development, T. Nagar, Madras – 500012	1994 N
56.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tenkosi, Nellai Kattaboman, Distt. Tirunelveli (Tamilnadu)	Chairman, RVS Education, Trust, Dindigul Anna (Tamilnadu)	1994 N
57.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kanatchipuram, Via Thenni, Madurai – 626520 (Tamilnadu)	Chairman, Centre for Development and Communication Trust, Theni, Madurai – 626520	1994 N

1	2	3	4
58.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kilneli Village, Vembakkam Block, Thiruvannamalai, Sambuvarayar (TN)	President, Tamilnadu Board of Rural Development, Crescent Park Street, T. Nagar, Madras – 500017	1991 N
59.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor – 643101, Nilgiri Distt. (TN)	Secretary, UPASI, Glenview, Coonoor – 643101 Nilgiri Distt. (TN)	1983 N
60.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RVS Campus, Usilampatti Tanjavur (TN)	President, Bhakva Memorial Trust, 596, A-I and A-2, TNHB Colony, Periyar Nagar, Korathur, Madras – 600080	1995 N
61.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Allikulam, Mundradajpu, P.O. Kariapatti, Kamarajar – 626102 (TN)	Chairman, Meyer's Trust, Madurai (TN)	1995 N
62.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Talamali Centre of MYRADA, Talawadi Block, Sathyamangalam Taluk, Periyar – 638468 (TN)	Executive Director, MYRADA, Domlur Layout, Bangalore – 560071	1991 N
63.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vegaikulam, Chidambarnar (TN)	Chairman, SCAD Cherandevi Tirunelveli (TN)	1995 N
Tripura			
64.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Divyodaya, Dibanandapali, Cenbr, Khowali Sub Division, West Tripura – 799207	The General Secretary, Sri Ramkrishna Seva Kendra, 23, R.N. Mukherjee Road, Calcutta (WB)	1979 N
Uttar Pradesh			
65.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur – 228118 (UP)	Secretary, Kamla Nehru Memorial Trust, Sultanpur – 228118 (U.P.)	1976 N
66.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jai-prabha, Gram – Gopalgram, Khargu Chandpur, Gandhi Park, Gonda – 271001 (UP)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Institute, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1989 N

1	2	3	4
67.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ganiwan, Banda – 210206 (U.P.)	Chairman, Deen Dayal Research Instt., Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi	1992 N
68.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sohna, Sidharthnagar – 272193 (UP)	The Secretary Leond Tel Area Development Socceity, Sohnna, Sidharthnagar – 272193 (UP)	1992 N
West Bengal			
69.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, C/o Sri Ramkrishnan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24 – Parganas (WB)	Chairman, Sri Ramkrishnan Ashram, P.O. Nimpith Ashram South 24 Parganas – 74338	1979 N
70.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kapgri, Midnapore – 721505 (WB)	President, Sewa Bharti Kapgari, Midnapur – 721505	1976 N
71.	Training Organiser, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vivekanand Nagar Purullia – 735219 (WB)	President, Kalyan P.O. Vivekanand Nagar Purulia	1992 N

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5541/2002]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra

Foundation, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5542/2002]

- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Tourism Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Tourism for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5543/2002]

[Shri Jag Mohan]

- (6) (a) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (iv) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (b) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the years 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (c) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the years 1996-1997, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5544/2002]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : Sir I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Water and Power Consultancy Services (I) Limited and the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 2002-2003

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5545/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter (Amendment) Ordinance, 2001 (U.P. Ordinance No. 23 of 2001) (Hindi and English versions) promulgated by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh on the 15th December, 2001, under article 213(2)(a) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iv) of the proclamation dated the 8th March, 2002 issued by the President in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5546/2002]

- (2) A copy of the Coconut Development, Board (Amendment) Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 450(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 2002 under section 21 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5547/2002]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar, for the year 2002-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5548/2002]

[English]

12.01 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :—

- (i) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 13th March, 2002 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on Public Accounts :-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2002 and ending on the 30th April, 2003 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in Pursuance of the above Motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee :-

1. Shri Santosh Bagrodia
2. Shri K. Rahman Khan
3. Dr. Alladi P. Rajkumar
4. Shri S. Agniraj
5. Shri Lekhraj Bachani
6. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
7. Shri Prasanta Chatterjee.'

- (ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 13th March, 2002 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on Public Undertakings :-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2002 and ending on the 30th April, 2003 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in Pursuance of the above Motion, the

following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee :-

1. Shri Kalraj Mishra
2. Shri Vikram Verma
3. Shrimati Ambika Soni
4. Shri Jibon Roy
5. Shri Suresh Kalmadi
6. Shri Satish Pradhan
7. Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao.'

- (iii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 13th March, 2002 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :-

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2002 and ending on the 30th April, 2003 and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, ten Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above Motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee :-

1. Shri Shyam Lal
2. Dr. (Ms.) P. Selvie Das
3. Shri Gandhi Azad
4. Shri Birabhadra Singh
5. Shri V.V. Raghavan
6. Dr. Faguni Ram
7. Shri Raju Parmar
8. Shri Sukhdev Singh Libra
9. Shri Anil Kumar
10. Shri R. Kamaraj.'

[English]

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES**Eighth and Tenth Reports***[English]*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of Estimates Committee :-

- (1) Eighth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report of Estimates Committee (13th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) – 'Telecommunication Services in Rural Areas'; and
- (2) Tenth Report on the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (Department of Tourism) – 'Development of Infrastructure for Growth of Tourism'.

[English]

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**Thirty-third Report**

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet) : Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the public Accounts Committee (2001-2002).

12.03-1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS**Study Tour Report***[Translation]*

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following Study Tour Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on :-

- (1) Gas Authority of India Limited;
- (2) Hindustan Salts Limited;
- (3) Mahanadi Coalfields Limited;
- (4) MECON Limited; and
- (5) Container Corporation of India Limited.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what about the notice of privilege given by me against the Prime Minister ? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have to say something about the problem of transport in Delhi. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you have given the notice, you will certainly get chance.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condition of our farmers has become pitiable. Sir, you should go and see the condition of the farmers of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. They are selling wheat to the middlemen. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Delhi is already facing transport problem, and now they are talking of fare-hike. There is unrest among people on this account. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : if you have given a notice, I will call you. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are as many as 16 hon. Members who have given notices.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have called me to raise a matter of public importance. You have already called me. Is it the monopoly of a few Members to raise matters in this House every day ? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are 16 Members who have given notice. I will call you one by one. All of you will get a chance.

SHRI VAIKO : I am raising a very important subject. You have already called me, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. Kindly allow me to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Suresh Jadhav, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Please do not make it a Monopoly. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Babu, I have told you about it that the Prime Minister have written me a letter.

[English]

I am satisfied with that. What notice are you talking about now?

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, you have called my name.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my notice is that this issue may be referred to the Committee of privileges. . . .

MP DEPUTY SPEAKER : When you know that he has denied, then you should not mention about it.

[English]

The matter is closed now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, does the hon. Members of the House not have the right to know about the fate of the privilege motion? . . . (Interruptions) You have said that you have verified the matter. . . . (Interruptions) The House would like to know as to what has happened to that. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is what I am telling. I have received a letter from the hon. Prime Minister denying whatever appeared in the newspapers. Therefore, I accepted as such the letter of the hon. Prime Minister and his contention. That is what I told him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, the matter may be referred to the Committee of Privileges. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, it has become the practice of some of the hon. Members to consume the entire me. . . . (Interruptions) There should be a level-playing field. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are a senior member of the House and you know when such matter comes, it

is sent for verification. Reply has been received, in which they have denied it, therefore, your notice has not been accepted.

[English]

It is treated as closed. The hon. Prime Minister is the leader of the House and he has given a reply. What do we do further?

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Viskhapatnam) : Sir, the unfortunate thing is that those who obey your directions are not getting a chance. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : My notice is that the matter should be referred to the Committee of Privileges, it should be sent after examining it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the hon. Prime Minister has denied it and I have accepted it, there is no question now.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, he always flouts your directions. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, order please.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member had given a privilege notice against the hon. Prime Minister. According to our convention we referred the matter to the hon. Prime Minister and he has denied it. So, we have no reason to go further on this.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, they are defying your observations now. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We had written to the hon. Prime Minister. The hon. Prime Minister has written back to me denying whatever appeared in the newspapers.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given the notice as per rules..

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, if I had heard you properly then you have said that you have received a denial from the hon. Prime Minister which you accepted. That means, for us, this case is closed and that ends the matter. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes. Now, Shri Vaiko.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, have you forgotten the matter you wanted to raise !

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Lot of injustice is being done to the regional languages in the South.

12.10 hrs.

RE : NEED TO PERMIT CANDIDATES TO
ANSWER QUESTIONS IN REGIONAL
LANGUAGE IN EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED
BY STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise this very important matter during 'zero hour'.

Here is the final result of the recruitment test for the post of clerks conducted by the Staff Selection Commission for the year 1999. The trend of selections shows a clear discrimination and bias against the candidates from the Southern, the North-Eastern, and the non-Hindi speaking States. It is a result of the introduction of the method of

descriptive examination from the year 1999. Out of the 8085 candidates recommended for appointment by the Staff Selection Commission – three candidates are from Tamil Nadu, 12 are from Karnataka, 52 from Kerala, and only 11 from all the North-Eastern States put together, It comes to a total of only 100 candidates from the States of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, and the North-Eastern States. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Sir, is he making a 'zero hour' submission or giving a speech ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is 'zero hour'.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Can he go on reading like this ?

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, this is a very serious problem. This is regarding the problem of unemployment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is referring to statistics.

SHRI VAIKO : There is a provision for writing the Civil Services Main examination, which is of descriptive type, in any of the language mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, not allowing that facility in this examination is a very serious issue. While the languages of the Eighth Schedule are being allowed even for the topmost services like IAS, IPS, why can the same method not be adopted for examinations conducted by the Staff Selection Commission also ?

An appeal was filed in this regard before the Central Administrative Tribunal, Chennai. The Tribunal observed.

"We may observe that it is for the Government of India to consider whether all the languages included in the Eighth Schedule can be used as medium for all examinations conducted by the Staff Selection Commission. We do not think it is very difficult, when the facility is available now in Civil Services Main Examination. This fact has been rightly admitted in the reply filed."

Sir, it is for the Government to take immediate steps either to allow the candidates to write the examination in the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule, or to switch over to the earlier two-tier system of recruitment wherein there was an objective type examination and an interview/skill test.

Out of the 8085 candidates selected, a thousand candidates are from Bihar. I do not have any grouse against Bihar. This has happened because there is no level-playing field available for the candidates. When candidates from

all over the country are not allowed to write the examination in their respective mother tongue included in the Eighth Schedule, the candidates from the non-Hindi-speaking Southern and North-Eastern States are terribly affected. Unemployment problem is a very serious problem. It is a great injustice being done.

Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to either restore the earlier system of examination, or allow all languages in the Eighth Schedule to be the medium of examination. This is my request. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate with Shri Vaiko.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, I associate with the hon. Member on this issue. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, This is an important issue. I may please be given one one minute to speak on this issue.

[English]

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga) : We also associate with the Member on this issue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Yerrannaidu, Shri Janardhana Reddy, Shri Natchiappan, Shri Kuppuswamy, Shri Suresh, Shri Murthi, Shri Thomas, Shri Francis, Shri Malaisamy, Shri Selvaganapathi and all these Members associate with Shri Vaiko on this issue.

SHRI VAIKO : Kindly allow them to speak, Sir. It is a serious problem.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right, Shri Vaiko, I have allowed them to associate.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to say something on this. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : All these requests should be granted before 30th of April. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI (Tiruchirapalli) : This is a discrimination. . . .(Interruptions) Please respond to it. . . .(Interruptions) We will never accept any other language

except Tamil and English. . . .(Interruptions) This is a clear discrimination against them. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Elumalai, what is happening to you today?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat. The hon. Minister is responding.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Sir, I also associate myself with what Shri Vaiko has said. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : It is mentioned in the VIII Schedule, and it should be followed. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : First you speak, then I will ask a question, I will associate myself with Vaiko ji.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You ask the question first.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very important question. It is related to which State, you will see yourself. I solely associate myself with what Vaikoji has said about Indian languages. He has rightly said that foreign language English must not be compulsory as medium of examination. But instead, there should be provision of writing the examination in Indian languages, when I was in Government in Uttar Pradesh, all the languages of South were taught and, besides that, there were provision for extra marks for those who write the exams in Indian languages other than Hindi. I am happy that my friend Vaikoji has adopted the same path anyhow. I would like to say to him that it is high time to talk about Indian languages and uproot foreign language English. Election is near and it is right time to warm up the issue.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This has been raised at a proper time. . . .(Interruptions) It is a very intelligent question. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Pandit Nahru had given the assurance. That assurance should be honestly fulfilled. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : That is why we wish that the answers should be written in examination in Indian languages.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Answers have to be written in Indian languages,

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Answers may be given in Marathi, if you know Hindi well, give your answers in Hindi, but not in English.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet) : Sir, this question of writing the examination in the regional languages arose in regard to the recruitment of para-military constables. There are about 10 lakh para-military constables but not even 10 per cent of them are from the South India. This is because they have not been allowed to write the examination in their regional languages. Either they have to write in English or in Hindi. This is the problem.

The Standing Committee on Home Affairs had taken up this matter very seriously and recommended unanimously to the Home Ministry. The Government of India to allow the examination to take place in regional languages. But for the last one year, they had given a deaf ear to it. I do not know whether the hon. Minister is going to say anything about it also.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question raised is of great importance. The issue of writing examination in regional languages has been hanging fire for the last so many years. The issue was regarding writing the examination in English and nobody was allowed to write the examination in regional languages. As a result, there was adverse criticism against it throughout the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want that whosoever wants to write the answers in regional language, he/she should be allowed to do so. There should not be any compulsion regarding any specific language, whether it is English or it is Hindi. The candidate should be allowed to write in any regional language, he can. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, in the case of Indian Administrative Service Examinations, there is no discrimination in the usage of language and the local students can appear for those Examinations in the regional languages. They are allowing that to happen. But for the examinations to small posts of paramilitary personnel conducted by the S.S.C., they are not allowing the usage of regional

languages. For these posts, the applicants would have studied only up to X Standard or 'Ten Plus Two' or they may be graduates. Candidates from some States do not know Hindi or English well. How can they write the examination in English or Hindi only ? In some States, they have introduced the usage of regional languages up to the graduation level. When we are allowing usage of regional languages for Indian Administrative Service Examinations, why should we have this discrimination in usage of other languages for other small posts ? This is a legal and a genuine demand. So, there is no need to have a discussion; and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, taking into account all the observations from various political parties here, can make an announcement in this regard now itself. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since it is an important matter, I am allowing the hon. Members to make submission.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will give you the floor.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is but natural that a candidate should be allowed to write the answers in any Indian language he is comfortable with whether it is English or Hindi. The decision has to be taken by the candidate in this regard. The candidate who is comfortable with English should be allowed to answer in English. We should not deprive him to the opportunity. The option should be open for all languages. A candidate should have the right to answer in the language he want. Initiatives should be taken to get the right to write the exam in that language.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the candidates who want to write examination in regional languages should be allowed to do so. I would like to submit that not only examination should be conducted in regional language, but their advertisement should also be published in regional newspapers. Candidates from rural areas are sometimes not capable of understanding English advertisements. Moreover, in certain cases, English newspapers even do not reach rural areas. So, the advertisements pertaining to examination should be published in regional languages. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a question of language National language of this country is Hindi. So, English should be bid adieu like a foreigner. Dr. Lohia used to say

"Angrezi" mein kaam na hoga'
Fir desh kabhi ghulam no hoga
Lhia ki abhilasha,
Chale desh mein Hindi Bhasha."

So, Sir, the issue is to write examination in regional languages, permission should be given for it and simultaneously permission should also be given to answer in Maithili for the candidates of Mithila. . . .(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharaj Ganj, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have strong reservation on this account. Hindi should not be neglected. Hindi is the regional language of this country. If efforts are made to uproot Hindi, it would be very unfortunate for the country and democracy as well. We will not at all swallow an insult to Hindi. I humbly submit that the virulent utterances against Hindi is not proper. Hindi is the language of common people. It should be given due respect. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, the matter raised by you is being projected now. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER Now, Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : Sir, there are at least three or four States in our country where English is accepted as the official language. We should not forget that. We have got full regards and honour for the Hindi language. I would suggest that all the question papers could be prescribed on the basis of all the languages included or enlisted in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : We would like to get a response from the hon. Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI DENZIL B. ATKINSON (Nominated) : Sir, I associate myself with whatever has been said by Shri Vaiko

but I take strong objections to what the hon. Member, Shri Mulayam Singh has said about the English language. English is the mother tongue of the Anglo Indian community in this country and we are recognised in the Constitution. I request him not to say such words about the English language. . . .(Interruptions) lakhs of children study through English medium in our Christian school.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, English is not an Indian language. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, It could be a language of foreign lineage, but it cannot be an Indian language. . . .(Interruptions) English is the language of British offsprings.

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the DMK Party, I fully associate ourselves with the issue raised by Shri Vaiko. We request that all the competitive examinations should be conducted in all the regional languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, this is very sensitive issue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is a sensitive issue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got full regards for the views expressed by the hon. Members. This is a very serious issue and discussion on this issue during the zero hour not going to give any results. So I request that hon. Prime Minister should call the leader of opposition in this regard, and talk to her and resolve this issue. The issue pertaining to language in a serious one, and no such steps should be taken that hurt the feelings of the people of any State. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : It is really a very sad effort . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, what is this ? It is a very important matter. I want every Leader to speak on this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is a very sensitive matter. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, for the benefit of my friends, what I have said is, it is a very sensitive matter and it should not be decided by just mentioning it during the 'Zero Hour'. Shri Vaiko, for once – although in that company – has raised a very pertinent issue. I would request the hon. Prime Minister, this is one of the issues on which he may think it right, to call all the Opposition Parties including the Leader of the Opposition – without being irritated so much – so that there could be a proper decision out of this discussion. Our intention is not to lower the importance of any language. India is a country where so many languages are spoken. Kindly see, Shri Vaiko cannot understand my Hindi and I have to speak in English. If this is the position, how will you run the House? If everybody comes to the House and speaks in his or her mother tongue, what will happen to this House? Everybody will have to put on the earphones.

There has to be a language for India as a whole. I can either be Hindi or Tamil. I have nothing against Tamil. My daughter is now in Chennai. My grand daughter is trying to learn Tamil. She has stood first in her examination. No language is superior to other. This is a very vital issue and, therefore, we should proceed in a manner that a proper decision is taken on it. This is my request.

SHRI VAIKO : This is a wider issue. On this particular issue, we want the response of the Prime Minister. I agree fully with Shri Somnath Chatterjee that what he has mentioned is a wider issue. But on this particular issue which I have raised, I want a response from the hon. Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He will respond.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, as Shri Somnathjee said, this is a very sensitive matter and with all seriousness a decision must be taken after consideration. So far as Hindi and English is concerned, it is said in our constitution that so long as people in the South want, Hindi and English will continue. So far as regional languages are concerned those mentioned in our constitution, the question paper in there required in our constitution, the question paper in there regional language should be set or not, we have discussed earlier also. Some consensus have been reached but no decision has been taken yet. But if we feel that by doing so people from all States would be enabled to come up in Public Service Commission, there should not be any difficulty. But we will

have to see it as well that if we use regional languages whether people will be able to do work in to her states or not and so whether it will be State Public Service Commission or Union Public Service Commission. This is a very sensitive issue, on many bases our country is divided. On this basis, there should not be any division, keeping in view their we should decide to fulfil the aspirations of the people.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, out of 1885 candidates, less than 100 candidates are from all the Southern and North-Eastern States. This is a total discrimination. Therefore, I have raised this issue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He will respond but before that I want to give chance to every Party.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram) : Sir, on behalf of AIADMK Party, I like to place my views. I congratulate Shri Vaiko for having raised a very valid issue. On this issue, we cut-across party lines and we are one in every way. As far as the matter of protecting the languages of the entire country is concerned, we are not against any language. But at the same time, we are very much interested in protecting the interest of Tamils and Tamil Nadu. In that way, the trend and mood of House is perfectly in order. I am very happy that wisdom and reason prevailed in the minds of all big leaders. This is a very sensitive issue. It has to be very carefully handled. I think the Government has got enough problem with Gujarat. Therefore, they need not invite one more problem like this. I want to forewarn the Government that this is a very sensitive issue and the Government must see that the tyranny of the majority should not be imposed on the tiny minority. . . .(Interruptions) The examination in question has to be cancelled. Facility to write in regional languages should be provided. The Minister should respond to it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He will respond.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Indian languages have a right in competitive examination, but students must have a right to answer in regional languages also because if they are not included in it, students will not find expressions and could not answer. This is every important and sensitive matter. Today the House or the nation should not stand divided on this issue but Indian languages must get respect due to them.

The unity of the nation is associated with its. Therefore, there should be importance of Indian languages. Regional languages should be included in it.

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : India is a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-linguistic country. So, I would like to make an appeal here. In States like those in the North-East we have adopted English as the official language. In my own State of Nagaland we have sixteen dialects, but we do not have scripts. We have adopted the Roman script as the official one. We have adopted English as the official language. If we have to go by other languages, do we stand a chance of competing in the examinations?

As rightly said, in Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and in other parts of India, people speak different languages. If we continue to stress that English should be taken away from the list of main languages, it would not be a correct decision. Indian has encouraged English language and that is the reason why we are standing first in the field of software in the world today. Whereas Japan, Korea and China have adopted their own languages and their own scripts, India chose to adopt English language as a medium in education as well as in the Government and therefore and we are first in the field of soft ware. That is one important aspect.

If we do not encourage regional languages and if we do not encourage Hindi, then we would be failing in our duty. At the same time, we should continue with the English language so that everybody can translate their language into the other's language. I would, therefore, request the Government of India that we should continue Hindi as well as English as the official languages in all official matters.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKER MAHALE (Malegaon) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, In a building both walls as well as windows are required National languages are walls and regional languages are windows, therefore, both are necessary.

[English]

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (Chidambaram) : This issue raised by Shri Vaiko is a very serious and sensitive one. PMK is the only Party which had conducted a seminar in 1998 in Delhi on the national languages issue where it was

said that all the 18 languages be included in the official languages list.

The Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhiji wrote his autobiography in Gujarati and Rabindra Nath Tagore wrote Gitanjali in Bengali. So, mother tongue must be given priority in the competitive examinations to enable people have a fair chance in all the attempts in their career. For once, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav also supported us by saying that mother tongue be allowed. We the PMK associate ourselves with the issue raised by Shri Vaiko and reiterate that mother tongue be given priority in competitive examinations.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : India is a country with much diversity. In our Constitution we have accepted federalism. It is necessary to strengthen the federalist nature and the real intent of the makers of our Constitution. The issue raised by Shri Vaiko is a sensitive and a serious one to be addressed by all of us. We cannot leave away this issue.

Therefore, I would submit, as most of the sections of the House did, that we must give due importance to all the languages. In fact, we should accept that all the Indian languages are national languages and as national languages spoken in the nation we should give importance to all the languages in all the tests, including the one which has been mentioned by Shri Vaiko.

Here the issue has come up because the nature of the questions has also changed. Earlier it was of objective type and now it has been made into descriptive type. That is also an issue to be addressed. In the right of the changes now taken place in the type of questions it is very important that we look at the language issue also. As far as English is concerned, I would submit that it has been accepted as an international language and we cannot go back from it as it connects us to other nations also. Therefore, it must continue.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Candidates are allowed to take part in the Civil Services examinations in regional languages. In Staff Selection Commission examinations they have changed over to descriptive type questions and answers in order to discriminate against people who are from the South and the North-Eastern parts of the country.

The results also show that. The results should be cancelled. This examination should be cancelled, fresh examination should be conducted and candidates should be allowed to take part in this examination using their regional languages. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is a very important issue and every Member is taking part in it. Something useful is being done.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the statement of Shri Vaikojee. From east to west and from North to South, there is diversity and Indian's unity lies in its diversity. Mahatma Gandhi whom we called father of the nation said that every student must get education in his mother tongue, when he starts his education in mother tongue, he must have a right to pass out the examination in that very language. I believe so. Father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi had said that examination must be conducted in mother tongue.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question raised by Shri Vaikojee is very important, students must have a right to sit in the examination in regional languages. Our country is one, constitution is one, but religious, caste and languages are many. Despite this, a coordinating language is required. English is also required, if some student want to appear in English, he should not be obstructed. If we want to face the world, English is required. But our national language is Hindi. Everybody should learn Hindi, Like Somnath spoke out. He spoke very good Hindi and I salute him and I urge Vaikojee to come with Mulayam Singhjee.

(Interruptions) We do know a little bit of Hindi and Tamil. . . .*(Interruptions)* If we do not speak Marathi, Balasaheb will have to speak. . . .*(Interruptions)* What I mean to say is that there should be some link language like the castes have been held together by Indian constitution, their should be one language which should be in all provinces. I fully support the local language, but despite that there should be one language and we have accepted Hindi. Indian Government should make an attempt to teach us Hindi. There are many people with you. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam) : Is there any link between writing the examination in the regional language and what he is speaking now? Sir, it is a diversion of the subject. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Sir, Shri Vaikojee spoke about recruitment. This has been insisted. Vaikojee raised an issue with reference to language and told us about regional imbalance. The examination should be held

in regional language. This is being discussed here, but this discussion has been taken towards unknown destination.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The discussion stands on one topic and ends on another herein this House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I want to say that I support the question raised by Shri Vaikojee but there should be a link language.

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Iddukki) : Sir, I rise to support the issue that has been raised by Shri Vaiko. In our multi-linguistic country, it is not fair to discriminate or disregard any regional language. I do not know how this issue has come up at all. It is because we have three-language formula here. We have the mother tongue, the regional language and then the national language. . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has given the details.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : If the Government is bound by this formula that has been accepted in the Constitution even. Then how can this issue come up? How can any regional language, which has been accepted in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, could be discriminated against? So, the point I want to raise is this. Along with Shri Vaiko and other hon. Members, I would request that this particular examination may be cancelled and chance be given to all those who want to appear in the examination throughout the country.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the language policy of the country has been discussed several times. We have broadly reached a consensus that we should have one official language, that is Hindi, and all the other languages, which are mentioned in the Eighth Schedule should be encouraged. About the link language, we do follow the three-language formula.

This is a very sensitive issue and piecemeal discussion may lead to further confusion. It is because on the issue of language, our neighbouring country was divided. It was due to imposition of a language. There is a mis-conception in this country that some particular language is sought to be imposed on other languages and on others mother tongues. This has already been issued. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, he is diverting the issue. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am concluding. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is coming to that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is a Professor and he will have to come.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : This is a limited issue of writing examination. Shri Rupchand Pal is raising the language issue. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : While supporting the issue raised by Shri Vaiko., I would like to say this. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is supporting Shri Vaiko.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : While supporting the issue raised by Shri Vaiko, I would like to say that in respect of IT Sector, the advantage that India has, among many other things, is that the number of English-learning people in this country is much larger than many other countries in the world. This is an advantage, particularly in the age of Information Technology, which is used world over. . . .
(Interruptions) I demand a full-fledged discussion on this issue. . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, the most sensitive part of the 'Zero Hour' is that an issue is suddenly raised in the House without a notice. Being the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, it becomes my responsibility to answer the questions, which are beyond my competence and jurisdiction. We almost discussed this issue for about forty of forty-five minutes. Even though none of us wanted to discuss it, everybody discussed it. Even though none of us wanted to enlarge its scope, everybody added to the original scope.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : They have contributed.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I would take up one point before. I come to the specific point raised by Shri Vaiko.

I think, all of us agree that the creation of any language was to unite the people and not to divide the people. When we went from a gesture language to a spoken language and a written language, the basic need of the humanity

was to communicate with the other person and try to unite people and not to divide people. I am sure, the whole House will agree with me that any discussion which we have under such circumstances should unite the country and not to divide it. The AIADMK leader has rightly put it that the Government has many hot issues on hand. We do not want to add one more issue. My problem is that I have not raised it. Once it is raised, it becomes my responsibility to answer it.

I can briefly say that Hindi is our national language. We love and respect Hindi. As in the case of Shri Vaiko, Hindi is not my mother tongue. But as an Indian citizen, I would submit that Hindi is a language which has an old tradition. I think, by love and affection, we should try to learn Hindi. When I said by love and affection we should learn it, I would still reiterate what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru told long back in the 1960s that if the whole country learns Hindi by love and affection, there is no objection. I think Shri Vaiko will also not object to it. But, at the same time, we would not like to force the language or impose the language till the society is ripe for it, till the society is ready for it. As long as that, the usage of English becomes necessary.

One more thing which my comrade Rupchand Pal mentioned. Indeed he helped me in that matter. I also belonged to a movement like Shri Mulayam Singh. In my initial days, in my college days, I joined the *Angreji hatao campaign*. But I can say that lately I have realised that one of the strengths which India has today internationally, particularly in the sector of Information Technology, is its largest human resource who can speak English. We are ahead of China only because of the English language which we have. Now the Chinese are trying to learn English very fast. At this juncture, if we start deviating from English and if we are not allowing our students to learn English, we will be giving double advantage to China which, I think, as a nation, we should not give. So, I would beg of Shri

[Translation]

The love and affection which I have for Hindi is not less than any other person. I say to Mulayam Singh Ji sometimes that I can speak chaste Hindi which is better than him and if members are allowed to speak in Hindi on one condition they will speak without using any expression in English at least for half an hour, many MP even belonging to North India will not be able to speak fluently in this manner, but I can speak Hindi without using any expression in English. That is why I can say that I am very much devoted to the cause of Hindi.

[English]

But, at the same time, I would like to say that if the real India, if the rural villagers want to go ahead in Information Technology, if we stop them from learning English, we will be putting them in a disadvantageous position not only at the national level but also at the international level. So, I do not want the Indian citizens, Indian students and the Indian kids from any State, particularly from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to be put in a disadvantageous position for lack of the English language when they go at the international level in information technology. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Sir, let the hon. Minister complete his submission. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is any misunderstanding, that could be removed now.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Vaiko, Ji, I am not against it. I would like to say, that you are branding me anti English whereas I am not against any foreign language or foreign literature, and I think only a foolish or ignorant person will do such thing. This is not the question, the real question is that the medium of functioning of Government, Parliament, Court, Public Sector should be multi lingual. I do not have any objection if any body learns English, German, Italian or any other foreign language. I would like to submit that the medium of functioning of Lok Sabha and Judiciary should be multi-lingual. The people of India should be given opportunity to write in each and every Indian language while working for Government or India. So, please try to understand the policies of Smajwadi Party in this regard. I am happy that you have knowledge of Hindi more than me. I did not feel bad about it. I welcome this and if any opportunity comes, I would also like to felicitate you. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : Let him complete his submission. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is any misunderstanding, the same could be removed now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Do you know in which language a person expresses when he or she is

born. . . .(Interruptions) People of France and Germany speak their mother tongue only.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : When a child is born, he speaks the word Maan only.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : This is wrong to say that English language is being used on the International level. Do not misguide the House in this manner. There are countries like Russia, German, France etc. about which I can say that the medium of functioning of Government is not English. Those countries had not progressed with the support of English language. They had progressed by adopting their own language as medium of functioning. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VAIKO : The most classical language is Tamil. . . .(Interruptions) Tamil should be the official language of India. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You should also read about the law which was enacted by them for ousting the English language.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vaiko, time is running out.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Parliamentary papers regarding question etc. are issued in Hindi and English language now. Will these papers be issued in all Indian languages from tomorrow ? These are being prepared in Hindi and English only. Now these may be issued in all Indian languages. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI. PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mulayam Singh Ji, when a child is borne, he does not speak any language. His crying does not need to be expressed, then there is no in any language. . . .(Interruptions) Let me completed.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : At first a child utters and word "Maan", that is why the native language is known as mother-tongue.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You just tell me one thing. When a person suffers from severe heart problem, he calls for a doctor or well repute. Whether he whispers in his ear to write the prescription in his regional language. He just says that please treat at the earliest. Why are you quarreling here by discussing such thing ?

[English]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I would now conclude by saying about the particular issue. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member has raised a point, Mr. Minister, reply to it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I was in a dilemma. I was only going to refer to the issue raised by him. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are also in a mood to join the debate in the House.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I should do it for that is my duty.

Lastly, I would say only one thing and that is about the issue of Staff Selection Commission examinations raised by Shri Vaiko.

In principle, I think that if somebody does not have the knowledge of a particular language, that should not put somebody at a disadvantageous position as far as these examinations are concerned. Shri Vaiko has told two things. Firstly, the style of examination has been changed where some descriptive questions have been asked, due to which persons, who do not know Hindi or English, were put to a disadvantageous position. That seems to be the case because in an objective question-answer paper, your knowledge and proficiency is not needed. At this moment, Shri Vaiko and the whole House would appreciate that I do not know as to what kind of examination it was, as to what were the questions and as to what were asked last time and this time. As I said, in principle, I do not want any body to be at a disadvantage whether he is a Tamilian or a Bihari. I do not want anybody to be at a disadvantageous position. I want every body to be at an

advantageous position. In a completion examination, merit should matter.

13.00 hrs.

So, whether Tamilians get all the seats or Biharis get all the seats, it is not really out concern. But as you rightly said, there should be a level playing field. The whistle should blow when everybody is in line. I have taken note of what he has said.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is not insisting on a reply by tomorrow.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I cannot even reply by tomorrow. So, I will take up this matter with the concerned department and see that at least, as he has said, the disadvantage is not there if the language is changed. At the same time, I cannot react to this on the spot. I take a serious note of this and communicate to the Minister concerned.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he can ask the concerned Minister to convene an all-party meeting on this issue.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, there are two demands for convening an all-party meeting. One is by Shri Somnath Chatterjee who has demanded it for a larger issue and another is by Shri Yerrannaidu on a smaller issue. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is 'Zero Hour'. How can he reply just like that ?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, looking at the agenda before Parliament, whatever Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Yerrannaidu say, it is very difficult for me not to communicate to the Prime Minister and the concerned Minister. I will communicate both the requests. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : MR. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an important matter. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot help now.

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at
Three Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House would take up
Matter under Rule 377. Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena.

MATTERS UNDER RULES 377

- (i) **Need to associate Members of Parliament in the Centrally-sponsored educational projects in the States, especially in Rajasthan**

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, various innovations in the field of education has been introduced in Rajasthan e.g. Sarvshiksha, Shiksha Apke Dwar, B.P.E.P., Satat Sakshrata, Sulabh Shiksha etc. People in rural areas are being misguided with these schemes. Some schemes should have been given concrete shape in the name of Girl Child education which have not been done so far by the State Governments. I request the Government of India to give concrete shape to schemes for Rural Girl child education and Primary Education in Rajasthan.

I also request the Minister of Human Resources through you to ensure the participation of Members of Parliament in the schemes which are being introduced in the field of education in the States.

- (ii) **Need to accord central university status to Gurh Ghasidas University Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : There is need to accord Central University status to Guru Ghasidas University Bilaspur since it is the only university in Chhattisgarh State. This area is dominated by the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and for the social and political development of these castes, the provision of Medical college, technology and Computer Education should be made in the university.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested to sanction Guru Ghasidas University as a Central University in Bilaspur.

- (iii) **Need to provide reservation in Gram Panchayats in Jharkhand in proportion to the population of different categories**

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchil) : Sir, All the Gram Panchayats in the 12 district of Jharkhand State have been reserved for the scheduled tribes while a large portion of the population consists of dalits, Muslims, OBC's and the people of General Category. At some places population of above mentioned categories varies from 60% to 90%. Reservation has been made for adivasis where the adivasis are few in number and therefore people belonging to other categories are frustrated. This situation has an adverse effect on unity and peaceful atmosphere in the society and also on the developmental activities for removing backwardness in this area. The reservation in panchayats of districts where the population of adivasis is more than 50% should be made on the basis of population ratio. I request through this august House that review of this decision should be made and amendment in such laws should be made at the earliest.

- (iv) **Need to provide halt of Ashram Express at Kishangarh and Beawar Railway Stations, Rajasthan**

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, Kishangarh is an important industrial city and an important centre of marble industry and Powerloom located at 29 kilometre before Ajmer. And thousands of businessmen from different parts of the country come to Kishangarh to purchase Marble stone. There is which is a famous mandi of foodgrains also. The total population of Kishangarh and Madanganj is one lakh.

There is a distance of 25 KM between Bandikui and Dosa on Delhi Ahmedabad broad-guage line and yet there is a halt of 2 minutes of this train (Ashram Express) at both railway stations but there is no provision has been made for the halt of this train at Kishangarh station so far.

Therefore, I request the Government of India to ensure two minutes halt of superfast Ashram Express-2915/2916 at Kishangarh Railway station.

To facilitate passengers of that region and income of railway will increase and also people will have relief by the provision of such halt.

- (v) **Need to lay a railway line between Lohardaga and Jaspur via Gumla, Chhattisgarh.**

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT (Lohardaga) : Sir, District Headquarter of Gumla district in my parliamentary

constituency lacks rail facility even after 54 years after independence. as a result the people of this area come across great difficulties in travelling. This area is very backward. It is dominated by adivasis only. The economic development of this area is not possible in absence of rail facility. That is why, there is a need to lay railway-line in this area.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested to construct a rail line from Lohardagga to Jaspur via Gumla to introduce rail services for the economic development of this region.

(vi) Need to introduce direct trains between Gadag-Bangalore and Gadag-Bijapur

[English]

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (Mysore) : The people of Karnataka are facing a lot of hardship in the absence of a direct train between Gadag and Bangalore. At present the trains are passing through Hubli and Hospet. The Hospet route is 550 kms. and that of Hubli is 470 kms. If a direct train is introduced the distance between Bangalore and Gadag would be only 365 kms. Therefore, I demand that a direct train is introduced between Gadag and Bangalore. Alongwith that, I also demand, that a direct train should also be provided between Gadag and Bijapur.

(vii) Need to enhance import duty on cotton with a view to protect the interests of indigenous cotton growers

SHRI Y.V. RAO (Guntur) : Sir, cotton growers in India are facing a lot of problems. The cotton growers are not getting sufficient price for their produce and this has been leading to unprecedented difficulties. Andhra Pradesh is the third largest producer of cotton in the country. The problems faced by the cotton growers are mainly due to import of cotton. Cotton imports are severely affecting the indigenous cotton growers. Import duty on cotton is very less and this is making imported cotton cheaper. Everyone knows that developed countries try to retain their farm subsidies and India should also protect its own farmers who are the backbone of the economy.

Similarly, the Minimum Support Price for cotton presently being given is only Rs. 1,800/- per quintal which is not sufficient to meet the costs of the producers.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to consider increasing the import duty on cotton at least up

to 25 per cent and to increase the Minimum Support Price from Rs. 1,800/- to Rs. 2,500 per quintal.

(viii) Need to ensure availability of potable water and check its commercialisation

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a new industry had come up during the last four years in the country. And within this short span of time this industry increase its business upto worth of Rs. 1000 crores. There is industry concerned with selling of water. Hundreds of companies including dozens of Multinational Companies are involved in his industry. Today the water is being sold at the price of milk in the country. Water management has come to a stand still municipalities, and at railway stations people have stopped believing in the purity of water supplied by the above mentioned bodies. The society should have ownership right on water. But in the name of privatization it is coming in the hands of some industrialists. As a result, the country is facing the shortage of water. Half of the available water flows in the sea without being utilised. The experts of water management have opined that it is very necessary that the water is owned only by the society. Therefore, I request the Government to stop the commercialisation of water and take immediate steps to streamline the water supply system.

(xi) Need to develop Fatehpur Tal Ratoy and Fatehpur Tal Narja lakes in Ghosi Parliamentary constituency, U.P. as tourist centres

[English]

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (Ghosi) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you, Sir, with regard to Fatehpur Tal Ratoy and Fatehpur Tal Narja lakes having very large areas under Ghosi Parliamentary constituency, Uttar Pradesh. Since the mentioned areas are industrially backward, manpower is compelled to go towards cities in search of jobs and livelihood. Under such circumstances, the mentioned lakes are required to be developed as tourist centres so that the source of income can be generated in public interest. The people of area have been making demands to develop these lakes as tourist centres for many years.

I, therefore, request the Government to develop Fatehpur Tal Rotay and Fatehpur Tal Narja lakes as tourist centres.

(x) Need to delink the profit-making Salem unit of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. from the parent company with a view to prevent its closure

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem) : Sir, Burn Standard Company Limited, Salem is an age-old as well as ISO 9002 company and has been in operation since 1976. The unit at Salem of the Burn Standard Company Limited is the only unit which has been making profit since its inception. In the meanwhile, BIFR has pronounced an order to privatise/wind up of the entire Burn Standard Company Limited including the profit-marking unit at Salem. If this unit is wound up or privatised, the manufacturers in the private sector will dictate their terms for supply of refractory bricks to steel industries. There are 2,500 workers dependent on the unit at Salem. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to delink or de-merge the Salem unit of Burn Standard Company Limited and make it as a stand-alone unit or make it a subsidiary of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited and take up the matter with BIFR accordingly.

(xi) Need for all round development of Ratua Block-I in Malda District, Bengal

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, Ratua Block-I is one of the most backward and flood prone zones of North Malda within the District of Malda in my Lok Sabha constituency. This particular Block is having an island type zone known as Mahanandtola and Bilaimari which is threatened by speedy river Fulohar flowing from Bihar affecting Ramayanpur to Janjali Tola. More than rupees one crore allotment from the Centre has been made for electrification of this area known as Mahanandtola and Bilaimari within Ratua Block, but nothing has been done so far. In this Block, there is no proper health and road infrastructure and drainage system particularly in Kahala G.P. and Debipur G.P. to clear the logged water during heavy monsoon and flood. Mahananda Division should get special support from the Water Resource Ministry immediately.

I urge upon the Planning Ministry to address the issues without fail.

[English]

14.15 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 2002

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the next item is consideration and passing of Finance Bill, 2002. Shri Adhir Chowdhary

is to continue his speech. He will speak only for six minutes.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : I am to pick up the thread which was left by me in the last Friday's sitting.

What I am re-emphasising is the need for re-invigorating the agriculture sector by infusing massive capital along with modern technology, specially biotechnology without affecting adversely the genetic and bio-diversity of our country since India has long been bestowed upon with the panoply of natural endowments. We know that we are in demand recession which could be recuperated by revamping the agriculture sector. At present the consumption is sliding from 5.3 per cent to 2.2 per cent. The Government is seeking for imposing myriad tax measures to get rid of the economic morass. However, Government is playing reticent on recovering the NPA which now stands to the tune of more than Rs. 90,000 crore.

As far as goods and services are concerned, the Government has sought to impose more taxes on domestic economy along with goods and services unmindful of that this kind of measure will only push up the cost of goods and services which will ultimately aggravate sufferings of the common people of our country.

May I ask the hon. Finance Minister whether he has formulated any strategy to restrain those tax evaders of our country? What measure he has taken up to recover the NPA? It is now hopping over Rs. 90,00 crore inclusive of interest.

I would like to refer to a few observations from the C and AG's Report. It has been stated that out of 314.06 lakh assessments for disposal, 125.48 lakh assessments, that is, 40 per cent, remained pending at the end of the year. Total assessees as on 31st March, 2001 were 232.13 lakh which included 230.02 lakh income tax and corporate tax assessees. Out of 40.84 lakh PAN applications for allotment, 17.84 lakh applications were pending at the end of this year. Sir, Rs. 56,431.25 crore on account of income tax and corporate tax remained uncollected as on 31st March, 2001. Therefore, the situation is such that we are virtually in the economic morass and the economic morass has already engulfed the entire country where our expenditure is going by leaps and bounds. In this year's Budget, more than 16.1 per cent expenditure of G.D.P. has been recorded in R.E.

Furthermore, the borrowing of this Government is also increasing alarmingly. Now it stands around Rs. 89,000

crore to Rs. 90,000 crore. That is why, we are really concerned over this economic situation in India. Economic miasma has engulfed the entire country.

May I ask the hon. Finance Minister one more question ?

I would like to know how much economic loss of the country has incurred due to the communal conflagration in Gujarat. We are all concerned over this issue because without political peace economic prosperity cannot take place. Therefore peace must prevail in Gujarat because Gujarat is a prosperous State in India.

Before I perorate my speech, what is white I must tell it white. Under the stewardship of the hon. Minister of Finance, we have already had a good balance of payments position. Furthermore, as far as the services sector is concerned, we have notched up 1.2 per cent of the world trade share. However, the list of negatives galore. Therefore, I would tell the hon. Minister of Finance that the art of economics is the art of thinking. A profligate boy cannot bring about economic well being for the family.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, this is a very important discussion. The presentation of the Finance Bill, 2002 has left many questions unsolved. The Budget cannot be treated only as an instrument of accounting exercise. These Budgets are also most important instruments to usher in new initiatives for the overall development of the nation.

Taking into consideration the various proposals, we are opposing many things. At the end of the day, we feel, we are miserably failing in our efforts in achieving the targets. For example, let us take the National Electricity Policy. We have thought of achieving in the Ninth Plan 40,000 MW but we ended up with roughly 18,000 MW. We wanted to achieve 'electricity to everybody' in this country by 2012. For that, we need roughly one lakh megawatts. Is it possible to achieve one lakh megawatts by 2012 when we are unable to add on an annual basis even 4,000 to 5000 megawatts ? How can we achieve that ? Most of the time, we are unable to safeguard the interests of the poorer sections in this country. People do not believe us as Members of Parliament. When we go to them, they remind us of the assurances that we have given them. When it comes to the reality, we are miserably failing. You would be surprised to note that the per capita consumption of power in India is only 345 units while in developed countries like Sweden it is 17,000 units per head.

In the USA, it is 11,000 units per head. At this rate, can we reach even half way nearer to them in our developmental activity ? If we say we can, we may be convincing the outsiders but will only be deceiving ourselves ?

We also equate our farmers with those in other countries because we always say that WTO is there and because of the WTO, we have to agree to some global activity. We say so because we have to remove the quantitative restrictions and we have to import seeds from other countries. But in our country, what is the percentage of population that is depending on agriculture and what is the population that is depending on agriculture in other countries ? We are trying to fall in line with them. Roughly about 70 per cent of the population of this poor country is depending on agriculture for their livelihood, whereas it is only seven per cent in developed countries. So, how can this 70 per cent complete with seven per cent ? Is it possible ? When it is not possible, we have to protect our seventy per cent population for their livelihood. What is the action we have taken for this miserable class of farmers ? So, this is a very odd situation. Also, when we give loans to them through NABARD and other banks, the Government has fixed a target of 18 per cent of the net surplus credit, but on an average, it is only 15 per cent of the net surplus credit for 70 per cent of the population. When the farmers are contributing roughly 38 to 39 per cent to the GDP, are they not entitled to that percentage in the net surplus credits ? When they are contributing to the GDP equally, we should allow them equally in that proportion. So, please think over it. Otherwise our country will remain like this for ever because we are not trying to pull them out of their poverty. They are only slogging in the villages. Why today so many farmers are committing suicide is because they are unable to repay their loans. We always say we are giving subsidies to the farmers, but the subsidies are being eaten away by the middlemen – the fertiliser manufacturer. The FCI marketing man, the millers and so many people in between.

14.29 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

We are giving funds to the fertiliser manufacturers, but do we have any control on them to see how they are misusing those funds ? Thousands and thousands of crores of rupees we are giving to them. Instead of doing that, if you give that money to the farmers by way of interest-free loans, by way of crop insurance, at least of some extent they will get an opportunity of lessening the burden of their

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

debt. They are in a very precarious condition. Give them interest-free loans or loans at nominal interest by using that money.

For a very long time, there has been a promise that a Special Crop Insurance Corporation will be set up to look after the crop insurance.

That also has not come to reality. Is it not affecting a majority of the population? When we do something where a majority of the population is hit, it is our bounden duty and the duty of the Government to look after the interests of the majority of the population in the area where they are suffering. This crop insurance is one such thing. We are unable to solve their problem.

The farmer has no right to select his seeds. The farmer has no right to get loans for productivity at a nominal or lower or a concessional rate of interest. The farmers have to go to the middlemen and still they have to survive. This country cannot be equated with countries where there is development, where only less than 10 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture. In our country 70 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture. So, asking this 70 per cent to compete with that 10 per cent is something which is not practicable. There was a press report recently. I will give you a copy of this press clipping. The three-men Commission headed by Justice P.A. Chowdhary in Andhra Pradesh said :

"The FCI's failure in marketing is one of the major reasons for the debacle of the farmers' produce not being lifted and also millers have robbed the farmers to the tune of Rs. 1,000 crore."

This is because of lack of effective marketing. There are some suggestions which have been brought in this Budget. It is a good and a welcome sign. New marketing zones are being created for marketing the agricultural produce. Instead of five Zones extra, in addition to the existing five, create more. Where is the question of restriction when so much of population is surviving on these? In several States of India large quantities of products are grown like in Lucknow and Kanpur of Uttar Pradesh mangoes are there; in Tripura pineapple is there; Andhra Pradesh is known for mango pulp and vegetables, Maharashtra is known for mangoes, and Madhya Pradesh is known for potato, onion and garlic.

This is the scene of the farmer today. Our country is mainly dependent on the farm-produce. When we are not able to give the farmers a marketing support, the system

will be in chaos and it will be in total confusion. Even this morning also several hon. Members have expressed the point that rice is not being lifted from Thanjavur, Patna and everywhere. It is not only in one State but in every State it is like that. The whole marketing is in a mess. Unless we clear the mess it will be difficult.

What are we arguing about? Farmers are 'only begging; going and asking the FCI to purchase. The present machinery of the FCI is not enough for Marketing support. All the important and vital markets of the country have to be connected. A network connection is required and wherever there is a shortage, there should be a movement and we cannot say that this is a State subject and the States only will look after it. After all, all States put together become India. India is States and States are India. So, there must be some marketing support. If you support the vital markets and interconnect them there will be easy access. You create the base. You keep the restrictions as and when required and not on a routine basis. This is a matter of concern to all of us.

There is another thing. The poverty in the villages is increasing. There are some good poverty alleviation programmes like free rice or at minimal price, rice is being given under the 'food for work' programme. It is well-known in Andhra Pradesh. The Human Development Commission have published a report recently stating that because of this 'food for work' programme in Andhra Pradesh, it has been working excellently in regard to poverty alleviation.

The total country's poverty is estimated to be around 26.5 per cent whereas this has been brought down to 16 per cent in Andhra Pradesh because of these programmes, in the recent past. So, these are the things. When there is excess rice, instead of throwing it into the sea at a later stage, give it to the poor people and they can eat it. Also, we cannot store rice for more than two years. If it is stored for more than two years, it is not fit for human consumption. But how many tonnes of rice are lying in godowns for more than two years? Nobody can tell that truth to us. Even that figure is also not available. This Food-for-Work Programme is one of the things we can do to help the farmers, and unless we take very serious steps for effective marketing of their products, we cannot help them. We should also encourage small-scale industries. Give them some more incentives. There are many small-scale industries, which have already been closed down and most of them have either become sick or non-operational due to non-availability of bank loans. If bank loans are available to them, they are available at a very higher rate of interest than they are available to large industries. Ironically, large-

scale industry gets finance from a bank at a lower rate of interest than the farmer or the small-scale industry gets. What are the effective steps that have been taken by the hon. Finance Minister?

The food processing industry could be entrusted to small-scale industries. You can encourage processed food by making uniform laws of VAT so that this processed food is available everywhere competitively. It will be having a soothing effect to the farmers pushing the demand again so that the consumptions are improved ultimately, helping the farmers because we are already producing. On the one side, there is no nutritious food available to the school-going children and on the other hand, it is a very peculiar situation which is only in our country, that there are surplus food grains. The third thing is that there is no marketing. How to solve this problem? There must be a mechanism. That is why, I am telling that the Budget is not a presentation of accounts only; it is a presentation of the total developmental activity that has to be taken into consideration.

About employment, I would say that unemployment is increasing by leaps and bounds in the villages. Ultimately, 70 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture. We have to bring it down the dependency on an accelerated mechanism over a period of five to ten years. The hon. Finance Minister can also spell out in his reply that over a period of time, how much optimal percentage of population does the Government want to be dependent on agriculture because are equating everything globally. When we are equating everything globally, we should also equate the percentage of dependence on Agriculture. About power, it is 345 units of per capita consumption at present. When are the States going to increase it to 1,000 units? Many States claim today that they are power surplus, but they do not supply it to houses, they do not supply it to villages. Half of the population is not covered with electricity while the States declare that they are power surplus States. In the case of foodgrains also, States are surplus, but there are still starvation deaths. When they are surplus in foodgrains, why are starvation deaths taking place? There is a missing link in all these things. It is the duty of the Union Government to connect both the ends so that there will be a policy by which the people of this country, the poorer sections of this country will also have an honourable life to live. Only then, we can eradicate poverty.

We talk every year about employment. By the time elections come, every party – of course, there is no

discrimination between parties on this side or parties on that side – goes on giving all promises of the sort that they would create one crore, two crore or three crore jobs every year.

It is also necessary to introduce another chapter in the Budget that has a White Paper as an annual feature. It should give the details of the number of youth who have been given jobs every year. Ultimately, it is our bounden duty to see that unemployment is eradicated and not created. The human resources have to be put to productive use. We just cannot leave them by merely saying you yourself go and search for a job. How many jobs are we creating on an annual basis? Please look into that aspect. In other countries, one of the provisions is that they bring out a White Paper giving the details of the number of job opportunities that have been created. We can also think of doing that.

I compliment the hon. Finance Minister, so far as the foreign reserves are concerned, which have sky-rocketed to US \$ 55 billion. It is a good thing because it shows the trust of the people in our country's ability, and they thought that this money would be used productively. Why is the value of the rupee declining when you have so much of reserves? Please tell us when it crosses the 50 mark so that we will do some trading. Are we in a comfortable position with such reserves.

You always claim that you have brought down the inflation figure to around one point something. That is also dangerous because if you bring it further down, there will not be any consumption; inflation is also linked with consumption. Unless you consume, you cannot produce; if you cannot produce, nothing is saleable; nothing is productive. Therefore, 'no inflation' means 'no money'.

You are a seasoned Finance Minister and have the credit of presenting more number of Budgets than anyone else. Maybe, you are the number one, I do not know. Shri Kanungo has corrected me saying that you are number two, and I want you to be number one. I want you to correct the situation. You should take steps to correct the situation, otherwise people will not keep you in the same position. In spite of the support from everybody else and me, people will not allow you to sit there, if you do not correct the situation.

When we have US \$ 55 billion as reserves, why is the value of the rupee going down? The nation requires an answer from you and you should be able to tell us about that. It is happening because of the slow down in economic

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

activity. We are unable to use the money that is coming in. It is not being used to create infrastructure, and it is lying in the 'depository'. People have confidence in you that you will use this money, but are you putting that money into productive use? You are not able to protect the value of the rupee; you are not able to improve productivity, and you are not able to improve consumption. The economic activity has slowed down and our growth rate has stagnated at 5.6 per cent. You say that unless we reach eight per cent growth rate, there is no solution. However, a recent survey shows that we are slogging around 5.6 per cent to six per cent. This is an area where a stimulus has to be given to the economy. To give a stimulus to the economy, what measures are you taking? We are unable to contain the fiscal deficit. If there is no economic activity, at least, we can say that fiscal deficit has contributed to the slow down in economic activity. On the one side, there is a slow down of economic activity.

On the other hand, why is the fiscal deficit going up every year? It is because unproductive expenditure in Government is going up day by day. The Government is unable to control this unproductive expenditure. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this aspect and control the fiscal deficit and peg it at 4.6 per cent as has been promised in this year's Budget. There has been increase in the fiscal deficit every year. Why should it cross the limit that is set by the Government? What is the mechanism that the Government has put in place to control this? This aspect needs to be looked into.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : This is due to pressures from within.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : I do not know that. But this is an area that should be looked into.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Sir, I am the only Member speaking from my party and so I should be allowed to little more time. But if you want me to conclude, then I would take my seat.

Sir, the poor man and the working class are not happy with this Budget because of two reasons. First is that, the Government, in this Budget, does not propose any measure for providing job security and second, the Government also does not propose any measure for providing food security for these segments of the society. The Government

should allow the poor man to at least cook his food. The Government should make arrangements for providing kerosene through the Public Distribution System at a very competitive rate. Kerosene is not being used by people in the urban areas. It is being used by people living in the villages. The poor farmers in the villages do not have electricity and so the only way they could cook their food is through kerosene. Kerosene is used by the people in the villages to cook their food. Even though it would be difficult yet if the Government is unable to balance its Budget, then the people would be angry. It is not only a question of anger of the people but reforms should also have to have a human face. We want reforms with a human face and not just for the sake of it. I would also like to request the hon. Finance Minister to allocate some funds for development of human values in our higher education. This is being done in some of the countries. So, if the hon. Finance Minister could allocate funds for this purpose, then the intention of the Government in this regard could be well understood.

Sir, the middle class or the Working Class, as it is known, uses LPG cylinders and they compare the hike in the price of LPG cylinders with a hike in their salaries. So, if you do not reduce the rate of LPG cylinders, then you have to make a hike in their salaries. It is better to reduce the price of LPG cylinders than make an increase in the salaries of people. The effect of this would be that people would be enjoying this decrease in the prices of LPG cylinders.

Sir, I would not like to argue for increasing in the rates of interest on deposits, but at the same time we should remember that the only security that the retired people have is the money that they deposit in the banks. We are giving a lower rate of interest for making our rates globally competitive. But, are we having the same bank rate between deposit and borrowing? We are allowing a deposit and borrowing rate difference between four to six per cent in the banks, whereas in other financial institutions if one is giving a maximum rate of six to eight per cent as interest, then they also are collecting six per cent as banker's margin and in all is charging a 14 per cent interest. In other countries a difference of four per cent between the deposit rate of interest and the borrowing rate is allowed. In some cases we even allow ten per cent. This aspect also needs to be looked into. To make the economy competitive, one needs to bring down the interest rates. But given the present situation, there should be an upper limit to this. I request the Finance Minister to look into it. There is no

job security. There is no security of work or job. A vast majority of the youth in the country are jobless.

The additional benefits that can accrue to the farmers' through the use of hydel power have to be examined. The total capacity in the hydel power sector in the country is very high. It is roughly 1,45,000 MW. However, about 42,000 MW is being used now. If the river waters are used to produce power, the saving that is made would be very useful to a poor country like ours. Government of India should discuss this issue with the States. If river waters are put to a better use, we can generate power on one side and give power to the poor farmer at a very competitive price. This would lead to a reduction of his cost of production and also save him from the vagaries of nature.

There are many good points in the Budget. The country's security is looked after. Maybe we are in a debt trap, but we have lots of reserves. These reserves should be put to proper use so that the majority of the population is given health care and education. I request the hon. Finance Minister not to mistake me. It is our duty to bring these facts to his notice. The small-scale industry cannot survive unless facilities for food processing are made available and markets are developed. Granite units have been given some concessions recently. Artificial fibre too has been given some concessions.

There are certain problems being faced by the units involved in non-conventional energy sector. At the time of import of equipment, they say the machinery is different from the plant. When you talk about the plant, it includes the whole machinery. But they say that the accessories are not included, only the main machinery is included. At the end of it, to keep the manufacturing activity going it is the total machinery which is required. This also has to be taken into consideration.

With these words, I support the Finance Bill presented by Shri Yashwant Shina. I would request him to kindly look into the areas that I have pointed out.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing the Bill giving effect to financial proposals of the Union Government for the year 2002-2003.

As far as the budget is concerned, it should be practical. Majority of the people in India live in villages and town, they are related to agriculture. If the budget of country like India will not be based on agriculture, it is impossible

to achieve far-reaching results. It is another thing that Shri Jashwant Sinha has made some effort to spend more money on agriculture sector, but I think it is negligible. This is not a meaningful effort. The budget of our country is to the tune of Rs. 4.10.309 crores. 65.70 percent people depend on agriculture. Agriculture is the backbone of our economy. The extent to which the work should have been done to strengthen the farming sector through this budget has not been done. In addition, the most important thing is that farmers have not been able to get the benefits of research being done in agricultural sector. These researches are limited only to laboratories. Neither the agricultural scientists visit villages nor the Government has any provision to make available the benefits of these researches to the farmers. If practical benefit has to be taken to these researches, their benefits should reach to the farmers otherwise there researches are meaningless. The provision, which should have been made in the budget for protection and promotion of research, have not been made.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, same situation exists with water management. 62 percent agricultural land is still unirrigated and only 38 percent is under irrigation. Neither any serious effort had been made in our country in this direction nor steps have been taken through this budget for this purpose. Many irrigation projects have been lying since long. Even after the passage of so much time, these projects have not been completed.

After agriculture, the second most important sector of our country is small scale industry which provides employment to move people. In this year's budget, a provision to Rs. 433 crore has been made for small scale industries which is not enough. Similarly, Rs. 580 crore have been allotted to village and cottage industries and 392 crore will be allocated to Khadi and village industry. In this budget, small and cottage industries have been neglected. Through you, I would like to say to hon'ble Finance Minister that if small scale and cottage industry is not strengthened and attention is not paid to this sector the employment situation will become critical.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a submission that non plan expenditure is increasing in our country. There is need to check it. When Non-Government expenditure increases. We have to take loans and we have to pay interest on these loans. Then you mention it in the budget that we have to pay huge interest. I would like to say that tax system is faulty. The black money in our country is much more than the total money in circulation and this black money is totally useless. This money is not

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

being utilised. If this back money is utilised, Indian Economy could be brought to its track to a large extent.

Shri Pramod Mahajan was making a mention and it is often mentioned that there is a revolution in the name of Information Technology in the country. The Government has decided and the constitution amendment Bill was passed for the education of children between the age group of 6 to 14 years for which target will be achieved by the year 2007.

15.00 hrs.

The Government has made a provision of Rs. 4900 crore to achieve the target but the estimated expenditure of a year is at least rupees ten thousand crores. I would like to submit one more thing that the benefit of Information Technology would be given to those children who have passed class twelve. Twenty percent of the children do not go to school. 87 percent of the children drop out before reaching twelfth standard. Only six percent are able to go to college. Only a few can reap the benefit of Information Technology but common man cannot get any benefit of it. In the country there was a turnover of Rupees forty one million in this sector and only 5 lakh 22 thousand people got employment. It is not viable in a country like India. The Prime Minister has admitted while releasing the report on national Human Development published by Planning Commission that although standard of living has improved but regional imbalance have increased much whereas Kerala is one the top amongst such States but States like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are more backward.

Sir, I had submitted during the previous budget and I would like to say it again that this budget has not solved the problem of employment. In the previous Presidential Address, it had been mentioned that one crore people would be given employment. In 1998, from the rampart of Lal quila, the Prime Minister had said that in the coming ten years ten crore people would be given employment. I would like to say that the Government has failed in providing employment to people. Not only employment opportunities have decreased in the country, but some people have lost their jobs also. I would like to say emphatically that if the Government does not solve this serious problem like unemployment then nobody can check the growing tension in this country. Therefore, it is essential to solve the unemployment problem on war footing.

Hon'ble Minister had mentioned America in this Budget many times. American President called a meeting of the

Senate to improve the economy of the country and said before the Senate if the economy of America has to be improved, there are only two words more jobs. Is there unemployment problem in America also. I would like to say to Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Yashwant Sinha not to ignore the question of unemployment. You accept your responsibility. If the energy of the educated and uneducated unemployed people is not channelised properly they can go astray. So the need of the hour is that Government should consider the issue of unemployment in order to deal with the problem of unemployment.

Sir, how much amount we have allocated for development and welfare of weaker sections, it is a different issue but the more important question is that Union Government never ensure proper utilization of money being sent to State Government. A few days back the Parliamentary Standing Committee has presented a report on loans and employment. In the conclusion they said that during ninth five year plan period Rupees 6071 crore 93 lakh had been allocated to Ministry of Social Empowerment of which the Ministry spent Rupees 5080 crore 73 lakh and the remaining amount of Rs. 991 crore and 20 lakh meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes remain unutilized.

This is not important to make good plans and talk about development and allocate funds to the poor. The important thing is this whether those funds reach to those categories for which they are allocated. Whether those categories have been benefited or not.

What is the use of the allocated funds by the Central Government if that do not reach to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the tribals, the poor and the backward class. This fund has no meaning at all. This is absurd. That is why the need of the hour is this that the funds allocated by the Ministry of social Justice and Empowerment should be used.

Sir, there is a S.E.P. plan under which a special plan had been made for the development of Scheduled Castes and tribes. You will be surprised to know that only eight States out of 27 States had benefitted by that plan and the most tragic thing is this that eight State Governments which took funds, had not sent their utilisation certificates till date.

Sir, whether the funds which are allocated by the Central Government to States are been properly spent or not and the funds which are allocated for the development of those categories have been reached to them or not and

they have been benefitted or not, as long as any skilled machinery will not be set up to check this thing and will not be controlled, by that time State Governments will continue to misuse those funds allocated by the Central Government.

Now, the need of the hour is this that the Central Government should issue instructions to the State Governments that the funds allocated for these categories should be used by them, that should be spent for their development and the State Governments submit their utilisation certificate. As long as it will not be done, definitely we can only talk about these categories but we cannot do their welfare. That is why, I expect from the Central Government that it should develop such system.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) Hon. Chairman, some relaxations were given on Friday with regard to Finance Bill which was proposed by Finance Minister. Hon. Finance Minister has tried to give final shape to budget proposal.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, different parties have given different reactions in this regard but I could not understand their reactions. Some people said that Finance Minister brings budget proposal and withdraw fully. Some people have praised this. I saw that some leaders of opposition had given interview on T.V. that

[English]

What is meant by roll-back or call-back ?

[Translation]

Then I tried to understand that

[English]

What is the process of Budget ? When a Finance Minister introduces a Budget, it is nothing but budgetary proposal.

[Translation]

Finance Minister presents the proposal in front of us and people and after that Finance Bill has been passed in both Houses next month about one and a half month's time has been given to M.P., different social and financial institutions and for general public that the express their reactions on that Finance Bill and those finance proposals after listening the reactions are given final shape by the Finance Minister. People expressed their view in between one and a half or two month's time and after listening their

views, if Finance Minister makes some improvement in finance proposals then it is all right, otherwise it is said that the Finance Minister does not need our views that he did not listen to us after so much discussion and reaction given by us. If the Finance Minister is sensitive and honour to the sentiments of people then the proposals placed by him, if some mistakes are pointed out in that or some positive suggestions have come and ask for the opinion of the House by giving final shape after including in our finance proposal or gets the support of the House, he does good by moving like this.

[English]

What would we call him ? We call him, 'the Roll Back Finance Minister'. I would like to know from the Opposition Benches what do they want.

[Translation]

If he had introduced some proposal for the middle class people then it is said that it will affect the middle class people and when Finance Minister tried to give final shape to different proposals by respecting their feelings, then they start saying that he is Roll Back Finance Minister. I feel that this is the situation like grapes are sour. When Finance Minister had announced these proposals, I would like to quote one news item-Middle class Bonanza" from "Times of India". He has written that Finance Minister has said that 10% tax rebate is now 15% under section 88 will be given. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has said that grapes are sour. Please you try to make them sweet because I do not eat sour grapes. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : If you want to eat sweet grapes then we are ready. . . .(Interruptions)

Finance Minister had announced 10% tax rebate under Section 88 to the sentiments of people is now 15%. Today, more than five crores small investors are in the country, middle class salary people are the honest tax payers. I would like to congratulate and express my obligations and to pay respect to the Honourable Finance Minister because he has valued public-opinion.

[English]

The Opposition tried to create a rift between the MPs and the Minister, between the political parties and the Minister and between the NDA and the Minister.

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[Translation]

The party, the members of Parliament and N.D.A. have different opinions but we do our work Out duty, Members of Parliament duty and Party representatives and workers's duty to convey the feelings of public to cabinet to Ministers and to the Government. We discharge our duties. Our Minister valued the public opinion, respect the feeling of public. Both discharge their duties. Honourable Finance Minister had announced, this is his good step.

[English]

On the one side, we are asking that there should be a saving-based tax incentive system.

[Translation]

He said that I am not in favour of your doss with regard to section 88. If you had got tax rebate of Rs. 16 thousand last year, even now I will give it. Now you will get only one thousand less.

[English]

You will be able to get a tax rebate of Rs. 15,000. Simultaneously, he has also taken care of investors, small investors, and middle class people.

[Translation]

Do one thing. Earlier you had saved 80 thousand rupees now you have to save Rs. one lakh I return the tax which I have tried to take from you.

[English]

Is it not a prudent initiative ?

[Translation]

On the one hand, you are getting tax rebate and on the other hand, they are encouraging you for more investment for your future, for the future of your children, for your family and for society and for the development and for the upliftment of your country. One more thing is being said in Section 88. Earlier one person can invest in Investment Bonds up to Rs. 20 thousand to save Income Tax but now he can invest Rs. 30 thousand in these Bonds – who will be benefited by this ?

[Translation]

On the one hand we discuss during the Question Hour in the Parliament that roads connecting four Metros of the country should be built as early as possible. On the other

hand, why only four Metros, but other towns should also be connected to each other. To connect other cities Hon. Minister for Finance told the people to invest in Rs. 10,000 additional Infrastructure Bond. Its first phase is going to be ended by 2004, I will complete it by 2003, and second phase which is going to be ended by 2007. We will complete it by 2006.

[English]

This is the initiative.

[Translation]

He took one more fine step. When by 1997 dividend tax was there, that dividend which was taxable under the hand of tax payer, at that time 80-L, i.e. if you invest in any company, you would get tax deduction of Rs. 9000/- What a fine heading given by the newspaper.

[English]

The Business Standard, Mumbai : "Small Investors to gain Rs. 65 crore more".

[Translation]

He exclaimed at the fine heading. One the one hand, there has been comments that why did you make dividend tax which was 10 percent.

[English]

Why are you going to tax the beneficiaries ?

[Translation]

I want to read out the data of those. The Business Standard wrote a fine article.

[English]

What is the number of small investors ?

[Translation]

That means a total of 1,58,00 equity holders and total share of capital only 11.94 percent.

[English]

They have given the example of two companies. Tata Power is a case in point which has about 1.58 lakh small investors who hold less than 500 equity shares. According to the information in the Annual Report, these small investors hold just about 11.94 percent of the total share capital.

[Translation]

They have written further –

[English]

There is another case of Tata Tea. Eighty-four thousand small investors in Tata Tea hold only 14.2 percent shares.

[Translation]

You tell me on the one hand, it is presumed that you will deduct 10% TDS and on the other hand small investors.

[English]

Which amounts to 90 per cent of the equity holders.

[Translation]

Their total net is 10-11-14 percent. You deduct it in their TDS. He has written further that how much small investor comes in dividend of these companies. It comes Rs. 746 for Tata Power at Rs. 852 in Tata Tea.

Finance Minister has freed TDS upto Rs. 1000/- that means he has freed small investors in one go. The TATA, Birla, Ambani are promoters.

[English]

In Reliance, Ambani Family is having more than 40 per cent equity holding. I am not criticising them.

[Translation]

If on that 41%, 30% dividend tax is taken, then whether the Finance Minister has done a good thing or bad thing. This requires courage, and he has shown it likewise, he did it in Tata and Godrej.

[English]

You go to any company in which promoters hold not more than 25 per cent. In some cases it goes to 50 per cent.

[Translation]

Those who were deducting 10% tax, today, they will have to deduct 30%, that 30% will be additional which will be spent on building roads, on hospital and on education. I would like to say more thing to Finance Minister that you have done a good thing that for 80-L given the benefit of Rs. 9000/- likewise good work was done for retired employees. The safety net for their savings investment was done that they invest in RBI bond and leave the worry. While applauding Finance Minister, I would like to give one or two suggestion. I would like to say that you took a good steps that those religious charitable trust, educational trust, institutions

[English]

we all are knowing

[Translation]

that middle class, tax payers, child from urban areas go hospital for treatment. We go into private public charitable trust. Our children study in private schools. I would urge the Finance Minister that you have attempted that those private charitable trust are misusing this section, hence they must be streamlined, I would like to urge the such trusts who build trust only to avoid tax, and transfer the income from first to second to third trust.

[English]

You tax them; we will support you. But simultaneously in urban areas more than 50 percent of educational and health services which are being run by the charitable trusts.

[Translation]

Please try to understand their problem. We all go to him for our sake.

[English]

How will the Trust be able to run if it does not have the corpus ?

[Translation]

When any person or institution builds a hospital, he thinks that it should exist 25-50 years after his death. Therefore, he keeps a part of the profit separate. You did 15% out of 25%, this is alright. You must have done this out of your experience. But we should keep our mind open. You listen to the people for four months, you keep an eye over their experiences. Many charitable trusts had the income above Rs. 1 crore. You have made mandatory for them to give memo in newspapers, this is right. But these charitable trust which were existing before, please withdraw them and do not make it a point of prestige. You are a sensitive person, therefore, I request you to listen the problem of charitable trust, and then take a decision. We welcome the decision taken right now. You have disallowed the total accumulation, restored against 15%, we also welcome that.

But alongwith it, I want to urge you, you please think over it. I would like to make a request to finance Minister regarding TDS. You have given benefit to retiring people, which is a right step. I have a request with you in this regard. I have many cases before me. One is Mr. Om Vrindavan.

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

He has retired from Government service. He wrote a letter to me. I have got many such letters but as an example, I want to quote this one. That person wrote me a letter that after retirement he invested all his provident fund, gratuity and other savings.

[English]

What is my total income now? My total income now is just interest and dividend and nothing else.

[Translation]

Now, I take care of my Grand sons and Grand daughters. I do religious and social service. You put TDS on me.

[English]

You have made it compulsory for me to file a return.

[Translation]

Earlier on, it was such that there was now tax till Rs. 50,000 Only a form was to be filled up. We used to fill that form and there was on TDS. He told in his case that his income would be more than Rs. 50,000, he does not know, but if he is going to get benefit of more than 1000/- anywhere his TDS would be deducted. You think over it and atleast start with the Retired people. Those who are above 58 years and those who have no business, they should submit a form that they have no taxable income and therefore they should be exempted from TDs. You should pay attention to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to give one more suggestion to Finance Minister. You talked about service tax. This is a good subject. I would like to read out certain figures. Where from we will bring revenue, if we have to increase planned expenditure, we will have to generate tax and collect revenue. I would like to welcome the Finance Minister. When in 1997-98, the Government of NDA come, and he became the Finance Minister.

[English]

The total number of assesseees as on 31st March, 1998 was 1.43 crores. We have been reading that figure from 1947 to 1997-98.

[Translation]

In 50 years, we produced 1,43,00,000/- but by 31st March, this year we made it 2 crore, 86 lakhs. This is double the figure. No injustice was done with anyone. Those who

did not file tax. They have tried to increase the tax net by way of PAN and a scheme called one by six. They have made a good effort about service tax. Efforts should also be made to bring more and more professions under this provision. I was reading a CAG report. It says –

[English]

83 percent of private nursing homes and private run hospitals are not covered under Income-Tax provisions and income-tax collection.

[Translation]

I would like that efforts should be made to collect income tax from these hospitals. Service-tax ratio should be increased. I would also like to submit that you had levied service tax in life insurance sector.

[English]

You understood the problem.

[Translation]

In savings, the investment part has been excluded.

[English]

When I was listening to the speech of the Finance Minister, I was a little bit confused.

[Translation]

He said that income tax would be payable on service part in Insurance. Tax would be levied on that only and not on other things. I would like to submit.

[English]

When you are initiating and when you are doing good.

[Translation]

Recently you have privatised life insurance sector.

[English]

Can we wait for couple of years?

[Translation]

How much have you collected in that.

[English]

It may be two or five per cent of the premium.

[Translation]

You would collect about Rs. 8 to 12 crore in it. I would like to quote a export.

[English]

"Expert group headed by Dr. M. Govinda Rao recommended that service sector should be comprehensively covered under the tax net. However, services relating to public utilities, sovereign functions of the State, essential health, education service could be exempted from the tax. If further recommended that services such as computer and related services, R and D services, postal services, life insurance related services may be exempted for a limited period.

[Translation]

I would like to make a appeal that there is much scope in the life insurance sector. You must see the effect for a time period by exempting the whole sector and not collecting merely Rs. 8-10 crores.

I would like to tell you about private hospitals.

[English]

The C and AG reviewed that out of 21,103 private hospitals and nursing homes in the country, as many as 13,863 are not subject to income-assessment.

[Translation]

I would like to draw your attention to one more thing. There was a discussion about LIC I am unable to understand one thing. In the Finance Bill also provision has been made in this regard.

[English]

I would like to draw your attention to clause 126.

[Translation]

Excise Authority had been given the power of defining the manufacturing process.

[English]

The Central Excise Act is to be amended.

[Translation]

I appeal you not to do it instead a bill can be introduced in the House in this regard.

[English]

You declare it as a manufacturing process and levy tax on that. But you do not give this power in the hands of the administration.

[Translation]

We know the a condition of the revenue administration when it has to levy tax on manufacturing process, then the definition has to be changed.

[English]

They would have done it in the Finance Bill. They do not want to do it. They just want to misuse or abuse it.

[Translation]

The session of the Parliament is summoned thrice in a year. A Bill can be introduced in this regard.

[English]

The Cabinet can discuss it. The Cabinet can bring on Ordinance also. You can tax it. But do not withdraw that authority from Parliament and hand it over to the administration.

[Translation]

Once it is levied, it would be enforced in custom Department and elsewhere I would like to submit that if you want to levy tax on the manufacturing process. You can levy eight to ten or twelve percent. You have made changes this time also.

[English]

The Parliament will support you. But do not give this authority to them.

[Translation]

I tried to read the explanation given in it. No mention was made about that clause in that explanation.

[English]

Then, I refer to the explanation to clause 126 which says"

"Clause 126 seeks to amend section 2 of the Central Excise Act so as to empower the Central Government to specify, by notification in the Official Gazette, any activity in relation to any goods as amounting to manufacture."

What are the difficulties they face? What are the problems they have? Please explain them to us first and then go in for the correction.

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make two three points at the end, which do not touch directly the Finance Bill. Even then I would like to clarify. First of all I would like to express my gratitude that the Hon'ble Finance Minister has encouraged the investors of the monthly income plan of Unit Trust of India. We all know that the first scheme of UTI's monthly income plan-1997 has matured shows loss of 500 crores, even then UTI has taken a decision that it would give funds to investors from development reserve fund, that the investors would get their full amount back. So I express thanks.

[English]

But they can ask the officials and the authorities as to how it has happened. I think, Parliament will have to discuss the role of the financial executives some time. We have to discuss the duties of the bureaucrats who are becoming the Directors, Managing Directors, CEOs, Chairman of the various financial institutions. We will have to discuss the role of the regulators and the accountability of the regulators.

[Translation]

I would like to quote a small example. The Chairman of SEBI had constituted a take over code committee four years back. For four years it did not take any decision. Violation continued for four years resulting into a loss of Rs. 5000 crores of small investors. The report of the Committee is now at last being published on 29 April. The Chairman of the take over Code Committee.

[English]

He is an ex-Chief Justice. While he was chairing the Takeover Code Committee and also as an individual legal practitioner, he had given many opinions

[Translation]

He has given about fifty suggestions. SEBI has accepted many of them. Shall we think of regulators of not? Further Monthly Income Plan of UTI shows a loss of Rs. 8,284 crore losses.

[English]

It is all Assured Return Scheme. It has been converted.

[Translation]

The All Monthly Income Scheme of 90-91-92 was converted back in 97-98-99. For ten years the losses

kept on accumulating. Now that has to be made up. I would like to ask you who is in the board of trustees of UTI.

[English]

Can we not ask them about this?

[Translation]

There had been a lot of bungling in UTI but no action was taken against any officer.

[English]

No explanation has been called for from not even a single officer.

[Translation]

You know that financial institution has made a fun of the entire system.

[English]

The UTI is a Public Sector Undertaking. The UTI Bank has 60 per cent equity of the UTI, which is promoted by the UTI.

[Translation]

Finance Minister who is the official regulator of the Finance Ministry uses such a language.

[English]

They say that the UTI Bank is a private bank.

[Translation]

If UTI Bank incurs any losses then UTI would make up the losses and if UTI incurs any loss than Parliament and Government of India would make up the losses.

[English]

That is a private bank. Who owns it? Who runs the show?

[Translation]

Officials who have not invested even a single rupees think it their property.

[English]

I can give you the list of 112 companies. It includes the State Bank of India, the LIC, the UTI. The UTI is having 12 subsidiaries.

[Translation]

Who is the Chairman, Managing Director of these, who appointed.

[English]

It is not you. It is not the Government of India. It is not the Finance Ministry. We should have a discussion about that.

[Translation]

I would like to quote second example of OTCI. Third example is of Stock holding Corporation of India. These companies are launching new companies and say that these are private companies. Who is running them? Who is the Chairman, Managing Director of these companies?

[English]

They take the decision. They run this.

[Translation]

Therefore, through you, Sir, I demand like to request the hon'ble Finance Minister that the will have to pay attention to this aspect sooner or later.

In the end, I would conclude with one point. I have raised this matter several times before also. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that the manner in which this issue is to discussed specifically, similarly.

[English]

We should discuss the Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty (DTAT) some time. It might have been introduced in 1982 or 1992 or 1997 or 1998 or 2000. It is not only in Mauritius.

[Translation]

Today if we stop investment via Mauritius, than it would start via Cyprus. If you stop investment via Cyprus some other tax heaven would start.

[English]

We have to think as to whether we want the Indian entrepreneurs to be honest or not.

[Translation]

Are we not compelling these entrepreneurs to become dishonest. They should register their companies for paying tax. Then OCB should be constituted. Then start FIA sub-account and make investment via Mauritius.

[English]

because you would be able to pay tax.

[Translation]

I would like to read the note circulated by the Mauritius Government. It reads :

[English]

Indian withholding tax on dividends was abolished with effect from 1st June, 1997 and replaced by a ten per cent distributed profits tax borne by the Indian dividend payer company. However, as from April, 2002, the dividend payments to non-residents are again subject to 20 per cent withholding tax. The treaty reduces the rate of five per cent in Mauritius

[Translation]

Now the situation would be like this that the Indian entrepreneurs who would invest directly will be pay tax dividend at the rate of thirty percent and if it is made via Mauritius then it would be at the rate of 5%. I would like to request you that liver fair and company a company of a MNC, Hindustan lever invested fifty one per cent. If it prefers to deposit tax in its own country.

[English]

We would be the losers.

[Translation]

I would like to request that in case of Mauritius tax,

[English]

we can talk to Mauritius Government that.

[Translation]

First plug these loopholes, two percent tax, three per cent tax, five per cent tax.

[English]

We want level-playing field.

[Translation]

Therefore, I would like to submit that corporate tax goes on decreasing hence we should carry the corporate tax. We should have a discussion with them. Government have made efforts but

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[English]

Mauritius Government has not responded positively to the efforts of the Finance Minister and the Government of India. We should take it up at the appropriate level and authorities.

[Translation]

We should tell them. It is not going to affect the friendly relations between the two countries. If our country and the investors of our country have to incur losses, we should make improvement in the situation. I once again express my thanks to the hon'ble Finance Minister for nicely reflecting the feelings of the common people in the Budget and I support the Finance Bill.

[English]

*SHRI C. SREENIVASAN (Dindigul) : Hon. Chairman, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the discussion on Finance Bill.

I would like to appreciate the gesture of the Finance Minister to have withdrawn the tax proposals to the tune of about Rs. 2075 crore. But I cannot welcome it wholeheartedly.

It is so because you have not announced restoration of subsidy on fertilizers to benefit farming community. You have not brought down the price of kerosene that affects seriously the rural poor. You have not rolled back the enhanced price of cooking gas, which is now clearer. So I would like to point out that the current year's Budget and Finance Bill are both hitting hard the poor and the middle class sections of the society.

When we come to Finance Bill we have to point out to the sharing of Central taxes distributed among various States which is not judicious. The sharing mechanism is defective. Government of Tamil Nadu gets Rs. 589 crore less every year now. This has resulted in a serious financial crunch. Government of Tamil Nadu is facing a financial crisis due to the indifference at the hands of Union Government's sharing modality pertaining to the sharing of Central taxes. Tenth Finance Commission provided 6.637 percent of share from the Central taxes collected. But the Eleventh Finance Commission brought it down to 5.385 percent. As a result of which Tamil Nadu loss Rs. 2946 crore in 5 years from 2000 to 3005.

Last year the Government of Tamil Nadu impressed upon the Union Government for a fair deal. It was promised to be considered. It was even indicated that Rs. 3367 would be provided to Tamil Nadu. Based on this indication Government of Tamil Nadu went to the extent of chalking out certain expenditure plans. But the devolved amount was reduced by Rs. 512 crore and Tamil Nadu got only Rs. 2855 crore. I am rather pained to point out that Tamil Nadu has been sidelined the discriminated against. I would like to share my disappointment before this august House.

In the Central tax collection Tamil Nadu's contribution and performance was way ahead of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. But still Tamil Nadu's share was much lower than the other States. Madhya Pradesh got Rs. 6476 crore. Andhra Pradesh was provided with Rs. 6432 crore. Gujarat's slice was Rs. 4016 crore and Karnataka's share was Rs. 3784 crore. But Tamil Nadu whose collection and contribution was much more than these four States was handed over just Rs. 3428 crores. I cannot but ask as to why this discrimination against Tamil Nadu.

Ensuring industrial growth and creating conducive atmosphere for increased foreign investments are in the responsibility of States. But the States do not have any right to take steps and carry on efforts in this regard.

Major share of foreign funds received by the Centre is spent on debt repayment. But foreign fund flow to the States would be spent on creating assets and to usher in development. It would be spent by the States in a productive way. Hence the States must have the power to directly obtain foreign direct investments and direct loans from foreign countries. This has been emphasised by our leader and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J. Jayalalitha. She has also impressed upon the Union Government to convene a Chief Minister's Conference to evolve right strategies.

Our Union Finance Minister used to lay stress on widening the tax net and minimising the tax burden on individuals. But the outcome of his Budgets prove to the contrary. Those who are already paying taxes or made to pay more. Those already burdened or burdened again. His tax proposals reflect this trend.

The middle class people in the income bracket of Rs. 1.5 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh had to bear the brunt of our Finance Minister's withdrawal of 20% income tax rebate. In the Budget proposals it was reduced to 10%. Our Finance Minister in his speech at the commencement of

this discussion on Finance Bill announcement that it would be raised to 15%. I urge upon the Centre to roll back and to continue the 20% rebate to income tax payers.

It is said that Central tax collection itself has come down. But I would like to point out that the Centre do not change often the excise tariff but only the customs duty of which a share goes to all the States. But the Centre's customs duty changes especially the scrapping or slashing of it affects only the States.

The Centre must take concrete steps to collect the pending arrears of tax revenue. The tax evaders collectively owe to the Government Rs. 60,000 crore. But instead the Government squeezes those who pay tax regularly.

I would like to highlight the plight of Central Government employees who have work places far removed from their hometowns and home States. The biannual hometown LTC was there to benefit the families of Central Government employees. Once in two years they were able to go to their hometowns. Tourism Ministry too had sent a proposal to restore LTC that would boost tourism in the country. I urge upon the Union Finance Minister to restore LTC, which was withdrawn or shelved last year. At least this year the Finance Minister must come forward to restore LTC to Central Government employees.

The Finance Bill in my opinion is likely a hand held mirror reflecting the attitude of the Government towards the poor and the middle class. The mirror is held up to the Finance Minister during this discussion. Please see for yourself how you look like. Hence I urge upon the Union Finance Minister to mend and make amends suitably.

With this I conclude.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I was thinking to discuss the whole gamut of the Finance Bill, the subsequent amendments, its impact on the public finance and also the economy of the country, but I have been overwhelmed by the alarming situation that has forced me to discuss certain things other than this. I am speaking within the purview of the Rules of Procedure, that is, Rule 219, sub-rule (5), wherein it has been clearly and categorically mentioned that while participating in Finance Bill consideration :

"a member may discuss matter relating to local grievances within the sphere of the responsibility of Government of India or monetary or financial policy of Government"

So, I am discussing this alarming situation within the purview of Rule 219, sub-rule (5) of the Rules of Procedure, read with article 293, clause (3) and (4), article 280, clause (3), sub-clause (d) and article 269, clause (1) (g) of the Constitution of India. The Government of India's responsibility is there. This is regarding the alarming problem of finances of the State of Orissa. The debt problem in Orissa has reached the staggering height of Rs. 28,000 and odd crore. The situation has come to such a pass that so far as interest payment and capital repayment in Orissa are concerned, more than hundred per cent of its own revenue is being used for debt clearances. The situation has come to such a pass that every year, the deficit is more than Rs. 2,000 crore. The fiscal deficit has come to Rs. 8,000 crore.

Some hon. Members might question as to why this thing has been discussed here because this is neither the Legislative Assembly of Orissa nor the President's Rule has been declared in Orissa that the Budget of Orissa State is being discussed here. To justify my position I have quoted the relevant rules of procedure and the provisions of the Constitution of India. The problem is alarming. More than hundred per cent of its own revenue is being used for debt clearances. During April 2001 and 31st March, 2002, the State Government of Orissa, during all the twelve months and 365 days of the year, has taken recourse to either overdraft or ways and means advance. Out of 365 days, not a single day of the year has been left out when Orissa has not taken recourse to overdraft or ways and means advances. I am telling you that this has not happened at any time during the last 50 years in any of the state of the country. This is the only State where this has happened. This has happened due to the negligence and the wrong policy of the Central Government. This is a responsibility of the Central Government. Not only this Government, but the negligence of the successive Governments has also been responsible for such disastrous fiscal problem in Orissa. The responsibility of the Government of India has been depicted clearly in article 293, clauses (3) and (4). The State Government cannot take loan of one rupee even from anywhere without the consent of the Government of India. The Government of India gives consent for taking the loans. After the States take a loan, it is the responsibility of the Government of India to monitor the spending of the high-cost borrowed money. It was never done.

As a result, the things have become worse not only in Orissa but there are other States also. I am telling you that Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are also so much overburdened with debt clearances that as much as 80 per

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

cent of their own revenue is spent on debt clearances. This is the result for which these three States have remained poor.

There are so many Members from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh here, but I fail to understand why they are not raising this issue. They are very articulate in their deliberations, but they never raise this issue, not in the manner in which this should have been done.

Therefore, my concern here is for this reason that you shall see Sir, due to high debt clearance, very little money is left for the development of the State. Orissa is surviving on borrowings only. It is borrowing to pay the debts, it is borrowing to pay the salaries and pensions, which constitute 140 per cent of the State's own revenue. That is the whole difficulty there. Orissa has no money for development, in spite of the fact that it has enormous natural resources in the form of forests, minerals, land, water, marine and riverine etc. These are there in abundance and it is said that Orissa is floating over water, but there is no irrigation for its land.

They do not have money for the development works. Successive Finance Commissions, which have been appointed, I am very sorry to say and I may please be excused to say it here, did not have much time to look into the real problems of the States. They have made some clerical exercises with hypothetical assumptions and have submitted their reports. It is not that there are not many good economists on the Finance Commissions, but they go by the dissent note only. That is the difficulty.

These three States, which I have just mentioned, use their revenue to clear their debt. Eighty per cent of Bihar's own revenue is being used for debt clearance, eighty per cent of Uttar Pradesh's own revenue is being used for debt clearance and 105 per cent is in the case of Orissa and you know in the case of the more prosperous States like Maharashtra, only 27 per cent of its own revenue is being used for debt clearance. Who would prosper Maharashtra or Orissa?

There must be something to see that they should get certain debt relief. It is not that they have not given relief to other States. They have given relief to Punjab, they have given it to Andhra Pradesh and so on. In Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 800 crore is given every year to save the Singareni Coal Company. There is a ten year moratorium on interest payment for Singareni coal company. That is State owned company, where 51 per cent shareholding is with the

Andhra Pradesh Government and 49 per cent is with the Government of India. On these lines, they can save these States too.

I have two suggestions to make here. Firstly, the Government should declare a five-year moratorium on debt clearance, especially on interest payment and capital repayment for the state of Orissa.

Secondly please appoint the Twelfth Finance Commission one year before expiry as required under article 280(1). It can be done earlier so that they will get more time to go into the details of debt problems. They can also go into the whole gamut of State finances, where they are spending, whether it is in merit goods and services or non-merit goods and services, and they can suggest certain very concrete improvement. Please do that and give them that responsibility also, as a result, these three States, Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, the non-special category States, can be saved. You can understand the agony of mine. There are many Cabinet Ministers from U.P. and Bihar States, including the Prime Minister and the ex-Prime Minister. Perhaps, when they would come to the precarious State as in Orissa, only then will they perhaps raise their voice. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to look into the problem of Orissa and these two States particularly, so that they can be brought back to an even keel.

Another thing I have been telling time and again that whenever I get an opportunity both here in the House and outside, I raise the matter regarding the revision of royalty on coal. I am telling you that had West Bengal suffered once, they would have raised their voice and the royalty would have been revised long ago. In 1994, the last revision was made about royalty on coal. It was due in 1997. The Sarkaria Commission had given the recommendation that it should be revised every two years. In 1991, it was revised. In 1994, again it was revised. It was due in 1997. But it was not revised for the last seven years, as a result, Orissa is losing Rs. 250 crore every year. Orissa has lost more than Rs. 1,200 crore. Of course, you know, Bihar does not hold any coalfields now-a-days. Now, coal fields have gone to Jharkhand. I do not understand why they are not revising the coal royalty. During the last seven years, the price of coal has been revised more than 16 times. It has been revised more than 100 per cent. It has been made now more than double. But the royalty has not even been revised once. Royalty does not go from the Government exchequer, yet Government decides. I want to tell him that adding to the injury is that the price of coal has been deregulated.

15.59 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*]

That means, the coal mines, the subsidiaries of coal companies are free to revise their prices. The price of E and F grade coal, which is known as power grade coal, was same everywhere, but now, with the same calorific value and with the same ash content, Orissa's MCL coal is only Rs. 351 for 'F' grade coal per tonne whereas the F grade coal of Eastern Coalfields in Rs. 417 per tonne. It is the latest rate.

16.00 hrs.

In the case of Western Coalfields, the price is still higher at Rs. 508 per tonne. In the case of the Singareni Collieries for 'E' grade and 'F' grade coal with the same ash content and calorific value, it is Rs. 778 and Rs. 649 per tonne respectively. This disparity has been made deliberately because the people of Orissa have not agitated. As a result, they are losing their sales tax. They are losing their CST also. So, my request to the Finance Minister is that he should please ensure that the coal royalty is reasonably revised and the prices of run of coal mines are rationally fixed.

The Central Sales Tax comes under article 269, clause (1) (g). It is not only a regressive tax but it is also an oppressive and exploitative tax. It exploits and oppresses the backward States. It is at the cost of these backward States that the prosperous States are prospering. I have no personal animosity against any State or leader or party or anybody but I have to say here that Maharashtra is getting a Central Sale Tax of Rs. 1900 crore every year whereas Orissa gets only Rs. 32 crore to Rs. 33 crore. They would send their articles to Orissa and fetch four per cent Central Sales Tax. The Central Sales Tax was not meant for that. In 1956, when constitution was amended, to create CST, it was not meant for that. It was clearly told in the Constitution, 'tax levied and collected by the Union but assigned to the States'. How they would be assigned has also been clearly mentioned. A CST law was enacted here in this House, which has given the power to the States to collect and appropriate.

Shri Manohar Joshi is here. I request him to appreciate why the prosperous States should take a sympathetic view towards backward States. At times, people say that some States are non-performing States and some others are performing States. This is not a fact at all. For historical reasons, some States have become prosperous. Also as a result of some laws like the CST law, some States have

become financially and economically prosperous. There are many reasons that ought to be discussed and found out. However, the prosperous States should take a very sympathetic stand and adopt a sympathetic attitude towards the backward States. Only the CST has been kept out of the purview of the Finance Commission. All the matters under article 269 excepting the Central Sales Tax has been kept under the Finance Commission's purview. The CST should also come under the common divisible pool and be devolved among the States by the Finance Commission.

While concluding let me say that Orissa is undergoing an alarming situation. Fortunately, now, Orissa has a Chief Minister who is honest but honesty is not enough unless you have money with you. We thought that since our party was a partner of the NDA, at least now we would get a fair and a better deal. Previously we had been neglected. It did not happen. Nineteen out of 21 MPs are here in this august House from Orissa from BJD and BJP. BJP and BJD are governing there also but without any money. We are without any help from the Central Government, without any consideration from the Central Government. You know, Sir, that Orissa is not shouting also and Orissa is not fighting also. Long back, ninety years back, in 1912, Lord Curzon had rightly told in the House of Lords that Orissans are not an aggressive and agitating class. Had they been agitating, had they been aggressive, their claims would have long been heard. That was the version of Lord Curzon in 1912 in the House of Lords. Today, the Oriyas are, no doubt, innocent and docile, but I remind you – I am not threatening, I am only reminding – that 300 years back, the English poet Dryden had categorically told that beware of the fury of the innocent man. That day is not far off. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up now.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : I am winding up, Sir.

Nobody from outside would decide the day of the fury of the innocent man; the fury of the innocent man will be decided by those innocent persons only. My friend, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni has not forgotten that the headquarters of the South-Eastern Railway, which should have been there in Bhubaneswar, could not be transferred from Calcutta to Bhubaneswar, although two-thirds of the South-Eastern railway line is there and also more than two thirds of the revenue is coming from Orissa. But the Head Quarter could not go there. The South-Eastern Railway's headquarters is not in the geological territory of the South-Eastern Railway. It is in Calcutta, in the Eastern Railway's

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

territory. He told that there would be fire if the headquarters of the South-Eastern Railway would be shifted from Calcutta. . . . (Interruptions) Yes, He was a fiery young man at that time. I was also young at that time but he was a fiery young man and the Government of India feared him and has been fearing the people of Bengal thereafter, and they are not shifting the headquarters. Even after 1996 when the new East Coast Railway Zone was created. Railway Ministry have not yet made that Zone functional. That is a sad part of it. Through you, Sir, I request the Finance Minister to kindly hear the last prayer of an innocent and docile Oriya.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, the Finance Minister has placed the Budget and placed the Finance Bill. We have discussed it enough in the General Discussion on the Budget and my dear colleague, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal from our Party has dwelt in depth the provisions of the Finance Bill and the concessions that the Finance Minister has made through his speech on that day.

First of all, I should thank the Finance Minister that here is the courage and wisdom to salute the people and the people's verdict and the mandate. Shri Kirit Somaiya was congratulating the Finance Minister for giving these concessions, but I think I should congratulate the people of Delhi who voted BJP out in the recent elections to the Municipality, and no less than the BJP leaders in their own party say that a part of the defeat is due to the Budget of the Finance Minister. I thank the Finance Minister for his courage to respond to the verdict of the people and to understand the challenges of the Budget also, because of which the Finance Minister's announcement has come, which you call a rollback, though it has been done partially, not substantially. No Finance Minister can do a substantial roll back if he has to manage the finances of the country.

Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance has the experience of being a member of the bureaucracy, seeing the files in depth and understanding the country's economy. He has the second experience, having been the Finance Minister under Shri Chandra Shekhar, inheriting a bankruptcy of a Government led by Shri V.P. Singh, which was supported by the BJP. He has realised at that hour how a non-Congress Government derailed the nation. He should also acknowledge that it was our Congress Government which, from that derailed economy, provided this country a more than 7 per cent growth rate which, since Independence,

no Government has achieved and this Government is not even trying for that.

Therefore, whatever criticism we may make from this side or that side, it is not an issue. The issue today is how the country is looking towards the people in terms of its taxation policies. Sir, I do admire the hon. Minister of Finance on two counts. Firstly, he has modernised and stabilised the tax administration. My dear friend Shri Kirit Somaiya is not here now. He was criticising the tax officials that if things were in their hands the country will go to dogs etc. My view is totally different. There can be one or two black sheep in the tax administration. But, by and large, they are the brilliant people of the country who often try to take the country in the right direction. It is because of we, the politicians, with our frequent interference from this side or that side, that they cannot do the job that the country desires them to do.

Excepting for one or two black sheep like Shri B.P. Verma, let us not accuse and abuse the entire tax administration in whom I have abundant faith, who are keen to mobilise the resources of this nation to the best of their ability as per the desire of the Parliament.

I thought that the hon. Minister of Finance would begin from the concessions to the poorest of the poor. The allies of the NDA – and I thank them – have very rightly pointed out about kerosene, LPG and many other areas. But the hon. Minister of Finance did not touch the farmers at all. Maybe he is equally confused like me. I do not know his political thought. But till today, I have not been able to understand who is a farmer in this country. The definition of a farmer, as I get from my part of the country, is a person who tills the land from morning to evening. He is a farmer. But actually when the benefit goes, I find this especially in the context of Northern India and I have no idea of other parts and I have a very strong feeling of Bengal that a farmer is not he or she who sits idle in the home, distributes his *nami* or *benami* land to various agents and get people hired from Haryana, Bihar and Orissa to plough the land and give the daily-wage earners who do the job, their wages, and at the end of the day all the benefits go to that man who says he is a farmer. He is one person powerful and strong enough in our rural economy who is siphoning off the nation's benefits to his own command depriving the real people who are toiling on the ground and tilling the land day and night. If this perception is the perception of the farmer, then more benefits to the farmers means more benefits not to the real *kisans* who are toiling but to few individuals. The popular word for these people,

according to the jargon of the Communists is, *Kolas, Yodhas* or *Zamindars* and I call them land exploiters. More benefits go to them means more sizeable income of the nation is hidden.

Therefore, Mr. Finance Minister, I do defend more subsidy to the farmer. I do defend cheaper electricity. But you please ensure it without any political acrimony. A time has come in the country where for how many days will you ban the PWG or ban the Naxalites. The fact of the life is that whether in Bihar or in Bengal or in Andhra Pradesh genuine and positive land reforms which benefit the agricultural policy go to the people directly who are doing the job. When there is no positive land reforms and still people are hiding their property there in the name of benefits to the farmers, then it is going into the hands of a few who ultimately take the nation's wealth in their own pockets. This definition once again requires a national debate as to who is a farmer.

I know that if I debate this issue – I did debate this issue in my party, in the AICC – there are people who will accuse me irrespective of whether they are from my party or from other party, but the definition of farmer once and for all should be decisively decided in the country. It should be decided who is the farmer and who deserves the benefit. Unless that is decided, in the name of shedding tears in the name of farmers, a few individuals in a few parts of the country rob the entire wealth of the nation and – I use the word – cheat the nation.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I take the last page of the Finance Bill. I thought that concessions would begin from there. Possibly, the Finance Minister is right on one point that these days, the poor people do not communicate through telephone, through mobile, through fax or through e-mail. If we see the one mode they communicate through, at best, they write a post-card and to read a postcard, with their abuses, it is difficult for the politicians to tolerate. Possibly, the Finance Minister, therefore, did not touch the postal tariffs, the cost of the printed post-card which rose from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6.

He is giving exemption to granite and marble. Well, I am not going to touch on that point. Friends will be here to pounce on me. I am not going into the controversy of the granite industry and marble industry, whether small-scale or *benami*. By popular saying, granite and marble is one of the costliest material used for the purpose I know. But a post-card for a poor man is something very essential than the granite and marble. Post-card tariff has not been reduced. It remains raised to Rs. 6 from Rs. 3, as it is.

Its cost has doubled. Therefore, I think, the Finance Minister has overlooked it or the so-called NDA partners who thought of taking it up felt that if they take it up more aggressively, maybe the BJP will be unhappy. So, it was not touched. I would request the Finance Minister to once again look into it.

Sir, I will be too short and too brief on two or three observations. I thank the Finance Minister for reducing the excise duty on tea from Rs. 2 per kilogram to Re. 1 per kilogram. My appeal to him now is to look at the competition. After the WTO regime, you cannot prevent the kind of dumping of tea from Kenya and Sri Lanka which is going to be there. They will come to our market, but to allow Indian tea industry to stabilise, which is a labour-intensive industry which is there in Assam, West Bengal and some parts of the South, my appeal to the Finance Minister is that for three years, he should not take any excise duty from tea industry. It is a labour-intensive industry.

Also, my appeal to the Finance Minister is not to take any excise duty from jute industry. On these two industries of jute and tea, the entire North-East is surviving. The Finance Minister, once upon a time, has been from Bihar and now, he is from Jharkhand. In the entire north Bihar, the entire eastern Uttar Pradesh, you go to every village and you will find that every fifth man of every village is waiting for a money order which will come from West Bengal from the jute mill, till today. Therefore, my appeal to the Finance Minister is that for three years, till they are stabilised, do not take any excise duty from tea and jute industries.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also congratulate the Finance Minister for one good thing he has done. He has given tax holidays in various forms to theatres etc. for entertainment industry, but who does the entertainment industry? The performers do the entertainment industry. Who are the performers? They are the cultural performers and the sports performers. All the cultural performers are not Lata Mangeshkar, Ravi Shankar, Dilip Kumar and Amitabh Bachchan. They are a few exceptions. Mr. Finance Minister, the talent of an average performer really fades after the age of 40. They survive till the last day of their lives on whatever they earn till the age of 40. The final capacity of a good player of any discipline, a good artist to perform in the fullest boom is between the age of 35 and 40. My request to the Finance Minister is that he could consider. If not announce now, that he should not tax the post-40 income of all the performing athletes of the country

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

and the performing artistes who have crossed the age of 40. I know the pitiable condition of many of these people who are almost dying and crying. As I told you earlier, all are not Lata Mangeshkar and Ravi Shankar. A huge group of Indian performers in various parts of the country live on performing either on the stage on the screen or on the music, or in the field of sports.

At the end of the day, they find that they are no more glamorous and nothing is left. How do they survive? It is very, very difficult to survive. Therefore, please do not tax them when they attain the age of 40.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at page 11 of the Finance Bill, there is a mention about rationalisation of provision relating to search and seizure. Let me make it clear at the outset that I am not representing any group or company, but only appeal to you is that when you send someone to seize any document or to search a woman, please treat them like a mother or a sister. In the case of First Global, we have heard the story of the woman. If a woman has committed a murder, you can try her in the court, but do not treat her in an unjustified manner. In the case of First Global, the story goes that despite knowing that the lady was in the toilet, they knocked down or broken the door open, and she was dragged out just because her company deposed in favour of Tehelka. It is not fair. A message should go throughout the country that they can seize documents from anybody, but while dealing with a woman, they should give some respect of her because we respect women in India. In this case, she is a very talented woman. The horrifying tale about the way she has been harassed, which we heard through the media, is shocking. It should not have been done like that. If you could find out as to who did it and book them under the law, I will be too happy. At this moment, I am not going into the merits of the case.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will also like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister and seek a clarification on a thing which is creating a lot of misunderstanding in our sports fraternity. It is about his announcement that some tax exemption is being withdrawn. I understand, Mr. Finance Minister, that it is not correct because there is already some other provision. My only desire is that you should clarify it so that a message should go out loudly that there is no threat to the sports fraternity.

Now, I come back to two or three areas on which I would like to give some suggestions. Mr. Finance Minister, you were keen to get more money to improve your deficit

Budget. I received a comprehensive memorandum from an Association which was founded by our great freedom fighter and great scientists, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy, that is, the Indian Chemical Manufacturing Association. I had an interaction with them, and I hope the Finance Minister also had an interaction with them. In the Union Budget, under the Gasohol Programme, Rs. 1,500 crore subsidy has been provided to distilleries producing alcohol, while poor man's items like kerosene, LPG have not been accommodated under this subsidy cover. Their argument is that while dismantling the administrative price mechanism for petroleum products, the Union Government has imposed a surcharge of six rupees per litre on normal petrol, whereas it has reduced the surcharge to Rs. 5.25 per litre on petrol doped with ethanol. The total accumulated loss of revenue in terms of subsidy to the Union Government shall be to the tune of Rs. 1,500 crore.

Petroleum consumption in the country is about 7.5 million tonnes. The revenue loss to the Government is due to differential rates of surcharge on petrol. It is denial of a level-playing field to the chemical industry. Let us admit the fact that alcohol production is not surplus in this country. I was highly enthused when they interacted with me. They have cited the example of Brazil, Mr. Finance Minister. They said that this experiment proved to be a disaster in Brazil, they quoted from a document pertaining to Brazil, and I believe that the Finance Minister is the most competent person to study it and to see how it was a disaster in Brazil. They gave details of per capita income, density of population, availability of alcohol in Brazil and they have shown and established how it was a disaster in Brazil, and partly in U.S.A.

Sir, if this experiment has to go on in India, then one part of the industry would have to be totally closed down. Therefore, Mr. Finance Minister, I would like to request you to kindly consider this aspect and make some observations on this aspect when you make your concluding remarks on the Finance Bill at the end of the day.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dasmunsi, please conclude now.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would conclude within one minute.

Sir, I have nothing much to say. I have given only a few examples and suggestions. The Relief Bond Concessions is a welcome measure and I, on behalf of the Congress Party, would like to welcome this particular measure that has been announced by the hon. Finance

Minister. It would create a good investment climate for the people from the lower, middle and even higher income groups to invest in this.

But Mr. Finance Minister what has happened to the Excise Duty evasion case of M/s ITC which has been pending for the last few years? While the whole country is against smoking, why are you not collecting more money from cigarettes by imposing higher Excise duty on this? You can penalise this industry as much as you can. This would not only help in getting more money for the Government but would also help in bringing about an awareness amongst the people as well. Insofar as my knowledge goes, a few years back there was a scam of Excise Duty evasion by M/s ITC to the tune of Rs. 3500 crore. But till today nobody knows as to what has happened to this case. Would the hon. Finance Minister, during the course of his reply to the debate on the Finance Bill, enlighten us as to the progress on this matter? We would be highly delighted to know about it. If that money could be realised from them, then it would greatly help to fill in the coffers of the Finance Ministry. I would not like to highlight more on this.

Sir, I could have established here as to how the Finance Minister could have got more money from the telecom sector. But the Finance Minister is suffering because of his own policies. The Government is not giving the required resources, which the Finance Minister himself feels should be given, to DoT. Therefore, it is the Finance Minister alone who has to fight it out within the Government. I cannot help him in this matter. I again repeat that some of the measures announced by the hon. Finance Minister are good yet those are not enough and are not sufficient.

Sir, finally I would like to bring one dangerous trend to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister. In our federal polity it is an established practice that if any State Government wants foreign funding for a project, or if any State Government wants funds for a project from any part of the world, then the Government of India, being the guarantor, negotiates with the concerned party. But the tendency that is growing now is that the Chief Ministers, with the approval of the Central Government, are directly negotiating with their chosen parties. This is not a good trend. This would create umpteen number of problems in the future. There are forces outside India who are keen to choose their sectors and the parties in power. Please do not think that I am talking politics here. In the name of stability in the country and as the sole guarantor and with the monitoring power of the federal Government,

please do not encourage this trend. It is because in such an arrangement if somebody is your partner then in one's sweet will he will negotiate with one country of the world and if somebody is not your partner, then he would not be encouraged. This would create a very bad precedent in the country. Please do not do it. Otherwise, this will prove to be disastrous in future. I would finally like to request the hon. Finance Minister, if he could, at the end of the day, consider giving something more to the Indian Chemical Industries and to the tea and jute industries as I have mentioned.

Sir, though some of the proposals in this Budget are against the poor people and was hurting their interest, yet my friend from the Telugu Desam Party would say that they are happy with this Government. Shri Kirit Somaiya also had congratulated the Finance Minister for his Budget proposals. But all his congratulated remarks sunk as he mentioned about his helplessness about the investments through the Mauritius route. I also feel that the Mauritius route pattern should not be allowed to be repeated. I would not like to bother the hon. Finance Minister on this today but I would like to request him to find a day when we could discuss this issue as has been brought out by Shri Somaiya. It is a very pertinent point that has been raised by him and we also would like to participate in a debate on this.

SHRI PRADEEP RAWAT (Pune) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you so much for the time and the opportunity allowed to me to comment on the Budget. A lot has been already said. I have a few comments to make

It seems that we, not only hon. Finance Minister but all of us, are busy in generating second generation of distortions and hurdles than second generation reforms. Perhaps we afford the future generation with something that they can take pride in undoing those later. We have a long history of seeking counsel of the experts and we jettison whatever that is uncomfortable for us and pick up cherries that water our mouths.

Have a look at the proposals that affect savings in income tax. Hon. Minister refers to the Reddy Committee. The Reddy Committee explicitly drew a distinction between short-term and long-term savings. While recommending the withdrawal of tax incentives on short-term savings such as National Savings Certificates, Kisan Vikas Patras, etc., it specifically called for retaining the tax rebate of 20 per cent on long-term savings, such as Provident Fund. In the Budget, no distinction is made between short-term and long-term savings. The tax incentives on both have been

[Shri Pradeep Rawat]

either reduced or eliminated, Now, after so much orchestra we take pride in consensus solution of 15 per cent rebate! I am afraid this too is not a good solution. The Committee has also recommended that those who hold short-term savings be offered an option of long-term saving instruments so that tax incentives should be available and are justifiable to promote long-term savings under social security schemes. I would like to know the reasons why Finance Ministry is keen to ignore this *mantrana*, the advice of the Reddy Committee. We have very poor safety nets and small savings serve as a hedge against bad times, and at the same time, tax incentives for long-term savings help increase overall savings in the economy.

Have a look at the exemptions. Hon. Minister refers to the Shome Committee recommendations about removal and elimination of exemptions and deductions. At the very same time there are some exemptions that are being proposed. Here are a few examples : additional depreciation on new machinery and plant; incentives for modernisation and expansion of the shipping business; incentives for debt/capital market and financial sectors. Is it that we do not consider the reforming of this aspect of tax levy and collection ?

Let me turn to yet another instance of unmindful and hasty modifications. The provisions in the Finance Bill make working of the charity institutions impossible. It would be impossible to receive and spend donations for charity purpose under the present provisions. Prof. Raja Chelliah, who has been the Advisor in all taxation matters for almost last decade, has openly condemned this draconian measure. Yet, no one seems to bother about the havoc the present provisions will bring to donation based charity institutions. I propose the repeal of the proposed clauses and restoration of earlier status.

I must appreciate his efforts in reducing the number of excise duty rates. But I am worried about the persistence of other procedural-cum-non-tariff dimensions in excise. There is only a marginal reduction in number of exemptions from 263 in last year to 243 in this year. The number of conditions for exemptions remains unchanged. The number of lists has gone up from six to nine. Will the Ministry be kind enough to provide us the estimates of revenue lost due to exemptions ? Just look at the long list that would speak for itself. This is the overwhelming relic of *baburaj* which survives and thrives even now when we speak of second generation reforms. Will the hon. Minister explain special merits of pencil sharpeners and mathematical

boxes so that they need exemptions ? Is this his way of promoting mathematical education ? May I remind him that there are one crore dhobis who do not use dry-cleaning machines ? Why do you not exempt them from the five per cent service tax ?

Why should we dither on measures that are needed to expand the tax base. Please have a look at the report of the working group on taxation that makes a passionate plea for abolition of exemptions. This is another instance of ignoring the sound advice when it does not suit the beneficiary constituencies within and without the Finance Ministry.

Let me turn to customs duties. I fail to understand the talk of the peak rate of 35 per cent when it is at best the modal value, that is, the most frequent rate. In ordinary English, the peak rate would mean 'highest rate'. As per the Bill, peak rate 210 per cent is now reduced to 182 per cent. The other rates are 210, 170, 115, 100, 80, 70, 55, 45, 40 and so on. The hon. Minister has been generous enough to announce that these rates will be merged in just two rates after two years. Will someone enlighten us the magical number of two-year duration needed for the said transition ?

The worship of exemptions is here as well. The number of exemptions in the last year was 378. Thanks to penchant for this non-tariff device the number has gone up to 415! Will he enlighten us by providing the estimates of revenue due to these exemptions ? Once more, the number of conditions remains unaltered, and the lists have gone up from 35 to 42. We seem to be more committed to second generation and reincarnation of Dirigisme regime. No wonder, the tariffs remain as complicated and cumbersome. It will perpetuate advantage that unscrupulous would take, and officers to indulge in corrupt practices as earlier. Would the hon. Minister explain what inhibits him from implementing the recommendations of the Virmani Committee's Report ? This Report, once again, points out that so many exemptions generate continuous lobbying by special interest groups of the rich and the powerful. Is it so difficult to imagine that with so many exemptions and conditions and lists, even two rates is no solace!

Whatever be the popular demand and consensus, I fear, we should not send signals to the business and people at large that service tax is unjust and negotiable. Let us make the beginning with the rates that are modest and palatable. Since inception, we should care about wider base than higher tax rates, and should show the determination in establishing this as legitimate and viable

tax base. If the Union Government dithers and flounders, it will have negative implication for States which will lose their morale further in widening the service tax base. The Working Group had recommended integration of service tax with CENVAT. I wonder what the Ministry of Finance has to say on this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have confined myself to only a few selected elements that highlight our sluggishness and undeclared aversion towards reforms. More importantly, the mindset that believes having 43 controls instead of 45 is reforms! The spectre of restrictive controls, Dirigisme regimes can survive and resurrect in many forms and on many occasions.

I will give one instance. In 1998, our hon. Finance Minister while moving the Finance Bill Amendments had stated about Section 50C of the Income Tax Act that it is arbitrary to consider the circle valuations by the State Governments which are *ad hoc* and the actual considerations by two parties should be taken for tax considerations. But now we see that the same Section 50C has been re-introduced. What is the explanation? It is easy to wear mask in the name of poor. It is easy to wear the nationalist cap with cosy protectionist lining inside.

I appeal to the reformist friends in the Opposition as well to rise above the narrow insidious tune of socialism and development with human face, and focus on what is more important, doable, and consolidate long-term needs of reforms.

There are several other matter like restructuring of public debt, more importantly composition and effectiveness of expenditure. For want of time, I reserve them for my written queries and comments. I thank you once again for the opportunity and patient listening given to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Rupchand Pal.

Shri Pal, already one Member from your party has spoken on this Debate. There are now five minutes left for your party. Please be very brief.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, I shall try to be as brief as possible. I think, you will allow me to make all the relevant and important points which I want to make.

Sir, I had said that this Budgetary exercise is directionless and clueless. I had also mentioned about the tax on the salaried class and others.

Now, the Finance Minister has already announced certain relief measures. He has made certain changes in the Finance Bill.

They are in respect of rebate, in respect of savings and also in some other areas. The total amount of relief given is to the tune of Rs. 2,800 and odd crore; and it is considered to be a peanut in a total budget of Rs. 4,10,000 and odd crore.

As you know, we have been approaching the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister for quite sometime regarding Indian Iron and Steel Company. In our country, there is a steel plant by the name of Indian Iron and Steel Company, which is a very prestigious and a reputed company. It requires, as per the expert committee's recommendations, about Rs. 1,000 crore for its revival. That amount is also not needed in one go; in the beginning, it requires only about Rs. 500 crore. That company is employing more than 27,000 persons of this country. So, 27,000 families are dependent on it. That company has been producing one of the best quality steels in the country; it is not that we do not need steel in this country. But the Government is not considering that request of ours, for reasons best known to them.

We have again approached the Prime Minister. An amount of Rs. 1,000 crore can save the lives of more than 27,000 families; moreover, a large number of other are dependent on them. It is a very prestigious unit. But this Government is not providing that amount of money; but an amount of Rs. 2821 or so crore is a peanut of them. Where is he going to get that money from? Does he believe that the revenue generation that he is proposing will reach the target? Once again, I am asking that question.

Over the years, the tax-GDP ratio is hovering around nine per cent or so. It is declining. The 'rich' and the 'super rich' of this country are not paying any tax. Only 30 per cent of their income are only getting exposed. This is according to a report by the Government. I had asked this specific question to this Government. How many people in this country earn more than Rs. 10 lakh per annum? The report of the Government says that the number is only 50,000. In South Delhi alone, there are more people than that number whose income is more than Rs. 10 lakh per annum. Rampant evasion is there. The tax rate has come down. Some people do not agree with this, but the Minister has agreed. In one observation, he said that although the tax rate has been slashed down, the compliance is not

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

proportionate, rather it is also declining. Where is he going to get that money from? Is he going to get it by way of service tax? Which service tax? The money is being collected through different sorts of service taxes. It is not possible for the Government because of cost of collection and also because of many other things.

Now, the hon. Finance Minister and the Government have become wiser because of the drubbing they received at the hustings! It is not that they did not know that. After the election results, they are having a re-thinking; and a major political party is giving them the advice, that such and such things should be done. What is happening to our small industries? Even yesterday the hon. Finance Minister had made some observations. I would just like to give one very small example. Sir, do you understand 'chhata', the umbrella? More than one lakh people are involved in this industry.

[Translation]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): The issue of umbrella is over.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am telling you, it has not. The hon. Minister has withdrawn it from the spare parts accessories leaving it only to the final manufacturers of this item to pay the tax. These people buy the raw material and 70 per cent of the raw material is imported. They buy it from the dealers. They do not directly import it. They have made a representation to the hon. Minister that the indigenous umbrella assemblers cannot survive due to unequal competition by the imported ready-made umbrellas. They cannot keep their existence because 30 per cent of the raw material is indigenous and 70 per cent is imported, I think the hon. Minister may apply his mind as to, according to 1996 calculations, how much will he earn from 4 per cent excise on the finished product which he has not exempted. The Minister has exempted the spares and the accessories. If the producers of the final product themselves import, they will enjoy some concessions but more than 70 per cent of the widows, women, the poorer section illiterate people do not have any access. They buy is from the market from those who import it. So, my plea to the Government would be to do it away. If I am not mistaken, according to 1996 calculations, they could earn only Rs. 22,000. Still they say that on the final product they will continue to have 4 per cent of excise duty. I think

the Minister should withdraw it as it will be helpful for more than one lakh producers of domestic umbrella.

The Minister has done a lot about the LPG and kerosene. Kerosene is an item used by the poor section of the people. He has raised it, particularly in the PDS. After dismantling of the administered price mechanism what is happening, we do not know. Even today there is a report by the Public Sector oil bodies that they are losing to the tune of Rs. 7700 crore; Rs. 75 crore daily. They have already lost Rs. 7700 crore. When the calculation was made, dismantling measure was taken and the oil pool account was taken away separately and made a part of the budgetary exercise, at that point of time per barrel price of crude was 20 dollar. Now it is hovering around 27 to 28 dollar and it may go up because of the situation elsewhere. Now, the public sector oil corporations are forced to pay for it. What will happen to the poor consumers of kerosene? What will happen to the middle-class who cannot have any option but to use LPG? It has been said by many others that there is slow down, that there is excess capacity which can be used. Because of the demand recession, there is a negative growth in most of the areas of export. Where will the money come from? Then, there are WTO commitments which are to be met. We have to slash down the customs duty. In a situation like this, what is happening? Sir, apparently, the act of changing the rates of excise duty from 8 to 16 per cent and from 16 to 8 per cent, seems an act of simplification. But if we take up the items one by one, then we shall find that the duty on the items that are used by the common people is raised from 8 to 16 per cent and on those used by the richer sections of the society, it has been brought down from 16 to 8 per cent. Same is the case with tea and naphtha also. It is having some adverse affect on the domestic petrochemical industry. The foreign liquor can be made cheaper but not kerosene. Why is it so? They will have to pay more price. They have got a lesson in the elections and they have reduced the heavy burden they had imposed on the salaried class. But they have not learnt that kerosene is one such item and LPG is also another item

Sir, I am asking a very important point. I had been saying that the method of measuring inflation rate is wrong. They claim that inflation is the lowest so the interest rates can be slashed down. Now, my position is corroborated by the report of the Statistical Commission. Dr. Rangarajan Commission says that the world over inflation rate is calculated on the basis of Wholesale Price Index. Here it is being done on the basis of Consumer Price Index. The

Wholesale Price Index does not include the service component whereas in our GDP, service component is more than 52 per cent. I understand that they have set up a Committee to take into account how objective measurement of inflation can be done. Then again, the low inflation rate does not mean anything. It affects our consumption as well as production. There is a very good report by Shri Ashok Kumar Chakraborty and the Reserve Bank has also come out with all these things. But I am not going into all these things.

Sir, I have another point to make and it is a very important point. They still relate concessions and all these things to Gujarat earthquake. But there should be some provisions because more than two lakh people are still in different camps. They have no food and no medicine. The world over reports have been written. There must be a provision. We have around huge stocks of food amounting to six crore tonnes and the people are suffering without food. Only the Non-Governmental organisation are serving them. People are starving there. I would make an earnest plea, and I believe that all my colleagues here will support me, that there should be some provision for the relief and rehabilitation of more than two lakh people.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. You have already taken 15 minutes.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I am concluding. As regards Unit Trust of India, some hon. Member was speaking from that side. But, Sir, to you know what is going to happen ? I do not know whether you have any investment there or not. Sir, the Monthly Income Assured Scheme is ending on 30th April. We had said that the sponsorer has to take the responsibility.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : The CPM Party has the major investment in that.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : We have already replied to it. Please do not delay me. If you have got any money, invest it there. Then, it should be a matter of concern to you also.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : I have no money. But can you deny that your Party had not put money there ?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : So, what is wrong ? This is not an offence. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : That means you have invested money there. So, you simply admit it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, when your turn comes, you can say whatever you want.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : This portion of the time which has been taken by the interruption should be given back to me, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now; you have already taken more than fifteen minutes.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The Unit Trust of India has been set up by the Government of India. Even in this Finance Bill certain things are said about the UTI. What will happen to this investment ? Because, both IDBI, State Bank of India and others have disowned in writing that they are not the sponsors; it is lying with the SEBI, and SEBI has not given it to anybody. It is going to end by 30th April. What will happen to these small investors who have kept their money in the US-64, MIP-47 and several other schemes ?

There are some suggestions just for the consideration of the hon. Minister; I am not recommending them. There was a Committee set up to calculate the total rural wealth; not of agriculture alone. This can be one major area for revenue generation. Secondly, it is said that the foreign-exchange reserve position is very comfortable with \$ 55 billion. But what is going to happen after the redemption of the Resurgent Bond and the India Millennium Bond ? After the experience of Argentina and also our experience with regard to US-64 where the corporate sector has taken away the money even beforehand, what is going to happen to your commitments ?

Lastly, he has spoken certain things about jute machinery. Meanwhile, very recently the Ministers Committee of this Government has taken a decision not only to dilute the 1997 Jute Packaging Order, but they have also recommended for the repeal of that order. It would spell disaster for the Jute industry and to lakhs and lakhs of workers of this country. We have brought this to the notice of the Prime Minister. We have written to him. There was a court case and from the Press reports we have learnt that these attempts have been stayed by the High Court. We would appeal to the Finance Minister also to see that the Jute Packaging Order is not diluted and rather the jute industry is provided the necessary help as required.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI (Khagaria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Finance should be lauded for reducing excise duties on a number of items, giving relief in income tax and increasing import duty on dairy goods from 30 to 40 percent. The price of LPG has been reduced, telephone is removed as a criterion for income tax, excise duty on granite was withdrawn, besides other reformative measures in the Budget. However, there are many item on which tax has been imposed but the policy for their recovery has not been formulated.

17.00 hrs.

I would like to submit that such policy be formulated without delay so that the people do not remain confused. Gutkha, pan masala has become very popular today. It causes fatal diseases such as cancer, yet its producers evade taxes. Through you, I would like to say that hon. Minister has not looked into this issue. The excise department has physical control over cigarette manufacturers but no such control exists in case of pan masala and gutkha. The producers of gutkha, pan masala produce 50-60 lakh pouches and they are packed and sent away in the dead of night. They do not work during daytime. Nobody pays attention towards this. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Minister of Finance to rein in corruption here, since it causes loss to the exchequer in the form of revenue. It should come under the control of central excise. In addition, some sort of metres should be installed in these machines so that the corruption could be rooted out.

17.02 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Finance has not paid attention towards the items of common use such as kerosene and fertilizer. He has not tried to reduce their prices. Villages have no electricity today. The Minister of Finance belongs to the poor State of Bihar. But today he belongs to Jharkhand and culture of Bihar would still be permeating his being. Bihar is facing acute shortage of electricity. Even major cities such as Patna is facing power problem. So the reduction in kerosene prices is necessary because it is used by the poor. The poors should also get benefit from the budget. Besides, the prices of fertilizers should also be reduced for farmers. The Government should think over it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the tax on jewelleries of rolled gold has been increased. I would like to submit that Gold is

already very expensive. Everyone knows that women use rolled gold ornaments because gold is very expensive. Besides the incidents of loot and snatching are increasing in trains and elsewhere. That is why, women wear rolled gold jewellery. Women have weakness for jewellery. Therefore, I request the Minister of Finance to reduce taxes on it.

I would also like to know the provisions made in the budget for the betterment of farmers. The farmers of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are not able to give quality education to their children and they are also not able to marry their daughters properly even though they produce large quantity of grains. What the Government thinks about the farmers ? The minimum support price has been increased by Rs. 20 but the farmers are not getting any profit by it. The money goes in the pockets of middlemen. Through you, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance to set up a separate infrastructure for giving profit to the farmers directly.

The provision of credit card for the farmers was aimed at facilitating credit supply to them, but the farmers of states like Bihar have to face difficulties for getting credit. In addition, they get loan after much delay. Bank personnel ask for bribes for giving them loans. I have raised this issue earlier also. At that time, I had said that the unemployed youth have to toil hard in order to get loans for self-employment. I urged the Minister of Finance to make such arrangements so that the unemployed youth do not have to pay bribes. Besides, strict action needs to be taken in respect to delay in the release of loan amount due to corruption. Strict action should be taken against the bank personnel asking for bribe. Budget should address these issues. The CD ratio in Banks in Bihar has declined to 20 percent. It is a matter of serious concern. The Government needs to consider it.

The industries in India are in bad way. Chinese toys and other goods are of low cost. People naturally buy low priced goods and the domestic goods such as cell, toys etc. are not bought as they are high priced. It is having an adverse effect on our industries. Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to look in to this matter so that the Indian industries do not have to face the adverse effect.

The country is facing unemployment, illiteracy and poverty. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what measures are being taken to eliminate illiteracy. He is providing funds for educational projects. In a State like Bihar, the Government schools are closed, the schools have no buildings, teachers are there but they do not teach

and at some places there are only 2-3 teachers. The number of marginal farmers is high in Bihar. They do not have money to send their children to the public schools of Dehradun and Mussoorie. What provisions have been made in the budget for it?

Population control is also necessary. The size of population is not allowing the country to progress. Eradication of unemployment can only take place when the population is controlled. Shri Ramji Lal Suman had said that the American President had talked for providing more jobs. Can our Government not provide more jobs? Is it not possible to take effective steps to provide more jobs? Our youth are educated but they are not given jobs and they are compelled to take to arms. Can Government not make arrangements to give them employment and make concrete provisions in the budget? Our country is independent. We are no longer slaves. Therefore, the most patriotic act today would be that of rejuvenating our economy. I request the hon. Minister to look at this aspect.

Women are endowed with all qualities, still they are dependent and weak. Even though they constitute 50 per cent of the population, they are not given their due rights and thus they have not achieved their rightful positions. Leave aside the village. I have seen that women living in well off families in urban areas are exploited. I would like to say that the hon. Minister should provide some special package for women in this Budget. When I visit villages, women folk ask me, what I am doing for them as a woman MP. They also point out that I am an MP of the ruling party. I have no answer to it. Because I can neither set up industries, nor arrange jobs for them, what reply can I give to them? They are educated but remain confined to their homes. I would like to request the hon. Minister to consider the ways of improving the lot of the women. The Government are retrenching the employees. If it is not possible to provide them employment than make arrangement for setting up of cottage industry so that they can get job otherwise what is the use of us being lady Members.

Postal material such as postcard and envelopes have become dearer. Getting books by post too, has become dearer. My submission is that the postal rates should be reduced.

Foreign liquor has become cheaper. Be it Indian or Foreign Liquor, its use affects the body adversely. On the one hand the Government are making the liquor cheaper whereas on the other hand its another Ministry is provided funds for opening de-addiction Centres. How ironical it is that on the one hand funds are being provided for opening

of De-addiction Centres and on the other hand Government are reducing the price of liquor so that more and more people can make use of it. I am unable to understand what sort of message the Government wish to convey to the society and the country. Therefore, it needs to be reconsidered.

There is lot of talk about Pradhan Mantri Gram Sakshari Yojana. Under this scheme, the Prime Minister had announced that all the villages will be connected by road by 2007. With great regret, I am constrained to say that though the funds have been allotted to Bihar for this purpose but no work is being done. There may be several reasons behind it. The funds are lying unspent and work is not being taken up. I would like to know as to what concrete steps the Finance Minister propose to take in this regard. If the funds have been allotted to Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sakshari Yojana and the Government of Bihar are unable to utilise it, it should directly be given to the concerned district administration. . . . (Interruptions) Kanti ji, please do not interrupt in between there are many issues to speak on Bihar.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kanti ji, lady Member is speaking, so you should maintain silence.

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that these funds should be given directly to the concerned district and district officials should utilise it. If they are unable to do so, it should be clubbed with MPLAD scheme. This way the work could be undertaken otherwise the funds would remain unspent.

The scheme launched after Shri Jai Prakash Narayan ji throughout the country is a very good scheme. But it is difficult to be understood as to how it would be implemented in a State like Bihar. Some guidelines should be issued to them so that the funds can be used otherwise all such schemes would remain unimplemented. No work will be done and the people would get no benefit.

Everyone knows that Bihar has become very poor after its partition. Now, nothing is left in Bihar. It should have been thought earlier that what would remain in Bihar after its partition. Today, there is a need to do something for upliftment of farmers, labourers and the youth. Barauni fertilizer factory in Bihar is almost on the verge of closure and its employees are going to be rendered jobless. I would request hon. Finance Minister to revive it by providing economic package to Barauni Fertilizer Factory. Sugar, Jute Mills and Handicraft industries are lying closed in Bihar. Necessary funds be provided to them for their revival. It would help in providing employment to the youth of Bihar.

[Shrimati Renu Kumari]

In this Budget, travel expenses incurred by railways officials are proposed to be included in their income. Several railway officers have met us in this regard. They are so much worried and mentally perturbed. They fear that their tour programmes would be hampered by it. Let us not enforce draconian law like Britishers used to do. If amount spent on rail journey by railway officers is treated as income and income tax is levied on it how they would feed their families. Therefore, there is a need to withdraw tax on travelling allowance.

The survey work for construction of a rail cum-road bridge on the Ganges on Munger-Khagaria line has been completed. Railways have agreed to provide funds and it would be partly financed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Through you, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to provide funds for construction of rail-cum-road bridge on river Ganga between Munger and Khagaria. The reason is that the Government of Bihar would take no efforts in this regard neither it has will to do so. Therefore, through you, I urge the hon. Minister to provide funds for this work in the budget so that the work can be completed.

In the end, I conclude with thanks to you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, it would be proper if we know at what time the voting would take place. The Finance Minister might reply around 7 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN : A number of Members are waiting to speak.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : It has come in the Press that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has resigned. Is it true? The House has the right to know as to why he has resigned.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : It has come out in the Press. When the Parliament is in Session, the House has every right to know.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The session is going on. The newspapers have reported that one Union Minister has resigned. All of us want the Government to clarify it whether there is any truth in it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called Shri Raghuvansh Prasad ji to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : A Minister has resigned and the Government should inform the House in this regard. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called Raghuvansh Prasad ji to speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Government should inform the House. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The House has no importance. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the hon. Members are aware of Parliamentary conventions. You may please resume your seat. I have already called Shri Raghuvansh Prasad ji to speak. Finance Bill is being discussed, so please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The House has a right to know in this regard. All of us want to know. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called the name from the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : An important issue has been raised. Since the session is going on, the Government should inform the House in this regard. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : According to the Indian Express report-Paswan quits the Union Government over Gujarat issue.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak on the issue which is being discussed.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Sir, hon. Finance Minister has introduced Finance Bill, 2002 for the consideration of the House. This Bill is not going to be passed. One Minister has resigned and

[English]

TDP slams Centre for economic slow down.

[Translation]

That is why, the Bill is not going to be passed. All these indicate that the countdown has started. The hon. Minister, who has introduced the Finance Bill, is also known as roll back Minister, who has introduced the Finance Bill, is also known as roll back Minister. He does not listen to our request. He listens to only when he loses votes and is criticised by the people. He does not listen to us.

Sir, as was just said, a number of persons have thanked him for giving concessions of Rs. 2150 crore to Rs. 2800 crore. Everyone wanted to know the reasons why the price of kerosene was not reduced. People are also demanding withdrawal of the hike in cooking gas prices but they are not being listened to. The principle of taxation is similar to the extraction by bee from the flowers. It should hurt nobody. High earning people should be so taxed as they would not feel the pinch. They say that the fiscal position of the country is in a bad way but the taxation system, which could have improved it, is also in shambles. The whole budget amount is Rs. 4 lakh crore while black money in the country is to the tune of Rs. 800000 crore. What measures Minister of Finance has taken to unearth this money. Hon. Minister should reply to it. Income tax to the tune of Rs. 6200 crore has been evaded. High profile persons are evading taxes. The Standing Committee of the Parliament has assessed that total income tax evasions come to Rs. 62000 crores. What action has been taken to recover it. A total of Rs. 82000 crore is locked in NPAs by companies in FICCI and CII, which the Minister visits frequently, what action has been taken to free this amount. The prices of the items which are used by the poor, has been increased. They do not think about the poor, who form the backbone of this country. They turn a blind eye towards the black marketeer, who evades taxes. They also do not see the offences of the high profile persons.

As Shri Trilochan Kanungo was saying and I am grateful to him for that, because he raises the issue of backward States such as Bihar, Orissa etc. He would know the direction towards which this Government is headed when he becomes aware of the reality. He expressed concern about the backward States. All the revenue of these States are exhausted in repaying the loans of the Union Government. The report of the Fifth Pay Commission was implemented by the Union Government. It worsened the condition of States, but the worst sufferers were the backward States. After partition, Bihar had the deficit of Rs. 3000 crore and Rs. 2700 crore per annum goes towards the repayment of the loans of the Union Government. How the developmental works could be undertaken.

The backward states have been marginalised. Bihar is being meted out special treatment, its inhabitants are practically being decapacitated. Tenth Finance Commission submitted its report. Government accepted its report. Thereafter Bihar received funds under the head of Panchayati Raj for the first of the five years. It was about Rs. 125 crore, but the funds for the next four years of the Tenth Finance Commission and the first year of Eleventh Finance Commission were not released. Thus a poor state was deprived of Rs. 600 crore. Sir, when the report has been accepted, what is the logic behind stopping sanctioned funds? Hon. Finance Minister just went on to form a committee of petty officials and obtained a report from them that the money would not be released to those states where elections to Panchayati Raj has not taken place. This is sheer robbery. When the amount was sanctioned, why did the Government stop it? The election of Panchayati Raj Institutions have not held since 1983, yet the funds were released for the first year and then it was blocked for the remaining four years of 10th Finance Commission and the first year of the 11th Finance Commission. I would like to ask in this august House, what was the justification of blocking sanctioned funds when the reports of the 10th and 11th Finance Commissions were accepted by the Government.

Secondly, hon. Finance Minister has assured us that the funds would be released after elections are held. The letter of Shri Nitish Kumar, when he was the Chief Minister and that of Shrimati Rabri Devi later on were referred to and he had given his word that he would make efforts to ensure that the amount is released to Bihar. Now hon. Member Shri Trilochan Kanungo expresses concern that the Union Government should do something for backward States. But why the funds were blocked even when the recommendations of 10th and 11th Finance Commission were made? Elections have already been held, one lakh thirty seven thousand representatives were elected and thus Panchayati Raj was launched. Panchayati Raj laws were enacted and they were one of the best. One representative per two lakh population was elected, one representative per district, ward members, committee members and lastly the members of Zila Parishad were elected. One-third of 1.37 lakh were women and 14% belong to scheduled caste. But the funds for Bihar and Jharkhand were blocked in an illegal manner. Why the Union Government are robbing the share of the poor states even when the recommendation to this effect has already been made by the Commissions? They listen only to extreme measures. What will happen if all our Members get united? Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has initiated the step. We have a dozen Ministers there. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Shri Paswan has resigned. How many more are likely to resign ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Hon. Minister has misled the House once. He had said that as per the report of the 10th Finance Commission, Funds would not be released where elections are not held. But fund for the first year of 10th Finance Commission was released and that for the next four years was not released. Fund for the first year of the 11th Finance Commission was not released even though it had sanctioned the funds. What sort of injustice is this to Bihar ? That is why we are petitioning Supreme Court in this regard. Everyone should think what gross injustice is being done to the 10 crore population of Bihar and Jharkhand by not releasing funds provided under Panchayati Raj, where is our money ? Recently I had asked this question to the Minister of Planning. He replied that the fund has lapsed. I challenge it. As per the guidelines of the Union Government, that money cannot lapse. Withholding funds in such a manner is not good. Ministers speak contrary to the guidelines of the Union Government. Injustice is being done to the 10 crore population there. I want specific answer to it. We will continue our fight as long as we do not get our share. Our case is already before the Supreme Court. If the issue is not decided there we would go to the court of the people.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : I also support it.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : It is right. When our Members have understood this thing then you do not have any right to withhold our funds. None can take away the share of Bihar. If all of us become aware and vigilant no one can take away the share of Bihar. Not only this all of you are witness to the fact that during the division of Bihar it was assured in this august House that Bihar will be provided a special economic package and the losses will be compensated. It is like assuring an employee that bonus will be given and not the salary. This sort of thing has happened with Bihar. Why we are not being given the funds as recommended by the Planning Commission ? What will happen to all economic package in such a scenario ? The Members belonging to various political parties of the State Legislature had demanded an economic package to the tune of 1 lakh 79 thousand and 900 crore rupees. If the Government are honest then it should be considered and justice should be done with Bihar.

Not only this, a total of 37 crore rupees was given to both Bihar and Jharkhand under the minimum needs programme for rural electrification. Bihar got only 9 crore rupees i.e. one fourth share while Jharkhand received 28 crore rupees. What is the formula of deciding the share ? Is it the population ? The population of Bihar is 8 crore 20 lakh and that of Jharkhand is 2 crore 70 lakh Bihar has four times more population. The share of funds should have been fixed in keeping in view the number of villages, the area, the poverty prevailing and the number of villages yet to be electrified. Bihar received only 9 crore rupees out of 37 crore rupees such injustice is nowhere to be seen. Bihar was not given even a single rupee during the last four years. A total of 10 thousands crore rupees were allocated for electrification throughout the country. It is not the only such case. A total of 7800 crore rupees were spent in the country under the centrally sponsored scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan. Bihar got 780 crore rupees before division and it should have got 1/12th share after the division as per its population but it only got 35 crore rupees under the Ninth Five Year Plan. I had asked a question in this regard. I had received this reply.

All the States in the country had received 780 crore rupees and Bihar should have got 100 crore rupees but Bihar got only 2, 3 or 5 crore rupees in previous years. This year we have got 35 crore rupees. The agriculture sector has also met the same fate. The Central Government spent an amount of 5000 crore rupees on all the States. Bihar should have got an amount of 100 crore rupees annually and 500 crore rupees for the Ninth Five Year Plan but it only got 2-3 crore rupees every year. For the first time, it has got an amount of Rs. 41.5 crore for the year 2001-2002 which is only one third of its due share. Similarly Bihar should also have given a share from the 700 crore rupees given under the central sponsored schemes. Now the Tenth Five Year Plan has begun but the share of Bihar is being given to other States and injustice is being done against Bihar. This is increasing the regional imbalance.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know that awakening of Bihar will lead to the fall of Delhi. About 60 MPs. had handed over a memorandum to the hon. Prime Minister in which we had asked for decreasing the size of the Eight and Ninth Five Year Plans, which had expanded a great deal. An allocation of 13,000 crore for the Eighth plan was made out of which only 8000 crore were spent and an amount of 5000 crore rupees was left unspent. No money has been invested in Bihar. Will it not lead to regional imbalance ? Will it not result in Bihar lagging behind other States ? Bihar's GDP is falling. The plan size of the Ninth Five Year

Plan was decreased in which less funds were spent i.e. 5 to 6 thousand crore rupees were spent but lesser amount is being invested in Bihar. Where has the share of Bihar gone? We asked the Centre to waive off its credit to Bihar and to give special State status to it. Recently Uttaranchal had been given special State status but Bihar should have been given special State status in view of the economic condition for which we have put a demand. We had demand for giving a special economic package to Bihar in view of the existing condition of Bihar is indicated by the economic indicators.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, A project proposal of Rs. 330 crore for the transmission lines have been sent to the Centre by Bihar. It was said that Bihar does not require this project. Power Grid Corporation is a Government of India undertaking. It should implemented this project so that transmission lines could be made functional. Bihar has been facing the power crisis due to lack of the transmission lines. It is due to this reason that proposal for a power project involving a cost of Rs. 330 crore has been sent here. I demand that the Union Government should implemented it. In my view all the hon. MP's would agree that the Centre is committed towards electrification of all the villages by the year 2007. This work should be completed all over the country by giving special status to those States, which have been left out of this plan.

Lastly I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards the fact that Bihar faces devastation every year due to floods, draught and water logging. Water logging occurs every year in an area of 90 lakh hectares of land, which includes an area of 9 lakh hectares in North Bihar and one lakh hectares in Mokama. That's why the Sen Committee of Reserve Bank of India was contributed to look into the problem and it recommended that this subject should be dealt with by the Centre and not by the State as claimed by the Centre. The State is unable to deal with the problem of floods, draught and water logging.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have finished your last point, now you resume your seat.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I am concluding. I would like to cite one more example of injustice. In case of States suffers natural calamity, three fourth of the burden is borne by the Centre and one fourth by the State but the Centre has not given a single paisa to Bihar under this head for the last two years. A kind of discrimination is going on. If this act of injustice is seen impartially then it will be revealed that the Centre is not only giving a step

motherly treatment to Bihar but that one of an enemy. The Union Government is enemy of our federal structure and national integrity. It is acting to bereft the State of its due share and is playing enmity with it. It has an enmity with the Bihar Government and the crores of people of Bihar are also subjected to the same enemy like treatment. Hence, through the discussion on this Finance Bill, I would like to submit that one of the Minister from Bihar, has already tendered the resignation and the rest of the MP's and the Ministers from Bihar will also follow the suit to give a fall to this Government. I conclude with this appeal.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill with some observations, with some clarifications and some objections along with some submissions.

I remember when the Budget proposals were placed. Trinamool Congress and its leader, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, objected three of your proposal very vehemently on the floor of the House. It was also reported that you became unhappy. You expressed your dissatisfaction. These were published in the newspapers and even in the few meetings also, you expressed your dissatisfaction with the speech delivered by Kumari Mamata Banerjee on the floor of the House in Parliament.

We must say that that time it was the hue and cry of Trinamool Congress and our Party that eastern zone is the worst sufferer of the regional imbalances after Independence. I would certainly share the views and Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh who represents Bihar and our friend from Orissa. He also clarified this. The reasons are best known to the consecutive Governments that why the eastern region became the worst sufferer of the regional imbalances. West Bengal is certainly topping the list on many occasions. The issue of IISCO has been raised.

We have no hesitation to support such types of demands where the interest of people is involved. We support such type of demands made by whatever political parties, but I must appreciate that after taking the assessment of the people's sentiment, you have certainly withdrawn and given some concessions which amount to Rs. 2,857 crore. We certainly appreciate this. It could have been much better if you could have provided us with more concessions. But these concessions include Rs. 1,450 crore in indirect taxes, Rs. 700 crore in direct taxes, Rs. 7 crore in postal tariff and Rs. 700 crore in LPG price hike. The total comes to Rs. 2,857 crore.

[Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay]

I believe, you have tried to respond to the sentiments, the anxieties, the agonies and the difficulties of the middle class, the lower-middle class and the poorest sections of the society.

In the *Budget At A Glance*, It has been mentioned that the total expenditure is Rs. 4,10,309 crore, out of which you have a Non-Plan expenditure of Rs. 2,96,809 crore. The gap between this volume of Non-Plan expenditure and the Plan expenditure of about Rs. 1,13,500 crore appears to be extreme and huge. I have gone through your Budget statement where you have tried to explain the causes of Non-Plan expenditure and why it has gone up to such a huge level but I would urge upon you that the Non-Plan expenditure has to be brought under control.

The fiscal deficit has gone up to Rs. 1,35,524 crore, that is, 5.3 per cent of the GDP. What steps are you going to take to control the fiscal deficit? Unless this fiscal deficit is reduced, the development process through the Plan outlay proposal would totally go in vain.

On many occasions, I have expressed my desire to know from your end the details of the captains of industry who are taking loans from banks and financial institutions and looting them by not repaying the loans. Why are the names of those defaulters not declared? Is it due to any 'Banking Secrecy Act'? If it is so, what is the problem in abolishing that 'Banking Secrecy Act'? The total loans taken by these industrial houses from the financial institutions would exceed the total amount of fiscal deficit. So, if that amount could be rescued by taking some positive steps and stern measures, the fiscal deficit could be brought within a disciplined limit. I am very much keen to know from your end very categorically the steps that the Government is taking to take care of these defaulters who are looting the country in a way.

Whenever you make a statement or give a press interview, I normally hear is very minutely. You have said that the Budget is a holistic document. You have also said that the integrity of the Budget would not be affected in any way. I believe that you have tried your best to keep your comments in perfect order. I was watching your explanation regarding the *Budget At A Glance*, where a rupee comes from and where it goes and so on.

It has been mentioned here that in respect of Defence, fourteen paise out of one rupee are allotted in the Budget proposals. Recently a report has come out – and I want to know whether it is a fact or not – that bureaucratic power

games are hampering acquisition of defence materials either from within the country or from abroad after the *Tehelka* scam. This has happened due to red-tapism and the bureaucratic system of our country by which Rs. 5,000 crore have gone back, refunded from the Defence Budget in the current year. We pay taxes. The common people pay taxes. Our soldiers have been deployed on the western border with Pakistan, day in and day out. The expenditure for this deployment is spent from our pockets. I would like to know whether they could go in for a war with Pakistan or whether they could be withdrawn.

What is the necessity of deploying soldiers day in and day out, the tax for which we are paying from our pocket? Can we continue with it for such a long time? Out of every one rupee, fourteen paise have been provided for the Defence sector, according to your budgetary proposal. A country like ours should always be careful to see that we spare each and every rupee for the interests of the common man and the poorest of the poor sections of the people. When we certainly demand some remedies, when we protest for cutting the price of LPG and other material, we know it is always difficult for the Government to respond to the appeals made by different political parties, whether in favour or against. But can you deny the power theft in the country in the name of transmission and distribution loss which has gone up to thousands of crores of rupees? If some concrete steps are taken in the name of transmission and distribution losses, it can earn revenue for the Government.

It has been reported that all your poverty alleviation schemes like the *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana*, the Employment Assurance Scheme, the *Mahila Samridhi Yojana*, all are in a very distressed condition and money is being looted from this sector. I would rather say that the process of austerity has to be maintained. Nowadays, it has become a fashion to say that there is a necessity to reduce the cost of governance, but no serious attempt has actually ever been made to identify the specific sources of leakage. I would rather mention here that if we actually follow the process of austerity, we can certainly save the revenue. The MPs are provided with 'J' Class facility to level. But I would better mention here that my leader, Kumari Mamata Banerjee has never gone anywhere in 'J' class. She has travelled only in Economy Class throughout her career.

[Translation]

This may he has saved a lot for the Government as T.A. D.A. in the last 20 years.

[English]

So, what I would appeal to you is that 'Dream Budgets' always take care that if you punish the poor people. They will bounce you back in the ballot boxes. You will have to hear, you will have to listen, you will have to give patient hearing to all the political parties, to all the speakers. Before you formulate a Budget, you only meet the captains of industries in five star hotels or in banquet halls. Never does the Finance Minister go to the downtrodden people, to the farmers. Conferences are held only in North Block, not at the grass-root level, at the level of the farmers, to know how they are feeling. Once a budget proposal is declared, if it is withdrawn, ultimately you may be designated as Rollback Finance Minister. But I would never say so. I would certainly say that you have responded to the people's agony and to the people's cry.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam) : But not fully.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : My colleague has categorically said that you should respond fully. I understand your difficulty. I understand your problem. But still I would say about the half per cent reduction in interest rate. Normally the retired employees, the retired school teachers keep their money in small savings. But there also, you have extended your hands of taxation.

Sir, we fully disagree with this. It was 1.5 per cent earlier. Now another half per cent has been added. Now the total reduction has gone up to two per cent. What we feel is that you give relief to those people who have small amounts of money and who believe in small savings. I would request that maximum concession may kindly be provided at the TDS level and particularly to those who are living below the poverty line. They are to be given all sorts of facilities and assistance and cooperation at all levels.

The hon. Prime Minister in his Address at the CII conference recently has said one thing. I better read it here. He said :

"When our Finance Minister Shri Yashwant Sinha talks about our determination to achieve seven or eight per cent GDP growth, he knows that he has his feet on the ground. Believe in India; believe also in our Finance Minister."

We will certainly believe you as the hon. Prime Minister has suggested. But you create confidence in the minds of the downtrodden people of the country. You create confidence among the middle class people and the lower

middle class people of the country that a Government is operating, that a Government is ruling in the country who really think for the common masses of this country.

It has started appearing that this Government is anti-middle class; it has started appearing that this Government is always for taxing the poorest of the poor people of the country and as if this Government means a Government for taxation. This Government must come out from these things.

I fully agree with our colleague, hon. Member Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi of Telugu Desam who very firmly and positively raised the issues. We hope this year's budgetary proposals will help the poor people.

When the Finance Bill was being discussed, without making it any prestige issue at all and despite many comments made by the newspapers that you have bent, you have succumbed to the pressure of the allies parties of the NDA etc. and many of those things, you have withdrawn some of the taxation proposals. We still believe that the areas which are still left, out may kindly be announced now, today, upto certain level about which I have mentioned at the initial stage.

I repeat that you may kindly take all the necessary steps and that austerity may give you a major direction. So far as the fiscal deficit is concerned, kindly abolish the Banking Secrecy Act. It actually can give you relief from the fiscal deficit. I hope that this part will be clarified today with an open mind and we want to get a very positive clarification from you. The fiscal deficit alone is causing Indian economy to such a ruinous stage. It has reached upto a certain level and you have also got to keep the whole country's picture in mind while overcoming through these things.

These are a few of our proposal from our Party – Trinamool Congress. Our leader Kumari Mamata Banerjee has already touched about these while taking part in the general discussion on the Budget. I reiterate it and I hope that you will give a satisfactory reply to all these points in your reply to the debate.

With these words I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, probably the hon. Minister did not introduce this year's budget in an auspicious hour because severe riots took place in Gujarat soon after he introduced the budget. When

[Shri Lakshman Singh]

the Finance Bill was presented then also it was not done in an auspicious hour. When he introduced the Finance Bill on Friday then the House was soon adjourned due to lack of quorum. Today when we started discussion on the Finance Bill, we came to know that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has tendered his resignation. I would like to suggest to the hon. Finance Minister and other friends in the Government that before coming to the House they should come by checking the auspiciousness of the occasion. They should better bow before Hanumanji because he alone will make them reach their target. If he does not do so anything could happen. . . . (Interruptions)

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees the time of the House can be extended because 11 more Members are yet to speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Please extend it by an hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN : However hon. Members should keep in mind their turn to speak.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, let us know at what time, approximately and not exactly, the voting will take place so that we can be present in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The voting will take place approximately at 7.00 p.m. or 7.15 p.m. It will depend on hon. Members. The maximum time is 7.30 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not make a long speech. The Finance Minister is very perturbed. He is more disturbed by the MP's from the treasury benches rather than by MP's from the opposition. Half of our job has been done by the parliamentarian from the treasury benches. hence I will not make a long speech if the Finance Bill is reviewed then it is revealed that 16 percent value added tax has been withdrawn from some articles and continued on some others. Among such article on which this has not been withdrawn is polyester filament yarn. This question was raised in the House during the Question Hour two days ago but discussion could not be held on it. The question was that after signing the WTO,

European Union and Bangladesh which used to import a large quantity of polyester yarn from our country have increased the import duty by approximately 35-40 percent. Hence industry should have been given the financial assistance because lakhs of people are associated with the textiles industry. What was done to them instead of having been provided with assistance. On the contrary a tax of 16 percent has been imposed on them. Today such is the situation that all who are associated with the polyester filament yarn are in trouble. Industries are closing down and the people working therein are on the verge of starvation. What second step was taken ? To whom the tax relief has been given right now our colleagues said that tax relief has been given in the import of foreign liquor. In what areas the tax relief has been provided ?

[English]

Entertainment industry has been allowed for the next five years a deduction of 50 per cent of the profits earned by units constructing and operating multiplex theatres.

[Translation]

Those millionaires have been given tax relief who will construct multiplex theatres by inverting crores of rupees. A decision to the effect of giving tax relief to the companies or units which will undertake the softwood plantation in the barren land. It is a good decision but it would have been much better if the some concession or relief had been provided to the joint Hindu families or the individuals. Companies will come and vanish after enjoying the tax relief by undertaking plantation. Who will take care of those trees ? Those plants will be looked after by the people living in villages and towns or by the farmers. One more decision has been taken. The tax relief being enjoyed by the three organisations namely N.D.D.B., Oil Investment Board and Prasar Bharti has been withdrawn. The founder of N.D.D.B., Dr. Kurein has won many international awards. It was the scheme of the former Congress Government and the dream of Sardar Patel which was realised in setting up of a big institute like Amul Dairy in the country. However, that dream of Sardar Patel has been dashed by one stroke of pen. The responsibility of losses incurred by the Amul Dairy and also by the farmers associated with this movement rests with the Government. Though, Sardar Patel has been forgotten but efforts are being made to remember fake little Sardar who has set Gujarat on fire. It is a matter of sorrow that efforts are being made to save him. Only the time will tell us to how much the Gujarat riots will affect the economy of country. The earlier Congress Government used to maintain a calamity fund in the country to deal

with the crisis of drought and floods, a mention of which has been made by Shri Raghuvansh Prasadji. He had said that North-East and Bihar are experienced floods every year but calamity fund has been dismantled. Those industrialists should be given tax relief who donate funds to the calamity fund so that we could be saved from the crisis arising out of calamities striking the country.

Nothing has been done for the agriculture and allied sector. Social conservation is a very important subject linked with the agriculture of the country. It is a matter of regret that only a sum of Rs. 11 crore has been sanctioned for social conservation programme. The development programme of the entire country has been dealt a blow due to Government's differences with the Laloo Yadav for only a budgetary allocation of Rs. 30 crore has been made for this sector. It has only been done owing to differences with Laloo Yadav. He is a farmer and is associated with agriculture. Why we do not know why the Government fear Lalooji so much. The entire dairy development programme, forestry and wild-life is also an important subject. We read in newspapers and also viewed on T.V. how an area of one lakhs hectare of forest in Jammu regions was devastated by fire. It is in summer that the forest wealth in lakh of areas of land is ruined owing to fire alongwith the depletion of sources of livelihood of the forest dwellers. Nothing has been done for them.

An amount of Rs. 208 crore has been provided in revised estimate for the year 2001-2002 for the storage and warehousing but this year the amount has been reduced to Rs. 168 crore. There is no storage capacity for foodgrains in the country, because there has been bumper harvest. On one hand stress is laid on increasing storage capacity, on the other storage facility is curtailed. Do the Government want that foodgrains got rotted in the open.

Some concessions has been given to small scale industries. The big industrialists have also been permitted to move to that sector. Consequently small sector industries are closing and the small entrepreneurs have come to the roads. They are not in a position to repay bank loans.

Lots of funds have been allocated in the budget for the rural development, it is a good. However, the states do not get funds timely. Funds are provided to those states only which are supporting the Centre. However, those states have been fully neglected which are either not supporting the Centre or are poor like U.P., Orissa and Bihar etc.

Funds in power sector have been given to electronic corporations or bigger projects. However, any mention has been made of the smaller thermal power capacity of ten, twenty or thirty MW capacity nor any tax relief has been provided to them. This is the reason that most of the States in the country are still in the grip of darkness. In petroleum, the ONGC, GAIL, BPCL, HPCL, OIC have not been given any budgetary support.

Similarly natural gas is equally important for the industrialisation. Shri Rajiv Gandhi during the Congress regime had taken a decision to lay HBJ pipeline to extract natural gas from the sea bed and to establish industries connected with this. But no consideration has been given towards transportation of natural gas. I wish that the Government give consideration in this direction and ONGC, GAIL, BPCL, HPCL, and IOC should be given support in the Budget.

Sir, I would not take much time of the House. I would say only this much that if you talk to some owner of a small scale industry or a farmer, they would say that if a big industrialist asks for loan even in crores of rupees, he gets it easily but if a small scale industrialists or a farmer asks for it he has to wonder here and there to get it. This is the reason that the amount of non-performing assets in Nationalised Banks, has increased from rupees 60 thousand crore to rupees 90 thousand crore. What is the reason that they are not given notice ? What is the reason that some defaulters are again given crores of rupees as loan and the same money is sent to foreign countries through hawala. You are doomed, so look for some saving grace. Please ponder over my proposals and give some concessions. Kindly pay some attention towards agriculture and towards poor people. Perhaps you may find some solution in the end. With these words, I extend my thanks to you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to put some facts before the hon. Minister of Finance. I have been living in the metropolitan city of Mumbai for the last thirty years and have also worked in financial institutions like banks. I have been elected from Vidarbha, which is a very backward area and I am well aware of the condition of the middle class as also the lower class people in big cities.

In a city like Mumbai a person takes either a bus, or a rickshaw to go to the station for this office. You must have seen on the television how much crowded are the trains there. One has to pass a time of one and a half or two hours in the train in such a crowd. A person is

[Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul]

unable to see time even in his wrist watch. He somehow reaches his office and again in the evening, after working hard throughout the day, he has to come back to his house under the same conditions. I mean to say that since he has to pay for the rickshaw to go to the station, he has to keep at least 50 rupees in his pocket. Besides, he has to get his train pass in advance. After all these sufferings he expects that he would get some relief in the Budget, but unfortunately the government gave relief of Income Tax in the Budget which has been increased from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. The middle class is all the more burdened. They face problem of space in metropolitan cities, or towns. You would be surprised to know that the common man who does not belong to Mumbai, is unable to get even a Bedroom and a kitchen in 500 square yards, since no place costs less than 25 lakh rupees there. Of course, there are facilities of loan but no Bank or financial institution gives such a big amount of loan. If a loan of five or seven lakhs is given, the deduction reduces this amount. Moreover, the burden of Assessment Tax, water tax and electricity charges are so much increasing day-by-day. As we have the Central Budget, the State Budget, so is the corporation Budget, or the Municipality Budget. We are witnessing increase everywhere.

I have talked about the middle class, but the condition of lower class is all the more worse, they are unable to survive. The rates of vegetables are very high in urban areas, which makes difficult for these people to buy the vegetables. A lower class person can at the most, earn Rs. 50-60 or 70 in a day, but the rates in the market are no different for him. In Mumbai vegetable is sold in grams viz. three or four rupees for hundred grams. A middle class man condition's is very bad. A common man living in a slum, cooks food on stove. The Government increased the rates of kerosene which was questioned by many a people. Big industrialists, traders and stars evade tax worth crores of rupees. They remain under litigation but the result is nil. But how does the tax is recovered from a service class person. Had the Government intended to provide them some relief, they would have increased the limit. The Government have hiked the prices of those commodities which are used by the poor people. They increased the price of domestic gas to Rs. 40 and then reduced rupees 20. Despite being in power, we would say whatever is wrong. We created pandemonium here also and made efforts that the increase in the price of Kerosene and gas could be reduced to some extent or to be done away with. But unfortunately no decision was taken on kerosene.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You raised voice, you did not create pandemonium in the House.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : We have also said one more point as to what provision was made in the Budget for rupees 60 thousand crore NPA. If even the principal amount may be taken with the interest. I have worked in Bank, so I know very well that the interest on this would be more than rupees one lakh crore. The provision of this amount is made for 'big people' who took the money from nationalised bank. People borrow money for setting up industry from nationalised banks. 20 per cent is contributed by the loanee and the rest of 80 per cent is made available by the banks. In the first instance industry is never set up and even if the industry is set up the people manage to refer it to BIFR. This is the reason for the rise in NPA of Banks for which provision is made in the Budget. The cooperative Banks are for the common people. If due to some reason, the Madhepura Mercantile Bank was defrauded then its impact was seen on the entire cooperative bank. No Government has ever thought that our cooperative banks work for common people and some provision should be made for this. We have made a provision of merely 100 crore rupees. We have to think as to what is our national economic policy. Hon. Minister of Finance says that he has tried to make a balance but I would like to ask as to what we have done for the middle class people and common man. We have in fact burdened them all the more.

The income-tax department's notice has also been served to the self employed people like roadside mechanics, carpenters, Dhobis etc. I am surprised that big people are being left and the Government policy to impose income-tax on small people is not right.

What is happening in the name of disinvestment and privatisation ? If privatisation takes place the most of the management will be of private people. Earlier also I had mentioned that there are two types of people in every organisation. One kind is of general people and other is of persons with extra merit. The person with extra-merit thinks if today he is getting 15-20 lakh rupees in the name of VRS, then why not to start own business. But the common man think, private management can sack him on any pretext, therefore, I should leave the job by taking this amount of 15-20 lakh rupees. What is the mental state does a person develop if he is retired 15-20 years early ? At the age of 45-50 he has to get his daughter married, but on that time he is unemployed for 10 years, at that time

his mental condition is very different and in some cases, some people have even committed suicide, CRS is coming in the name of disinvestment VRS. Unemployment was already there in our country and now it is increasing more. In the morning an issue was raised that candidates were not given enough time to write answers in the regional language, because from the entire area of north and south only 100 people were selected, and rest were from UP and Bihar. Why these issues are raised? Only 8800 people were recruited. We are observing that fresh recruitment is banned, but now some recruitment is being made, however, unemployment is increasing more and more. It is very essential to pay attention in this regard. Suddenly, you have given me time, I am thankful to you. . . . (Interruptions) The amount of 100 crore rupees is nothing for corporate Banks. I have raised the issue of farmers because if banks give facilities to the people engaged in small jobs, the Union Government should also extend help to them. Our hon'ble State Minister of Finance is present here. I would request him to convey my message to the hon'ble Minister of Finance. The income-tax limit should be raised, and we would be thankful if announcement to this effect is made today. You reduced standard deduction from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 10,000 if you maintain it at Rs. 15,000 only, it would provide some relief. I would be thankful if you will roll back the increase of Rs. 1.50 in the rate of kerosene. You should withdraw the notice served to small people engaged in self-employment. The income tax should be imposed on the people having income more than 10-15 lakh. While submitting all this, I would like to say only that I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

At the very outset, I must thank the hon. Finance Minister because he has admitted in his speech while presenting the Finance Bill in this august House that his proposed amendments would not change the integrity or would not affect the integrity of the General Budget. It is not only that; but his proposed concessions do not even change the perception of the Budget proposals.

During my speech on the Budget discussion, I told that the philosophy of this Budget is that it gives sops to the corporate sector, to the NRIs and to the foreign companies, and it lashes at the common people with taxes. It is being said here that the hon. Finance Minister has kindly responded to the popular sentiments.

18.26 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA in the Chair]

Does he want us to believe that he is responding to the popular sentiments of our people? I could not understand that. Whose sentiments he is responding to? Is he thinking that he is responding to the sentiments of the working people, to the sentiments of the farmers, to the sentiments of the general masses of our country? Before presenting the Budget, he had Pre-Budget discussions with different representatives; he had discussions with the representatives of the farmers; he had discussions with the representatives of the trade unions; he also had discussions with economists. Did he respond to them? I must say 'no'.

When he presented the Budget in this august House, he knew what was the result of the elections held in four States. Did he respond to that? I must again say 'no'. Why did he do partial rollback? He did it because of the pressure. It is under pressure — pressure from his own house; pressure from the BJP; and maybe, pressure from the Goa Session.

May I recall that sometime back our hon. Finance Minister made a statement? He told that he was the most maligned Finance Minister of our country. It seems so. He is the most maligned Finance Minister of our country. I may not be wrong to recall this statement which he made earlier. He was talking about public opinion.

May I ask who prevented him from considering the demand of the general public in regard to kerosene prices? Who prevented him from responding to the problems of common people regarding postcards, envelopes and other postal materials? Who prevented him from responding to the working people and responding to the farmers? Mercifully, he did not increase the subsidy for the fertilisers. He could not increase the subsidy for the cooking gas. Is he responding to the demands of the general masses? Roll-back is there but why not a total roll-back? I demand a total roll-back. The losses to the exchequer due to the roll-back measures are expected to the tune of Rs. 2587 crore. According to his statement, it is not significant. If it is insignificant, then why did he not consider it while presenting the Budget in this august House?

It has been said that the Finance Minister has taken into consideration the middle class. To some extent, he has reintroduced the dividend tax. The middle class, which invariably is facing the brunt of most budgetary proposals,

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

has now been delivered a body blow. It is strange to find the hon. Minister offering tax rebates in one corner while holding on the dividend tax in another. The income tax rebate between Rs. 1.5 lakh and Rs. 5 lakh which had been halved, has now been kept at 15 per cent. It is nothing but a lollipop. Why is there not a total roll-back?

Nothing has been said about the imposition of five per cent surcharge in relation to the Defence. What about the employment? What about declaring 42,000 employees as surplus in the Government? What about the recovery of the tax revenue which is falling short of target year after year? Imposing more taxes and doing away with exemptions cause the repeated shortfalls in collection. What about the collections of the bid defaulters to the banks? Crores and crores of Rupees are being paid as black money. What stringent action is he going to take against them? What action is he going to take against the black-marketers? Nothing has been said here regarding the recovery of black money?

As the time is very short, I would like to say that the hon. Finance Minister has tried his level best to sweeten this bitter pill but the real purpose has not been served. Basically, this Finance Bill is anti-people. Basically, this Finance Bill has given a body blow to the working people, the farmers, the middle class and the unemployed youth. I must say that it is nothing but a declared war against the common man of the country. So, what I remarked during any speech in the Budget discussion, in this august House, I stand by that. I feel that this attempt is nothing but to try to save the face of the BJP Members who are putting pressure on the Government. So, this is nothing but a trick.

I must conclude to quote what one of the strong personalities of our country, Vivekanand ji said: "No great purpose can be achieved by the tricks". But this is the way the Government is dealing with the issue. I only hope that the hon. Finance Minister will realise the mood of the people across the country. If he is sincere and if he honestly responds to the sentiments of the people, I think he will realise everything. So, I demand a total roll-back and hope that the hon. Minister will respond to that.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister of Finance towards village. Hon'ble Members have said many things. I would not like to repeat them, but I

would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Finance whether the budget presented by him is for the welfare of capitalists and people living in urban areas or for the people living in villages. In the budget you have increased the prices of kerosene, gas, fertilizers, candles, bicycles, watches, salt etc. Besides these, you have also increased the price of many other things. I do not want to go in it's detail. I mean to say that you have increased the prices of items used by the poor, but there has not been roll back in the price of even one item. There is roll back in the prices of those items, which could have endangered the existence of your Government as Mamta Banerjee said, reduce the price of Gas, otherwise you Government will fall. These people will raise the issues linked with the people living in cities, you will agree to it. You know that a very few people in villages use gas, but you have agreed to the demands of people living in urban areas. But there are innumerable such people who neither have electricity, nor water, nor kerosene to lighten the lamps. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad ji and our other hon'ble colleagues made hue and cry about the matters relating to the people living in villages, who are treated like the people below the poverty line but so far there has been no roll back in the tax increased these items. Hon'ble Members have been demanding for reduction in the price of fertilizers, but it has not been clarified whether this will be done or not. Rather you are continuously increasing the price. You had increased the price of potash, urea and DAP and are continuously increasing it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is the condition of farmers. They are neither getting electricity, nor kerosene. In villages, kerosene is being sold at the rate of Rs. 10.50 per litre. If a guest arrives at the poor's place, he has to buy sugar at the rate of Rs. 14-15 per kg. I would like to ask the hon'ble Members to tell how a poor man living in village having only one – two 'bigha' of land, working as labourer in the cities, can buy sugar at the rate of Rs. 14-15 per kilogram for the guest coming to his place. The kerosene is being sold at the rate of Rs. 10.50 per litre. How will the poorman feed his children? There is no electricity. You have increased the price of fertilizer, besides when his wheat crops get ready, he will need tubewell for irrigation which cost him Rs. 50-60 per hour. For irrigation, he has to pay Rs. 60 per hour for tubewell. Similarly, the fields are ploughed by tractor. He has to take tractor on rent at the rate of Rs. 100-150 per hour for ploughing. Today, the farmers of entire country are thrashing the wheat, but are not having electricity. You have raised the

price of diesel up to Rs. 20 per litre. You would have been going to the villages by train, and had observed, that farmers are taking tractors on rent and thrashing the crop in their fields in the sunny afternoons alongwith their wives and kids, the price of diesel is Rs. 20 per litre. You can imagine how farmer is leading his life. When his wheat crop would be ready, it will not even be purchased at the rate of Rs. 6.25. Then, he will have to sell it at the rate of Rs. 425 or 500. I have heard that in Kanpur a foreign private company has purchased 200 quintal of wheat, but even not a single farmer went to sell his wheat to the Government's procurement centre because he will not get money from there. What is purchased there through the middlemen. What kind of work the Government is doing for villages ?

Similarly, there is a problem of unemployment. The youth living in villages somehow manage to study upto B.A., M.A. with their parent's earning, but after that they fail to get any employment. Even the boys having MBBS degree are not getting jobs. They are unemployed and the Government says they are going to implement Jai Prakash Employment Scheme, Employment Assurance Scheme. I would like to know that as per the Prime Minister's promise to give employment to one crore people, after the lapse of 4 years, how many educated youth have been given jobs. On one side you talk of giving employment. . .
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak in reference to Finance Bill.

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL : On one side Government talks of employment and on other side people are unemployed. What is the tenure of Shri Sinha as a Minister one year, two years or four years ? Therefore, do something of that kind, which would be remembered, do something to win the heart of farmers. The big capitalist and millionaires will not recognise you after the fall of your Government. They will not talk to you. Therefore, I would like to say that those who work for the welfare of the poor, would be remembered. Therefore, bring the budget for the welfare of the poor, farmers and workers living in the villages. You said that General Insurance Scheme would be run. I would like to say that the wheat of farmers is lying, and there is tension all around. The crop of wheat, pea and gram is ready, and problems are coming from all sides. The farmer is bearing its brunt. His hard-earned money is being wasted. What safety has been provided to him by the Government ? Now the hon. Minister is talking about life saving insurance scheme for farmers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. We are not debating the Annual Budget; we are debating the Finance Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL : I would like to say that the Government should introduce such an insurance scheme which could cover all the farmers of the country and their crops. Similarly, the Government should deposit the entire premium of the insurance for the poor people, rickshaw pullers etc. so that in case of an accident or falling in, they could get the money from the Central Government. Tax should be imposed on big people who even change their cars everyday. I do not want to name any particular leader but in my area 5% of political leaders are very rich and spending money lavishly on cars and bungalows. Tax should be imposed on them also. The Budget should be formulated in such a manner by which we could recover money from them.

The last point which I would like to make is that a meagre amount is given under MPLAD scheme. It has created problems for us. It seems very difficult for us to visit our constituencies and talk to people there. Therefore, I would like to say that either funds under this scheme should be enhanced or the scheme should be scrapped.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to speak on Finance Bill very briefly. I would express my views through two points. Earlier also members of various political parties of our alliance had made a request to roll back the increased prices of kerosene. Mr. Finance Minister, kerosene is used by the last man of the society for whom several schemes in the name of 'Antoyoday' have been implemented for the last 53 years of our independence. However, the Government have increased the prices of kerosene which is used by the last man of the society who lives in far-flung hilly areas and the adivasi living below the poverty line having very low purchasing capacity but he has to purchase kerosene for cooking his food. There is no electricity in remote villages. The poor people use kerosene to light their lamps. I cannot understand why the Government have raised the prices of a commodity used by the poor. I am not able to understand the attitude of the Finance Minister. I would like Finance Minister to explain his position.

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the people living below the poverty line have low purchasing capacity. They are not in a position to purchase kerosene at the rate of Rs. 10/- per litre. They are living in a miserable condition. They work hard even for Rs. 5 or Rs. 10. They have no source of income. They are living below the poverty line. Why did the prices of a commodity used by these people has been raised ?

Sir, Finance Ministers seldom popularity among the masses. The present Finance Minister is doing a good job. As per the figures of Planning Commission, 26% of country's population is poor. But I can firmly say that 36-37% of population is poor. The figures furnished by the Planning Commission are nothing but jugglery of figures. The country cannot be misled by such data. People living in remote, backward, far flung rural and hill areas use kerosene for cooking and to light the lamps in their houses. Such people have not been able to understand the meaning of freedom even after 53 years of independence. They are still deprived of electricity, roads and other modern amenities. Therefore, I request the hon'ble Finance Minister to restore the earlier prices of kerosene and not insist upon price rise.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Finance Minister has tried to give some relief. But he realises the problem after lapse of a considerable time. It would be better to consider such issues, like APL, BPL and population etc. seriously while budget formulation alongwith their implication and their pros and cons. Last time the problem regarding off-take of foodgrains was arisen. Thereafter, an expenditure commission was set up. Even after five months the problem remained unresolved and meanwhile off-take stopped. Country's domestic storage capacity was achieved fully and the problem of food storage arose all over the country. I would like to mention that only when a problem is created, remedy is sorted out. Why it is not pondered over before hand ? Why a long term Planning is not formulated to get rid of the recurring difficulties. Therefore, I request you to roll back the prices of kerosene and restore the initial prices.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second thing I would like to make is regarding farmers and villages. They have become synonymous to poverty. The word farmer and village itself depicts the picture of poverty. Therefore, I request that the rise in prices of fertilizer and urea should be rolled back. America's wheat - PL 480 is famous world-wide. Today, we have 610 lakh Mt. Tonnes of foodgrains in our stores.

This statement is repeated every time whether it is the budget statement or any other occasion. Have you ever considered as to whom the credit goes for such a situation. It is the farmer who has produced foodgrains to fill up the godowns and warehouses with 610 million Mt. Tonnes. We feel proud of to be in such a self-sufficient situation where we not only cater to the domestic demand but also in a position to export foodgrains.

This is the result of hard work of farmer who is still living in a pitiable condition. He is not able to feed himself. The farmer who produces foodgrains for the country and whose son fights for the country on border is being penalised by the increase in prices of fertilizers. It is a very serious issue and I request the hon. Minister to ponder over it. We know that alongwith the pressure of strengthening economic development, the whole economic situation is to be taken into account. But how our economy will develop if prices of imported fertilizer are lower and prices of indigenous fertilizer are higher.

In this manner laptop and computer will become cheaper. People will continue use of mobile telephone even if its rate is increased by 50 paise because it hardly affect their economic condition. But farmers will be affected badly if prices of fertilizer are increased by 5 percent. Farmers would not be able to use required quantity of fertilizer in their fields and as a result of which agricultural production will not increase to the desired extent and there is urgent need for increasing national production. Last year Economic Survey of India revealed decline in trend of production which caused great concern and at that time a plan was formulated to charge this trend. I do not know as to whether Economic Survey of India has taken that issue correctly or not but now it has registered increase in national production. Increase in prices of fertilizers, manure, water and other inputs used by farmers will affect them adversely. I, therefore, request you to exclude farmers from price rise. Farmers have to work properly for achieving the target. Engineers construct 7 k.m. road in place of 10 k.m. and complete the formalities of bills, vouchers etc. I am not talking about only Engineers. All the other sections may shirk their duties but farmers have no such option. Farmer has to plough, use tractor, sow improved seeds and supervise the labour on a small piece of land measuring five Katthas to grow foodgrain on that small land of five Katthas. You are hurting the interest of farmers who are working very hard for growing foodgrain. Prices of fertilizers are being increased. This is not proper. I would like to say that farmers should not be troubled.

As hon. Minister of Finance will also express his views here due to paucity of time while concluding I would like to raise an important point. I hope that hon. Minister of Finance will take it seriously and increase in prices of fertilizer will be withdrawn.

My last point is regarding quantitative restrictions imposed in WTO since 1st April 2001. In our country support price for wheat was determined Rs. 620 per quintal whereas price of wheat in international market is less than that. In International market price of wheat is Rs.400 or Rs. 450 per quintal As a result of which foodgrain produced in foreign countries will be dumped here if import duty is not increased. India will become dumping ground for foreign foodgrain. I, therefore, request you to safeguard the interest of farmers. In view of quantitative restrictions foodgrains produced by foreign countries will be dumped which can be checked by imposing countervailing duty or increasing tax. Last time, it was stated that it is a sensitive matter and the proposal of countervailing duty and tax will be considered. The Government have promised to monitor the situation closely from time to time for protecting agricultural production of the country. I am reminding the Government its promise that countervailing duty should be imposed to check dumping of foreign foodgrain in the country.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Athawaleji please be precise, we have to complete it within the prescribed time period. Hon. Minister of Finance has to reply to it and amendment should also be taken up.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the budget, serious debate is being held on Finance Bill. . . .(Interruptions) I am happy that every Member has spoken here for taking measures to alleviate poverty. We have been hearing that poverty is being alleviated. But I would like to say that poverty cannot be alleviated in the country until the Government take the issue seriously and take effective measures in this direction. The hon. Minister of Finance is a nice person. . . .(Interruptions)

Yashwant Sinhaaji, Yeh budget pesh karke aapne sare desh ko de diya hai dhakka.

Yashwant Sinhaaji ne apna Mantralaya abhi kar diya hai pucca,

Aapne budget mein mehngai badhane ka kaam bahut achchha kiya hai,

Badi hoshiyari se aapne garibon se badla liya hai.

I would like to say that much only that proper attention should be paid towards poor people in the budget if farmers and agricultural labourers living in villages are to be brought above the poverty line. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I am raising the issue regarding welfare of poor and you are asking me to conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am saying that you please address the Chair and do not look here and there.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I will not be elected next time if I raise irrelevant issue. I will not take much time. As regard budget, I would like to say that total budget for this year is 4 lakh 10 thousand three hundred nine crore rupees, out of which planned budget is worth 1 lakh 13 thousand and five hundred crores and non-planned budget is worth 2 lakh 96 thousand eight hundred nine crore rupees. I do not know what you think about it but I feel that non-planned expenditure affect the budget. I, therefore, request that if next time you remains here. . . .(Interruptions) We will see what happens tomorrow. Paswanji has resigned and who will resign, I do not know. But there is a need to consider it seriously.

Yadavji has told that there is a need to reduce the price of kerosene. The price of kerosene have been increased by Rs. 1.50 that should be withdrawn. You will face its consequences if Rs. 1.50 is increased on kerosene at a stretch. Kerosene is used by poor people living in Jhuggi-Jhoparis. Price of diesel should be reduced by Rs. 5 or 7. The price of diesel has been increased to Rs. 20 per litre which should be curtailed by Rs. 10. Yashwant Sinhaaji, please listen to my point. . . .(Interruptions) I am concluding. . . .(Interruptions) Have you stopped that ?

[Translation]

19.00 hrs.

The diesel prices at present should be reduced from Rs. 20 per litre to Rs. 10 per Litre. Likewise, the prices of petrol should be reduced from Rs. 26 per litre of Rs. 20 per litre. To keep a check on the price rise, prices of Diesel and Petrol should be rolled back. Hon'ble Finance Minister should ponder over it. I hope he will do the same.

I am not supporting the Finance Bill presented in the House. I will definitely support it at an appropriate time.

[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

If they support us tomorrow, we will support them. They should work in the interest of the poor. I hope they will work for the poor. We are not supporting the finance bill this time. We will support it when we form Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not talking about the removal of this Government rather they themselves are doing in this way. We do not want to defeat the Government but we would like to discuss the Gujarat issue. Government should also think over it. It is not our job to dismiss a Government but we will keep on saying this till Shri Modi is removed. Government should work in the interest of the poor people. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Melegon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion is going on in the House to give final touch to the Finance bill. I am grateful to you for giving me opportunity to speak. Providing funds for irrigation, communication, education, power, to check poverty, unemployment and defence purposes is the main job of Finance Departments. More and more funds should be provided for these works. We are grateful to hon'ble Finance Minister for providing adequate funds for defence. However, I would also like to mention that "Vah Rey Sarkar Tera Khel, Sasti Sharab aur Mahnga mitti Ka teil". I do not want to repeat the points mentioned by the hon'ble members in this regard. Only Rs. 360 crores have been provided for tribal people though their population is approx. 7 crore. It is a very meagre amount. Just as a provision of Rs. 900 crores has been made for weaker and tribal people in Maharashtra, the same provision should be made here also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are well aware of the power situation in the country. Sometimes even parliament has to bear power cut. Therefore, we should seriously consider about solar energy. I visited many places including Abu where solar energy is being used. Therefore, more emphasis should be given to solar energy and more funds should be given in this regard. The problem of drinking water is also there. Tribal people are very backward and are living in hardships. Central Government charge 10% tax to provide water through tap. I request you to reduce this tax.

So far as agriculture which signify the prestige of our country, is concerned, Government should pay more attention towards the concerned schemes implemented by other departments. This is my request to you.

I thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK (Aska) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to take part in this discussion on the Finance Bill, 2002.

It is well known that the Money Bill of the Government of India should not be one for the Central Government at New Delhi alone, but should be for the nation as a whole and should address all the problem of the country.

While discussing on the Money Bill moved by the hon. Finance Minister, it is necessary to appreciate the backdrop of high expectations of not only the Central Government, but also the whole nation, including the poor State like Orissa. It is, perhaps not appropriate to be satisfied that the G.D.P. growth in the post-reform period has improved in the Eighth and Ninth Plan period of the country as a whole, but it should also be taken into account as to how the budgetary measures taken by the Government of India has also infused some fast-growing tendencies like other 10 developed countries for which India is proud of in the growth process of poor States.

The growth of literacy has increased from 52 per cent in 1991 to 65 per cent in 2001 at All India average level while in Orissa it is at the level of 49.09 per cent. Overall female literacy in the State of Orissa is 34.68 per cent even with percentage of record is at such a low level of 9.01 per cent in the far-flung district of Orissa like Nowrangpur and 11.6 per cent in the district like Malkangiri which are located in tribal-dominated tracks of the State.

While it is propounded in the Approach Paper of the 10th Five-Year Plan that the infant mortality rate of the nation is stagnated at 72 per 1000, for the last several years the infant mortality rate is 96 per 1000 in Orissa. Similarly, while the percentage of drop-outs in the primary education is 36.32 per cent at the national level, are we to be proud of to stagnate at 52.54 per cent in Orissa with all the efforts of the State Government? The population of the Scheduled Castes and the Schedule Tribes combined together constitute 38.41 per cent of Orissa's population as compared to the All India level of 24.34 per cent.

There have been no perceptible increase in the productivity of rice, the principal crop in a predominantly agrarian State like Orissa, the yield rate being 13.7 quintal per hectare compared to the All India level of 18.6 quintal per hectare, leave aside the yield rate of 31.3 quintals in States like Punjab. The per capita income of the State of Orissa is far below the national average and the gap

is widening further over the years while the gap was 316 in 1981-82, the gap has increased almost five-folds in 2000-01.

The dependence of agriculture on monsoon is as high as 70.10 per cent in Orissa, while the Government of India has not come up with a single national irrigation project in Orissa. Though agriculture in Orissa is heavily damaged by natural calamities like flood and drought every alternate year, the Government of India has not provided for another multi-purpose dam over river Mahanadi for irrigation and flood control even after the Prime Minister's announcement. Even if Orissa is in debt trap and suffered from natural calamities like Super Cyclone, severe drought and unprecedented flood consecutively for three years from 1999 to 2001, the Government of India has not responded to the request of the State Government for moratorium of the loan and waiver of interest.

Though the Approach Paper of the 10th Five Year Plan has stressed for responding to the growing impatience at the face of the large number of our population continuing to live in abject poverty, still there are alarming gaps in our social attainments even after five decades of planning.

The Tenth Plan has postulated to strengthen our work by avoiding repetition of the past failures and accordingly stressed the need to modify policies and institutions, based on past experience, keeping in mind the changes that have taken place in the Indian economy, and urged to drop a reform plan instead of a resource plan. But the Finance Bill has not even attempted to address it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through poor States, like Orissa, are expecting a lot in the budgetary exercise at the Centre, the Budget presented by the hon. Union Minister of Finance has not even attempted to address the weaknesses that have emerged during the last five decades for the poor States. The Prime Minister has directed the Planning Commission to examine the feasibility of doubling the *per capita* income in the next 10 years whereby the rate of growth of GDP is to be fixed at around 8.7 per cent. There is no whisper of Central assistance to the poor States to rise up to meet this additional requirement neither in the Budget proposals for the current year nor in the Money Bill, thereby indicating the long standing neglect of infrastructural development right from the British days till date. Perhaps, the Union Minister of Finance is aware that the contribution of the industrial sector to NSDP in Orissa has stagnated at 10 to 11 per cent in the last two decades even though Orissa is rich in terms of mineral wealth in

the whole country. Lack of communication and railway infrastructure, etc., have rendered the task of developing the State extremely difficult. There is no attempt in this Money Bill to come to the rescue of the State Government in these sector though they belong to the Central Government. The increase in the *per capita* gap of the State and all-India average and development of the poor States, like Orissa, necessitate substantial investment. Due to various structural deficiencies in the country, the State is not able to arrange the required resources to take up developmental activities on adequate scale to raise the *per capita* income.

The development of a nation cannot be confined only by laying stress on the border areas and thereby benefiting the border States alone – ignoring the development of the human resource – that are below the poverty line in non-border States. Unfortunately, a traditional opinion continues in the minds of successive Governments that the border States alone are deserving to avail of the benefits of Special Category States at the cost of other poor States whose population is in abject poverty. Supporting the cause of the border States, with all their security risks and likely hazards, is not opposed by me. But it should not be at the cost of the poor States, especially the poorest States of the country.

I want to present before you a comparative picture of the socio-economic indicators of Special Category States for the appreciation of the hon. Members of this august House. The percentage of SC and ST population in Orissa is more than that of the Special Category States of Sikkim, Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Assam. The percentage of irrigated area is much less than that of Manipur, and Jammu and Kashmir. The percentage of cultivators and agricultural labourers to the total population is more than that of all the Special Category States, except Nagaland.

Earlier, I have mentioned about the poor literacy rate and the percentage of dropouts in primary education. It is much more than that of the Special Category States of Sikkim, Meghalaya, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Assam. The consumption of fertilisers in the shape of kilograms per hectare in Orissa is much less than that of Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir.

As I have stated earlier, as per the 55th survey of the Planning Commission, the percentage of population below the poverty line in Orissa is much more than that of the Special Category States and *per capita* NSDP at current

[Shrimati Kumudini Patnaik]

prices is much less than that of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir. The *per capita* plan outlay is much less than that of the Special Category States even to the tune of only one-fifth of Special Category States, like Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

If Orissa is not declared a Special Category State taking into account all its deficiencies – even much more than that of many Special Category States –, because it is not a border State for the fault and the State Government, which could counter the naxalite menace last they would have carved out a Special Nation out of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, it shall have to suffer. If the Central Government is sensitive to declare it the poorest State of the country, that is, Orissa a Special Category State, shall it extend the pattern of loan versus grant at the rate of 10:90 to Orissa for its poverty and loan?

If it shall not be possible on the part of the Central Government to maintain the equity of development by granting special assistance to poor and undeveloped States like Orissa, then within the parameters of the Constitution of India why not allow the State of Orissa to negotiate of investment by affluent countries for the development for irrigation, industries, etc. for removal of poverty from Orissa?

I hope the Union Finance Minister will, please, reflect these feelings of the people of Orissa in the Finance Bill by making necessary amendments of the Finance Bill presented in the House today. Expecting these insertions in the Finance Bill, I support the Money Bill moved by the hon. Union Finance Minister.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, before the hon. Finance Minister replies, we would like to know whether it is a fact that the hon. Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has resigned or not. The news is outside the House, but the House does not know. The Treasury Benches can confirm this. Is it not the right of the Members of Parliament to know? . . . (Interruptions)

19.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, an hon. Minister has resigned from this Government. The Parliament is on. We would like to know from the Treasury

Benches, whether it is a fact or not. It should be confirmed. Should we not know about this? The Government can get up and tell the House about this. . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, it is true that the Coal and Mines Minister, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has resigned. The Prime Minister has accepted his resignation and forwarded it to the President.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the 27 Members, according to my count, who have participated in this discussion on the Finance Bill and have made some very valuable comments and suggestions.

Sir, as the House is aware, we discussed the Budget in three parts. The first part is a General Discussion on the Budget, when we raise issues of general nature connected with the Budget, the economic situation of the country, the strategy of the Budget and all those issues. According to that practice, This House has the occasion to discuss over two days the Budget in General and I also had the opportunity of replying to that debate.

Then, for want of time, the House could take up only one Ministry's Demands for Grants for discussion. That was the Ministry of Agriculture, to which my colleague the hon. Minister for Agriculture had given a reply, after which all the other Demands were put to vote and the Appropriation Bill was passed.

This is the third and final stage of the passing of the Budget, when this House takes up the consideration of the Finance Bill, which is generally a discussion on the taxation proposals contained in the Finance Bill to complete the Budget exercise. But it has been quite natural that hon. Members have used this occasion also, the discussion on the Finance Bill, to raise issues which are of general nature or even of specific nature, but which relate not so much to the financial proposal but to the Budget in general.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : But that was mandatory

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : That is provided for in the rules, I am not objecting to it. Shri Kanungo has raised the issue of Orissa finances. For paucity of time, I would like to state in the beginning that many of those issues have been discussed at the time of discussion on General Budget and necessarily one will have to skip some of those issues.

I would, first of all, like to concentrate on the issues contained in the Finance Bill and subject to your permission and the time permitting I will take up other issues. First, is the issue of roll-back. I would like to take up this issue first because there has been much talk of roll-back in this House and more outside this House.

Some friends in the media have been very happy to recall that I am a roll-back Minister and true to my image, I have significantly rolled back the proposals in this Budget and I have destroyed the sanctity of not only the budgetary process but also the integrity of the Budget which I had said, "I will take."

Now, I had promised that I would come out with my statement of how these budgetary proposals have been amended. I will not go back into the holy past but I would like to mention here only the decade of 1990s covering the tenure of four Governments and three Finance Ministers. Sir, as you are aware, in the Finance Bill, the Government comes out with new clauses. They are either amendments to the existing clauses or they are new clauses. And the total number of such clauses which are either amendments to the existing clauses or new clauses are a matter of record of every year's Budget, and the amendments subsequently introduced at the time of the consideration of the Finance Bill is also something which is a matter of record.

Now, I have got some calculations made. In 1991, the total number of clauses was 117; the total number of Government amendments were 28; as a percentage of the clauses to amendments at the time of the passage of the Finance Bill, it was 23.93 per cent. almost 24 per cent of the total number of clauses. I am not going into the issue. The fertiliser prices had been raised that year by 40 per cent and subsequently it was rolled back and the increase was limited to only 30 per cent. In the subsequent year, Sir, in 1992, the number of clauses in the Finance Bill was 111; the total number of Government amendments were 61; and the percentage of amendments to clauses; therefore; went up to 55 per cent. In 1997, the clauses were 77; the amendments were 28; and the percentage was 36.36 per cent. In 1998, when I earned this distinction of being a rollback Minister, the clauses were 101; the amendments were 45; and the percentage was 44.55. This year, the total number of clauses is 117; the total number of Government amendments is 24; and the percentage is 20.51. I am giving this comparative figures to suggest where exactly I stand, and then I told outside this House that I would be neither the first Finance Minister nor the

last Finance Minister to make changes in the Finance Bill, I was not being far wrong. I have made changes. Every Finance Minister makes changes at the time of the consideration of the Finance Bill. I will hasten to add once again something which I have stated here in this House on the 26th of this month that despite these amendments that Government has suggested, which I have mentioned on the 26th, the integrity of the Budget is intact, the integrity of the Budget has not been eroded, and I am saying this with all the emphasis at my command and the issue of roll back, and the issue whether this is in order or not in order is a judgement which I would like to leave to the House to posterity.

Sir, the other issue which has been raised by some friends in this House is the issue of revenue collections not keeping pace with the budgeted figures. Here again, I went into the figures from the beginning of 1991 and I found that there have been shortfalls in previous regimes also. Compared to the Budget Estimates, even compared to the Revised Estimates, there have been shortfalls both in direct taxes, in excise and in customs. I will not like to take the time of the House in giving the details but it is also an established act that on many occasions in the past, there have been shortfalls compared to the revenue.

The point is that when we sit down to prepare the Budget, we make certain projections and it is quite likely that because of events which cannot be anticipated at the time of the preparation of the Budget, our Budget Estimates might go wrong. Sometimes they do. Who could have anticipated that there would be an attack on this Parliament on the 13th of December or an attack on the Jammu and Kashmir Legislature on the 1st of October or that there would be attack on the twin towers on the 11th of September? These were all unanticipated events. So, there are incidents which take place, which have an impact on the economy, both global and national, and they have an impact on the Budget.

I had an occasion to tell the House that as far as the Budget of last year is concerned, there has been a slippage of fiscal deficit, but the slippage is not on account of any overrun in expenditure. We have been able to compress expenditure by more than Rs. 10,000 crore compared to the Budget Estimates. It is on account of the economic condition which prevailed last year that there has been a shortfall in revenue, a quite substantial shortfall of revenue of over Rs. 20,000 crore, as a result of which the fiscal deficit went up. And I have come to the conclusion and I would like to share this with the hon. House that in this

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

country we have a mistaken notion of a dream Budget. The mistaken notion of the dream Budget is that you give up taxes. Then, everybody hails you as having presented a dream Budget. Then, subsequently, the same people will say it has become a nightmare. The last dream Budget that I know was the dream Budget of 1997. I was not particularly happy when my Budget of 2001 was described as a dream Budget. On both occasions, my predecessor had given up taxes and reduced tax rates.

Last year, I had given up taxes and on both occasions, I had noticed that while we were hailed for having presented a dream Budget, the revenue of the country, the revenue of the Government took a massive knock. On both occasions, there was substantial fall in revenue and, therefore, in the background of that experience, in the background of the experience of 1997, I decided that this year one should ensure that we keep the fiscal deficit to the minimum, as minimum as possible. I have already gone on record to say that I am not at all happy with the fiscal deficit of 5.3 per cent which I have projected in the Budget. If with the tax concessions which have been given, and as a result if we are not able to compress expenditure, then the fiscal deficit will go up to 5.4 per cent. This is not a situation where I should I feel happy; the House should feel happy. This is a serious situation. One thing which is adding to that serious situation, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the issue of a declining tax GDP ratio. Ever since 1989-90, the tax GDP ratio has consistently declined. And I have figures to show how over the last four regimes, as I said, beginning with 1991, the taxes have been brought down. We wanted to be as moderate in the incidence of tax as possible. Therefore, there has been reduction in tax rates.

In 1991, before the then Congress Government came into power, the domestic tax on companies was 50 per cent compared to 35 per cent now. The minimum rate of personal income tax was 20 per cent and the highest rate was 50 per cent. Over a period of time, it has been reduced. I have said it in this House that in the dream Budget of 1997, these rates were rationalized to three rates. They were brought down to 10 per cent, 20 per cent and 30 per cent, and I have continued over my five Budgets these rates. I have not changed the rates. Now what I would like to say is this. There has been a great deal of discussion in this House and outside this House about the impact of the taxation proposals on the 'so-called' middle class.

I just now mentioned that 20 per cent was the minimum rate in 1991 and 50 per cent was the maximum rate. It continued in 1991-92 and 1992-93. It was only in 1993-94 that the maximum or the peak rate was brought down to 40 per cent and it continued at 40 per cent until the dream Budget of 1997-98, when the peak was brought to 30 per cent and the lower slab was brought to ten per cent. All along, there was a surcharge of 12 per cent. For one or two years, the surcharge was not there but later the surcharge came back. I myself, in 2001-2002, had raised the surcharge to 13 per cent, which I abolished last year and except for the 2 per cent surcharge for the earthquake in Gujarat there was no other surcharge. This year, there has been a small surcharge of five per cent.

Now, I would like to make a small point. When Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal started this discussion in this House, he had said that this five per cent surcharge should not have been there. He said that this five per cent surcharge should not have been levied. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : I said so because the defences of the country are precariously placed in the hands of the present Minister of defence. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Yes, you had said so and I would have come to that point myself even if you had not reminded me.

When I was presenting my Budget, I said that this five per cent surcharge was a security surcharge for national defence. I made it quite clear that our forces were still mobilised on the border. The whole House knows it; the whole country knows it. It has been a mobilisation of substantial proportions. I had explained that all this costs money. I had also explained that this very modest surcharge of five per cent had not been levied on the lowest slab of ten per cent, that is, on taxable income of Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 60,000 but only on the higher slabs. Also, for the first time, I have levied it on the foreign companies. I have not even spared the IT companies, which had a tax holiday for ten years. Even there, the ten per cent has been brought and a surcharge has been put there because we in the Government feel that this was a security surcharge that everyone should pay without demur. I am happy because apart from Shri Bansal's objection, I have not heard voices of protest against the five per cent surcharge.

He explains that he raised it because the defences were precariously placed and all that. He is entitled to his opinion but what I would like to say is that national security

is an issue that should not become a political issue between the Opposition and the Ruling coalition. It is an issue on which the whole House must stand united. It is an issue where we must be able to send a strong signal to the rest of the world and especially to those who are not very friendly towards us that as far as the national security concerns are concerned, we are all completely united. In fact, I would hasten to add that that was the message, which came out of all the statements of the hon. Leader of the Opposition and the Spokesperson of the Congress Party. It is very welcome. Therefore, I was a little surprised that Shri Bansal raised this issue.

The other point I would like to make is one what has been the effort in tax reforms that we in the five Budgets of this Government have attempted. It has been our endeavour to ensure that the proportion of direct taxes in overall tax collection goes up. I am happy to be informing the House about this because the House is aware that direct tax is more equitable compared to indirect taxes. In indirect taxes, everyone pays whatever we levy, whether he is a poor man or a rich man, a kisan or a worker or an industrialist. Everyone pays the same tax. It is only in direct taxes that we have this equity that the richer pay more, the poorer pay less and the very poor do not pay any tax at all. Therefore, it is the accepted theology of taxation worldwide that the proportion of direct tax, as a proportion of total tax, should go up. I am glad to be informing the House that it was in the ratio of 80:20 in 1991. At the beginning of the last decade, the direct tax proportion in total tax was only 20 per cent and the indirect tax proportion was 80 per cent. Now the proportion of direct taxes has gone beyond 40 per cent and the contribution of indirect taxes has declined to less than 60 per cent. This is a very very major development which has taken place and I can claim some credit for the fact that over the last four years, the contribution of direct taxes has gone up. I can claim some credit for the fact that it is as a result of the 1/6 formula and I introduced in 1998. It is as a result of other measures that we have taken, like reporting cash transactions and cash purchases, etc. that the number of returns filed today, as Shri Kirit Somaiya was saying, has gone up to 2,86,00,000 and the number of assesseees has gone up to around 2,50,00,000. This has been almost a hundred per cent increase over what we had inherited when we had assumed office in 1998. Therefore, while the effort will continue to be converge and then overtake by direct taxes the contribution that indirect taxes make, both the rationality of the tax structure and the simplification of the tax structure will continue to be our concern. Here, I

would like to say that as far as the indirect taxes are concerned, in excise duty, when I had assumed office in 1998, there were 11 rates. Today, there is only one rate and that rate is 16 per cent. There are only eight items which are outside of 16 per cent rate, apart from textiles, to which I have given a special dispensation in this year's Budget. On eight items alone, we have a special excise duty of another 16 per cent, which adds up to 32 per cent. Otherwise, with great deal of effort, we have been able to converge the rate at 16 per cent and achieve almost the impossible, as far as the excise duty is concerned.

As far as customs duty is concerned, we have compressed the rates of four and I have already announced in this year's Budget that in the next three years, we will have only two rates of ten per cent and 20 per cent. That also in the direction which has been very clearly said.

As far as the direct taxes are concerned, I have not interfered with the rates in order to protect the stability of it. In the last five Budgets, I have let the rates, which were fixed by my predecessor in 1997-98, prevail, except for some minor changes.

Now, what is the direction of future policy? The direction is that we will have to lay stress on better compliance. In future, it will not be as a result of increase in tax rates that we will be able to improve the tax-GDP ratio, we will have to improve the tax-GDP ratio by better compliance. Better compliance will mean better tax administration. We have already taken some very notable steps in that direction by reorganising the CBEC and the CBDT, by computerisation, by making the procedure simple, by making the tax administration as friendly to the assessee as possible, and this will continue to be the direction of our policy in future also so that the tax payer is not scared of the Tax Department, that he regards the tax collector more as a friend than somebody who is out to torment him or harass him, and the interface will be reduced as much as possible through computerisation of the Tax Department. So, this is the overall approach and we will continue to work in that direction. That is the manner in which we would like to improve the tax compliance.

In this year's Budget, as I have already explained, we faced a very difficult fiscal situation and, therefore, it was incumbent to look at exemptions. It is very important to note that when you have moderate rates of tax, then there is no place for exemption. And I said even on the 26th of April, that is, last Friday, that whenever you touch those classes of people who have enjoyed a privilege so far,

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

naturally there is resistance. And this is something which is not unexpected at all.

Every Finance Minister is facing it and every Finance Minister will face it in future also. You bring something within the tax net, you withdraw an exemption and then you will have to face some resistance. Sometimes we find that the issues raised are of a genuine nature and we respond. Sometimes when we find that the concerned industry or trade or section of population can live with it, we continue with them.

Therefore, as far as taxation is concerned, this is the overall approach that we have adopted and I hope the House will agree with me that this approach is a sound approach and that we can follow this approach even in future.

Now, there are some issues which have been raised specifically. Though they are not related to the Finance Bill, I would like to respond to them and in the course of that I would also respond to some of the issues which have been raised by hon. Members from all sides of the House. The first issues which I would like to take – because, I think, we all need to understand that issue in its right perspective – is the issue of interest rate. It is because that also is a development for which I have been criticised, the Government have been criticised. It has been said that we have been very harsh, especially to the retired class of people who depend on interest income and by reducing the interest by 50 basis points on the administered interest rates we have not been fair to that class of people. Sir, let me State it in the context of history.

The first point which I would like to make is that the rate of inflation today, on a week-to-week basis, is down to 1.25 per cent. Consistently the rate of inflation has been coming down and as the Indian economy is globalising, the House will be, perhaps, interested in knowing that as a result of liberalisation of trade and the removal of Quantitative Restrictions which happened in the industrial sector, there has been hardly any inflation as far as industrial part of manufactured goods are concerned. In India, we have known since the middle of Nineties, only two kinds of inflation. One is inflation relating to agricultural products – if there has been a shortage like onions and tomatoes and potatoes at one point of time or it has been the category of what is called fuel, power, light and lubricants. The inflation in fuel, power, light and lubricants is on account of two reasons. One is if the international

prices of crude go up, then we are compelled to raise the prices of petroleum products in this country. That has an impact on the level of inflation in this country. The second is when State Governments, rightly, raise the electricity tariff, then that adds to the inflation. So, we have seen inflation in the category of fuel, power, light and lubricants. We have seen inflation as far as the agricultural produce is concerned. Fortunately, at this point of time none of these two sector also are contributing to inflationary expectations as a result of which inflation is down to rock bottom.

India can claim for the first time that we have inflation rates which are known around the world which the developed markets used to be proud of. That is the kind of inflation that this country has had. Some friends here have raised the issue of Consumer Price Index. Hon. Member Shri Rupchand Pal said Consumer Price Index is more true of the two and the Consumer Price Index is also around four to five per cent. When we recently gave additional D.A. to our employees, that was calculated on the basis of Consumer Price Index and that is at four per cent. So, this much is on inflation.

Why do we pay a rate of interest on deposits? The rate of interest on deposits is supposed to take care, by and large, of the depreciation of the currency, of the rupee and if the depreciation of the rupees is far less than what it used to be in the past, naturally the rate of interest has to be related to that. That is called the real rate of interest and the world over it is the real rate of interest which is the accepted economic gospel and it is the real rate of interest which determines the competitiveness of economy and, therefore, because the Government is the largest borrower, because we have administered interest rates in this country, we thought deep about it and we thought seriously about it. What is the decision that I have taken in this year's Budget?

The less important decision is that we have reduced the administered rate of interest by 50 basis points, that is, half a percentage point, but the more important thing is that I have said that in future, we shall link it to the Government securities, which are traded in the market, of similar tenure, of similar duration and whatever is the rate of interest that those securities command in the market will be the rate of interest.

Today, the RBI has come out with its monetary policy and they have talked about flexible rates of interest with a six-month reset. They are encouraging the banks that we should go for flexible rates of interest with a six-month reset.

As far as the retired people are concerned, as far as the older people are concerned, I have already announced in this House that we will take care of their concerns by permitting them to deposit their moneys, their savings in the relief bonds of the Government of India, which still carry a tax-free interest rate of eight per cent and that will be without limit. But let me also confide in this House, through you, Sir, that I am aware personally of people depositing amounts like Rs. 2 crore, Rs. 5 crore or Rs. 15 crore in the RBI relief bonds and earning completely tax-free interest and this was something which was not all warranted by the arrangement that we had and it is for such deposits by high net worth individuals that we have put that ceiling of Rs. 2 lakh, that you will not be able to deposit more than Rs. 2 lakh in a year in RBI relief bonds and you will not be a recipient of what can only be described as 'rentier income', that my father left the money and I put it in the relief bonds and I earn doing nothing. I do not think, the House would want such people to flourish in this country, without paying taxes. That is the kind of people that I have tried to bring within the tax net, but I have already covered the senior citizens, the retired people by making the arrangement with that. Therefore, Sir, as far as savings are concerned, this is the issue which I would like to make.

The other issue here is that often apprehensions have been expressed in this House that as a result of reduction in interest rate on national savings and other instruments, we are going to discourage savings. I had, Sir, in this House taken up this issue. In the last debate, I had pointed it out, but it bears repetition that it is not household saving which is coming down. Regarding the household saving the last figure that we have is that in 2000-2001, the household saving was at 20.9 per cent, the highest ever recorded in this country. But overall domestic saving consists of two more elements – one is private sector saving and the other is public sector saving. Private sector saving was at 4.2 per cent which is very reasonable. We would like to push it up, but 4.2 per cent is not bad at all. Where is it that we are getting the beating? Sir, we are getting the beating as far as public sector is concerned because it is not savings; it is indulging in dis-saving. The growth in public sector dis-saving was minus 1.7 per cent and if, therefore, the overall domestic saving rate has come down to 23.4 per cent, it is because of this 1.7 per cent dis-saving. Here, I would like to share this information with the House that Government Administration alone accounts for this dis-saving. What was the figure in 1996-97? The

Government dis-saving figure was minus Rs. 31,821 crore. It went up to Rs. 88,618 crore in 1998-99. Sir, just imagine that from Rs. 31,000 crore to Rs. 88,000 crore was the minus Government Administration saving. Why? It was because of Fifth Pay Commission. Quite clearly this represents the impact of the Fifth Pay Commission. Sir, what happened in that crucial year of 1997? In that crucial year of 1997, we gave a bonanza through the Fifth Pay Commission and more to Government employees in the Central Government, in the State Governments, to teachers, to public sector employees and everyone. Everyone became the beneficiary as a result of which our savings declined from minus Rs. 31,000 crore to Rs. 88,000 crore.

And the other thing that we did was that we came out with our dream Budget. In 1997-98, we gave away tax concessions, but we did not do anything to exemptions. It was left to my unfortunate lot to try and tackle the exemptions, both on the indirect side as well as on the direct side. I have been the recipient of much criticism because I am now trying to tackle exemptions. But they have to be tackled. Sir, I will say with all humility at my command that you cannot have a rational, reasonable tax administration unless you do away with exemptions and, therefore, it will continue to be our policy to see. . .

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : People deposit their money in PPF to secure their life in old age. The interest rate of PPF has been reduced by 2%. Last year it was reduced by 1½ and this year ½% more has been reduced. Why it is being done? PPF is the only old age support to them. Please pay attention towards it.

SHIR YASHWANT SINHA : I am considering it. I would like to assure Mamata ji that it is in my mind and whenever the circumstances change and allow, interest rate will definitely be raised.

SHIR BASU DEB ACHARIA : When it will be done?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I can not say this at the moment.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : What about the U.T.I. investors. People are trying hard to get their money but they are not getting the same. . . .(Interruptions) Small Investors have invested their money in it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, employment is the other issue which has been raised and I would like to say that many hon. Members of this House have talked about employment generation. Employment is a very important issue. I would like to say on behalf of this Government that we do not want jobless growth; we want to say on behalf on this Government that we do not want jobless growth; we want employment-oriented growth. That is the policy that we have emphasised repeatedly.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What has happened to creation of one crore jobs ?

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Please. Have Patience.

[English]

Sir I will just mention about it. Shri Basu Deb Acharia just asked me about one crore jobs. They keep on saying that the Prime Minister promised one crore jobs. What he promised was not Government jobs; he promised for private sector jobs, employment opportunities. He has promised one crore employment opportunities.

Sir, now, permit me to share a few figures with the House. In these five Budgets that I have presented, we have given a lot of encouragement to the housing sector and I am glad to be informing the House that housing is one sector which, despite the economic slow down, the gloom and doom and all that, has been flourishing year after year. There has been tremendous growth in housing finance because of the concessions that we have given. As far as the interest rate is concerned, I am informed by my banker friends that the rate of interest on housing loans has declined by four percentage points over the last two years. Any young person, who wants to take a loan to build a house today, will get it at 11 or 12 per cent. This is the kind of change which has come about. I had mentioned the figure that over Rs. 26,000 crore was disbursed by the financial agencies by way of housing loan last year. It represented a growth of 30 per cent and it leads to the construction of 2.7 million houses. Now, these 2.7 million houses would generate employment of 13 million man or women hours of direct employment and more than 20 million man or women hours for indirect employment.

Now, we have raised RIDF to Rs. 5,500 crore. It has been estimated that RIDF – which is a labour intensive investment in roads, in irrigation, in buildings and things

of that kind in the rural areas – alone generates 3.5 million jobs.

If you calculate all this, then you would find that we are well beyond that one crore mark as was promised by the hon. Prime Minister. We are doing that. . . .
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

There is nothing to laugh.

[English]

We are well beyond it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, people are losing their jobs. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Your own *Economic Survey* shows that employment growth has declined to below one per cent per annum.
(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, as has been pointed out by Dr. Nitish Sengupta, I am talking of jobs in the unorganised sector. The organised sector accounts for only about seven per cent of the total employment in this country. Let us not forget that. I have the figures with me here. 397 million is the total employment in this country and out that only about 27 million is in the organised sector and the rest of it is all in the unorganised sector. I am not talking of the call centres and the IT-enabled services that are coming into the country and the other avenues of growth rate that are providing its own impetus. I mentioned only two figures. One was the hon. Prime Minister's National Highway Project. When we are constructing six thousand kilometres of road, does that not generate employment ? I have said it in this House. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I told you that the Rural Non-Farm figure has sharply come down in the recent years as compared to the past. Please explain that. When R and FE is coming down, how is employment growing ? If you live in illusion, then there is no way in which we get jobless growth. We would only get illusory growth.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I can only quote figures that are available. The growth rate in employment, according to the *Economic Survey*, has declined and so has the number of job seekers. That has come down to 1.03 per cent. The number of job seekers has also come down. Why has the number of job seekers come down ? It is because jobs are available. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL : What scheme is there for the educated unemployed ?

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, there were a few issues raised that concern specific areas. One such issue was raised, I think, by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. I am very grateful to him because he made a very important point that while there might be some black sheep in the tax administration but by and large, the tax administration is a good administration. There are some very good officers. We know how people have laid down their lives in Customs and Excise Departments in trying to catch tax evaders. I am grateful to him for this compliment, which very deservedly, he has paid to the tax administration. But he has mentioned about one case.

Sir, I would like to take the time of the House to explain it because last time also I remember, Shri Rupchand Pal mentioned about this case of First Global. The case is before the Court and so I would not go into the merit of it. It is only a question of that lady, namely, Ms. Devina Mehra being interrogated. I have got the information here. She was interrogated by officers of the Enforcement Directorate on 17.12.2001, 18.01.2002 and 20.01.2002. Her Statement was recorded by lady Enforcement officers in the presence of the sister of Shri Shankar Sharma. According to the information that has been given to me, there was absolutely no harassment and no rough behaviour with her and she was treated with all courtesy. This is the information which I would like to share with this House.

Sir, the other issue, which again Shri Dasmunsi raised, was about the withdrawal of concessions from some sports bodies. I remember, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev paying some compliments to me for being a sports person myself. We all are in the field of sports.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : This was with the hope for getting concessions on tea.

20.00 hrs.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I would like to clarify this. This is a clarification which Shri Dasmunsi wanted. The only change that we have made is not the withdrawal of concession. We are saying that the sports bodies should compile their accounts, should submit their returns. To the extent to which they are able to spend money on events,

on infrastructure and other things, they will be able to get a set off in tax. To the extent to which they are not, only on that, within the overall frame now of the Trusts that we have where I have given 15 per cent and other concessions, that will apply to the sports bodies also. On the sports, which Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra will remember because it was his insistence and the insistence of some other friends which prompted me to give 100 per cent concession in taxes for donations made to sports bodies under Section 80G, that continues as before. So, anyone who is associated with sports administration should not feel concerned at all. These things survive.

The other issue which has been raised is the issue of tea. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar also raised the issue of the Tea Development Fund. I have collected some information but, as he rightly said, this is something which I will have to discuss with my colleague the Commerce Minister, because it falls within the jurisdiction of Commerce Minister. Let me assure the House that whether it is tea – to which I have already given a tax concession, excise duty has been reduced from Rs. 2 to Rs. 1 – or office, or marine products, or rubber, or spices, or any other cash crops, all these areas are something which the Government is closely monitoring both as far as imports are concerned as well as the state of health of the industry. I would like to assure the House that in cooperation with my colleague the Commerce Minister, we will continue that monitoring and we will make sure that tea industry, which has been a traditional and very important industry in this country, does not come to any undue harm; that we protect the Indian tea industry both the internal consumption as well as the export markets; that we are able to fend off the competition not only from Sri Lanka and East Africa but everywhere else from the world; that we move to more value-added by going in for packaged tea. All these are in our programme. We will make sure, as I said, that tea industry not only survives but flourishes. On the point which Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar raised about the Tea Development Fund, as I have said, I have collected some information but I have to discuss it further with the Minister of Commerce.

There was one issue which Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal has raised about National Savings Certificates by HUF. The National Savings Certificate is an instrument which is available to individuals. It is not available to HUFs. . . . (Interruptions) Sometimes what happens is that some Post Offices which are unaware of this, issue these National Savings Certificates even to HUFs on demand. Wherever we have come across such cases, we have made sure

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

that not only is the commitment honoured, but it is honoured in full along with interest. So, there is no question of HUFs investing in this. But wherever mistakenly such investments have been accepted, that will be honoured by the Postal Department, by the Government So, on that there should be no problem at all.

Finally, Sir, I would like to come to the last point.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Please tell us about double taxation on dividend income.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Double taxation on dividend income is a theory that I do not accept. If double taxation on dividend income is the theory we accept, then even that 10 per cent dividend distribution tax that was imposed in 1997 should go and all dividend income should be free. But this is thesis that I have not accepted. I have applied my mind to it seriously over four years and finally I was persuaded that it should go, and it should become taxable at the marginal rate in the hand of the recipient.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I had asked for the disability rights groups. If you could please tell us about that.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : What about income tax on warehousing. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Naturally, there have been many other points which have been raised. Many suggestions have been made. We have taken note of those points which have been made. We have taken note of the suggestions. I would only like to say one things. . . .(Interruptions)

The point which I would like to make is that I am not inviting anyone to necessarily make that suggestion to me. But what I would like to say is that the Finance Bill deals largely with direct taxes where we need these legislative proposals to give effect to our proposals. But as far as indirect taxes are concerned, much of it is governed by notifications which are altered in the course of the year also. Whenever a situation arises, we deal with them according to the exigencies of the situation. So, while we will be passing the Finance Bill today, there are many issues on which there will be scope for further discussion.

There are many points where, as Shri Kirit Somaiya also said, we will be looking at with an open mind. But an open mind is different from an empty mind. I have certainly an open mind. Let me assure the House that I have not an empty mind. And, therefore, I will respond.

In a democracy, one has to respond. Suggestions are made.

[Translation]

It was stated that I did it under the Pressure of my party.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : But in the area of direct taxes, Mr. Finance Minister, would you raise the exemption for disabled people ? Could you raise the tax exemption as per the 1993 Act about the incentives that you are supposed to get for the employment of disabled people ? This is a humanitarian question.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I have discussed that issue. As Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar is aware, those people had come. I met their delegation. They represented their case. There is a point. They are saying that at the moment what is happening, is apart from income tax, which let me tell you covers only a very small section of the disabled population, because most of the disabled, as you know as Members of this House, are out there in the rural areas who are generally uncared for. Those of us who have organised camps for the disabled are aware of the fact how they come in such large numbers to take advantage of those assistance we are providing them.

But as far as the question of the import and duty concessions are concerned, they are available when an individual imports for his own use. The demand which was made by the representatives of the disabled to me was that this should be made available also to some NGOs and some other charitable organisations. That is a demand we can always look at. There is no problem as far as that is concerned.

The point which Shri Trilochan Kanungo, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, the last speaker of the debate Shrimati Patnaik and others raised, was an issue of State finance. As I said, and Shri Trilochan Kanungo himself has said, that it is directly related to the issue of Finance Bill. Let me make two to three points here which are valid. The Centre-State Relations are governed by an independent umpire which is appointed under the Constitutional provisions every five years, known as the Finance Commission. The Eleventh Finance Commission, during which period we are conducting the affairs of this nation today, has given its Report. The House will recall that there were many objections to that Report. But then, like previous Governments which have dealt with the Reports of the ten Finance Commissions, this Government also decided that 'we cannot afford to tinker with the recommendations of

the Eleventh Finance Commission' because then this will become an endless process. So, we accepted the Report of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Have you accepted it *in toto* ? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Yes.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : I am pointing out only one area. They have said that the royalty on coal should be revised every three years and if the Government of India does not revise the royalty rate in three years, then they will have to give compensation. Mr. Finance Minister, have you accepted that ?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : There are two parts to their recommendations. First is relating to the distribution of the tax collected by the Centre to the States and the conditions attached to that. That is where they take into account the financial situation of each State. Each State Government discusses it in great details with the Finance Commission and then the Finance Commission gives its findings.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : For sound finance ?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : For sound finance, the 11th Finance Commission has given its reports. The 11th Finance Commission has hoped that the situation will improve in the States, and that all these special measures like revenue deficit grant, etc. will not be necessary at the end of the period of that Finance Commission; and we had carried on with it. But despite that, we have accepted the Finance Commission's recommendations, and that govern the Centre-State fiscal relationship.

I would like to say that this Government has been extremely fair to the States, irrespective of their political complexion. I have stood in this House and quoted a letter from the then Chief Minister of Kerala who complimented the Central Government for the assistance that we provided to that regime in Kerala.

I had, on the last occasion, said that when the present Chief Minister of Kerala was facing the pressure of a long strike, he telephoned me and said that he would want the Treasuries to remain open; I ensured, by making available all that I could, that the Treasuries remained open.

I would like to tell Shri Trilochan Kanungo, Shrimati Kumudini Patnaik and all other hon. Members from Orissa that we have bailed out Orissa. We have bailed out other States, and we will continue to help the States to ensure that they carry out the developmental work. But there is

a responsibility on the States also. I would also hasten to add that the Government of India should not be looked at as a lender, as a last resort, because I do not have unlimited resources. So, while we continue to help the States, there is no way in which we can keep on doing this. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Would you encourage the Chief Ministers of States to directly negotiate with foreign agencies ? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : No. That is not happening and that will not be allowed to happen. The Government of India will determine which State will get which foreign loan and from which source. No State is allowed to directly negotiate with any agency, which is foreign, whether it is a Government or a multilateral agency. External commercial borrowings by the public sector and the private sector are regulated by the RBI. So, that danger is not there. . . . (Interruptions) Sir, we have done well and I commend the Finance Bill for consideration and passing.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has conceded many tax concessions to granite industry, to hank-yarn industry, etc. There is no mention about kerosene and fertiliser. Nearly on lakh villages have no electricity, even after 53 years of Independence. Last year, the Central Government had increased the price of kerosene by 250 times; and this year also, they have increased the price of kerosene by one rupee per litre. In the beginning of this Session, the Finance Minister had reduced the price of LPG cylinder by Rs. 20. But there is no mention about kerosene and fertiliser. More than 70 per cent of our people depend on agriculture. Increase in the price of fertiliser affects the farming community. The farming community, the poorest of the poor, is affected by the increase in prices of kerosene and fertiliser. They have not mentioned about it. I am asking the Finance Minister, through you, Sir, to react on these two issues.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : This is the Budget Session and today appears to be the last day on which we will be discussing the Budget proposals, the revenue collections and all those things. I can understand the difficulties of the Finance Minister and I also sympathise with him.

But by just counting the trees, we should not miss the woods ! The points which have been put before us by the Finance Minister himself are these: the shortfall in the revenue collection is too big and it amounts to Rs. 20,000

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

crore. It is also stated by the Finance Minister that the tax-GDP ratio is declining. It has also come to our notice that in one of the Ministries, the Defence Ministry is particular, an amount of Rs. 5,000 crore remains unspent.

So is this proper management of finances ? We would like to be enlightened and told a little more in details. We would not be satisfied if the hon. Finance Minister says that only by streamlining the administration he would be collecting more money. This is a stock reply given. That is not enough. We would like to be enlightened a little more as to how you will have proper estimates of the revenue collection; as to how you will collect revenue as per your projections; as to how you will see that there is no decline in the tax-GDP ratio and as to how you will be able to spend the money which you have provided to different Ministries.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Finance Minister has stated that the reports of 10th and 11th Finance commission have been accepted. As per that report Bihar is to receive Rs. 600 crore in Five years under Panchayati Raj Head. Why this amount has not been released till now though this is not a lapsable amount. Finance Department has issued a circular. . . . (Interruptions) I have raised a question in this regard also that why injustice is being done to a poor State ? It should be given consideration. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : With regard to the assured income of UTI, people of the country are waiting. . . . (Interruptions) The hon. Minister has not spoken a word about the assured income of UTI. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prices of Kerosene should be reduced. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please resume your seat, Shri Ramdas. Mr. Minister, would you like to say something ?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, as far as the general issue which Shri Shivraj Patil has raised is concerned, I

thought I have covered it substantially in the reply which I have given when I talked about the philosophy of tax reform of this Government and the direction for the future. That is exactly what I was saying in the context of the decline in tax-GDP ratio, which is not something which has happened recently. I have mentioned that the tax-GDP ratio has been declining in this country since 1989-90, when taxes were very high and reform in taxation has led to more moderate rates which may be accounting for a decline in the tax-GDP ratio. I have mentioned that it will be through better compliance, through simplification, through a taxpayer friendly tax administration that we hope to improve the tax compliance. I quoted figures of how we have achieved success in direct taxes. That will continue to be our concern and direction even in future and I would like to assure the House and Shri Shivraj Patil in particular, through you, Sir, that it will be our endeavour to ensure that we are able to collect as much taxes as possible to meet the essential requirements of Government and that fiscal deficit is reduced. The reduction will come through better tax compliance, through better tax collection. It will come through a more appropriate user charges. It will come through a more rational subsidy regime. These are the areas in which we have to work.

As far as concessions are concerned, I have already shared them with the House.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : What about Bihar ? Why it is being neglected. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 37% people of our country living below the poverty line use Kerosene. 70% people are dependent on agriculture. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : He has already replied that. I cannot compel him. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Raghuvansh Babu is very much worried about Bihar. Even we are also concerned about Bihar as we are about other States also. I have related the entire situation in the House. I had contacted Bihar Government out of the way and said that the Government will release the entire amount if they hold the elections within one year of the submission of report of

10th Finance Commission. Unfortunately the elections were held there after the lapse of one year.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they have adopted the report of 10th Finance Commission. then on what basis the amount was not released. Even the funds for one year out of total five years recommended by 11th Finance Commission were released. Why the funds for the remaining four years were not released? That fund got lapsed. Injustice is being done to Bihar. Why this is being done to a poor State? Why the funds were not released even after the elections?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Our Government had not accepted the report of 10th Finance Commission. Raghuvansh Babu was the Member when the recommendations were accepted.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : It does not matter much Government had accepted the recommendations. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : It was decided by the 10th Finance Commission that funds would not be released till the elections are conducted in the State no matter which Government is in power. That is why funds were not released.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, if any Government accepts a Policy, it is a continuous process. Therefore, how can he say that his Government has not done this. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I want to know from you whether a commitment of a Government or an in-principle agreement changes with the political situation. How can the Finance Minister say that it was not our decision and that it is a decision of the earlier Government? This is not correct. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, we are only sticking to that commitment. This is what I am trying to say. The earlier Government accepted that report with this amendment that those States which would not hold Panchayati Raj elections will not get the Panchayati Raj grants. It was a decision which was taken by the then

Government and we are following that decision. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, what about my questions? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, do you want to say something about them?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : No, Sir.

20.24 hrs.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon. Members then left the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the question is :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2002-2003, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4 Amendment of Section 10

Amendments made :

Page 4, line 13, for "behalf;": substitute "behalf: or".
(1)

Page 5, line 32, for "such association or", substitute "such"
(2)

Page 5 for lines 39 to 41, substitute -

"(a) applies its income, or accumulates it for application wholly and exclusively to the objects for which it is established and in a case where more than fifteen per cent of its income is accumulated on or after the 1st day of April, 2002, the period of the accumulation of the amount exceeding fifteen per cent of its income shall in no case exceed five years; and;" (3)

Page 6, line 24, for "such association", substitute "it".
(4)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 Amendment of Section 10A

Amendment made :

Page 6, for lines 46 to 50, substitute –

- Amendment of section 10A
5. In section 10A of the Income-tax Act, with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, –
- (a) in sub-section (1), after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :–
- "Provided also that for the assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2003, the deduction under this sub-section shall be ninety per cent. of the profits and gains derived by an undertaking from the export of such articles or things or computer software :";
- (b) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :–
- "(1A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), the deduction, in computing the total income of an undertaking, which begins to manufacture or produce articles or things or computer software during the previous year relevant to any assessment year commencing on or after the 1st day of April, 2003, in any special economic zone, shall be hundred per cent of profits and gains derived from the export of such articles or things or computer software for a period of five consecutive assessment years beginning with the assessment year relevant to the previous year in which the undertaking begins to manufac-

ture or produce such articles or things or computer software, as the case may be, and thereafter, fifty per cent. of such profits and gains for further two assessment years.";

- (c) after sub-section (9) and before Explanation, the following shall be inserted, namely :–

"(9A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (9), where as a result of reorganisation of business, a firm or a sole proprietary concern is succeeded by a company and the ownership or beneficial interest in the undertaking of the firm or the sole proprietary concern is transferred to the company, the deduction under sub-section (1) in respect of such undertaking shall be allowed to the company, as the same would have been allowed to such firm or sole proprietary concern, as the case may be, if the reorganisation had not taken place :

Provided that, –

- (a) in the case of a firm aggregate of the shareholding in the company of the partners of the firm is not less than fifty-one per cent. of the total voting power in the company and their shareholding continues to be as such for the period for which the company is eligible for deduction under this section;
- (b) in the case of a sole proprietary concern, the shareholding of the sole proprietor in the company is not less than fifty-one per cent of the total voting power in the company and his shareholding continues to remain as such for the period for which the company is eligible for deduction under this section."'. (5)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6 Amendment of Section 10B

Amendment made :

Page 6 and 7, for lines 51 to 53 and 1 and 2 respectively substitute –

Amendment of section 10B 6. In section 10B of the Income-tax Act, with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, –

- (a) in sub-section (1), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :–

“Provided also that for the assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2003, the deduction under this sub-section shall be ninety per cent. of the profits and gains derived by an undertaking from the export of such articles or things or computer software .”;

- (b) after sub-section (9), the before Explanation 1, the following shall be inserted, namely :–

“(9A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (9), where as a result of reorganisation of business, a firm or a sole proprietary concern is succeeded by a company and the ownership or beneficial interest in the undertaking of the firm or the sole proprietary concern is transferred to the company, the deduction under sub-section (1) in respect of such undertaking shall be allowed to the company, as the same would have been allowed to such firm or sole proprietary concern, as the case may be, if the reorganisation had not taken place :

Provided that, –

- (a) in the case of a firm aggregate of the shareholding in the company of the partners of the firm is not less than fifty-one per cent. of the total voting power in the company and their shareholding continues to be as such for the period for which the com-

pany is eligible for deduction under this section;

- (b) in the case of a sole proprietary concern, the shareholding of the sole proprietor in the company is not less than fifty-one per cent of the total voting power in the company and his shareholding continues to remain as such for the period for which the company is eligible for deduction under this section.”.

(6)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 Amendment of Section 11

Amendments made :

Page 7, for lines 4 to 32, substitute –

‘(a) in sub-section (1), –

- (i) in clause (a), for the words “twenty-five per cent”, the words “fifteen per cent” shall be substituted;
- (ii) in clause (b), for the words “twenty-five per cent”, the words “fifteen per cent” shall be substituted;
- (iii) in the Explanation, –

(A) in clause (1), for the words “twenty-five per cent”, the words “fifteen per cent” shall be substituted;

(B) in clause (2), for the words “seventy-five per cent”, the words “eighty-five per cent” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), –

- (i) for the words “seventy-five per cent”, the words “eighty-five per cent” shall be substituted;

(7)

Page 7, line 41, for “(d)”, substitute “(c)”. (8)

Page 7, line 49, for “(e)”, substitute “(d)”. (9)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 12 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 13 Amendment of
Section 28**

Amendments made :

Page 8, line 33, for "(vi)", substitute "(v)" (10)

Page 8, line 35, for "(vii)", substitute "(va)" (10)

Page 8, after line 39, insert –

'Provided that sub-clause (a) shall not apply to –

- (i) any sum, whether received or receivable, in cash or kind, on account of transfer of the right to manufacture, produce or process any article or thing or right to carry on any business, which is chargeable under the head "Capital gains";
- (ii) any sum received as compensation, from the multilateral fund of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone layer under the United Nations environment Programme, in accordance with the terms of agreement entered into with the Government of India.' (12)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 14 Amendment of
Section 32**

Amendment made :

Page 9, line 23, omit "or part". (13)

Page 9, for lines 36 and 37, substitute –

- '(2) "installed capacity" means the capacity of production as existing on the 31st day of March, 2002.'

(14)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 14, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 14, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 15 to 20 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 21 Substitution of
new section for
Section 43A**

Amendments made :

Page 11, after line 29, insert –

"Provided that where an addition to or deduction from the actual cost or expenditure or cost acquisition has been made under this section, as it stood immediately before its substitution by the Finance Act, 2002, on account of an increase or reduction in liability as aforesaid, the amount to be added to, or, as the case may be, deducted under this section from the actual cost or expenditure or cost of acquisition at the time of making the payment shall be so adjusted that the total amount added to, or, as the case may be, deducted from, the actual cost or expenditure or cost of acquisition, is equal to the increase or reduction in the aforesaid liability taken into account at the time of making payment." (15)

Page 11, line 30, for "sub-section", substitute "section". (16)

Page 11, line 38, for "sub-section", substitute "section". (17)

Page 11, line 45, for "sub-section", substitute "section". (18)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 21, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 22 Amendment of
Section 44AE**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Amendment No. 17, Shri Janardhana Reddy – not present.

The question is :

"That clause 22 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 22 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 23 to 25 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 19 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 19 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 25A

Amendment made :

Page 12, after line 39, insert -

Amendment 25A. In section 55 of the Income-tax Act, of section 55 with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, -

- (a) in sub-section (1), in clause (b), in sub-clause (1), after the words "any article or thing", the words "or right to carry on any business" shall be inserted :
- (b) in sub-section (2), in clause (a), after the words "any article or thing", the words "or" right to carry on any business" shall be inserted.'. (19)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 25A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 25A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 26 to 28 were added to the Bill.

Clause 29 Amendment of Section 80G

Amendment made :

Page 13, for lines 15 to 28, substitute -

Amendment 29. In section 80G of the Income tax Act, - of section 80G.

- (a) in sub-section (2), with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, -

- (i) in clause (a), for sub-clause (vi), the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely :-

"(vi) an authority constituted in India by or under any law enacted either for the purpose of dealing with and satisfying the need for housing accommodation or for the purpose of planning, development or improvement of cities, towns and villages, or for both;";

- (ii) in clause (c), for the words, brackets and figures "as notified by the Central Government under clause (23) of section 10", the words "establish in India, as the Central Government may, having regard to the prescribed guidelines, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify in this behalf" shall be substituted;

- (b) in sub-section (5), with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, -

- (i) in clause (i) words, brackets and figures" or clause (23)" shall be omitted;

- (ii) in clause (v), the words, brackets and figures" or is an institution approved by the Central Government for the purposes of clause (23) of section 10," shall be omitted;

- (c) in sub-section (5C), with effect from the 3rd day of February, 2001, –

(i) in the opening portion, for the words “This sub-section”, The words “This section” shall be substituted and shall be deemed to have been substituted;

(ii) in clause (iii), for the words, figures and letters “on or before the 31st day of March, 2002”, the words, figures and letters “on or before the 31st day of March, 2003” shall be substituted and shall be deemed to have been substituted;

(iii) for clause (iv), the following clause shall be substituted and shall be deemed to have been substituted, namely :–

“(iv) the amount of donation remaining unutilised on the 31st day of March, 2003 is transferred to the Prime Minister’s National Relief Fund on or before the 31st day of March, 2003;”;

(iv) in clause (v), for the words, figures and letters “on or before the 30th day of June, 2002”, the words, figures and letters” on or before the 30th day of June, 2003’ shall be substituted and shall be deemed to have been substituted;

- (d) for *Explanation 4*, the following *Explanation* shall be substituted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, namely :–

“*Explanation 4.* – For the purposes of this section, an association or institution having as its object the control, supervision, regulation or encouragement in India of such games or sports as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify in this behalf, shall be deemed to be an institution established in India for a charitable purpose.”. (20)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That clause 29, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 29, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 30 to 32 were added to the Bill.

Clause 33 Amendment of Section 80-1B

Amendments made :

Page 13, after lines 49, insert –

‘(a) in sub-section (4) and (5), for the figures, letters and words “31st day of March, 2002” wherever they occur, the figures, letters and words “31st day of March, 2004” shall be substituted;’. (21)

Page 13, line 50, for “(a)”, substituted “(b)” (22)

Page 14, line 29, for “(b)”, substituted “(c)” (23)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That clause 33, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 33, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :–

“That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 24 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 24 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved.”

The motion was adopted

New Clause 33A

Amendment made :

Page 14, after line 43, insert –

Amendment 33A. In section 80L of the Income-tax Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (iiia), the following clauses shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2003, namely :–

- (iv) dividends from any Indian company;
- (v) income received in respect of units from the Unit Trust of India established under the Unit Trust of India Act, 1963 other than the income arising from transfer of such units; 52 of 1963
- (va) income received in respect of units of a Mutual Fund specified under clause (23D) of section 10 other than the income arising from transfer of such units;". (24)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 33A, be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 33A, was added to the Bill.

Clause 34 was added to the Bill.

Clause 35 Amendment of Section 88

Amendments made :

Page 15, line 19, for "ten per cent.", substitute "fifteen per cent." (25)

Page 15, line 32, for "eighty thousand", substitute "one hundred thousand". (26)

Page 15, line 33, for "eighty thousand", substitute "one hundred thousand". (27)

Page 15, line 36, for "sixty thousand", substitute "seventy thousand". (28)

Page 15, line 38, for "sixty thousand", substitute "seventy thousand". (29)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 35, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 35, as amended was added to the Bill.

Clauses 36 to 39 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :—

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment

shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 30 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 30 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 39A

Amendment made :

Page 16, after line 29, insert —

'Insertion of
new Section
92 CA

39A. After section 92C of the Income-tax Act the following section shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of June, 2002 namely :—
39A (New)

Reference
to Transfer
Pricing Of-
ficer

"92CA. (1) Where any person, being the assessee, has entered into an international transaction in any previous year, and the Assessing Officer considers it necessary or expedient so to do, he may, with the previous approval of the Commissioner, refer the computation of the arm's length price in relation to the said international transaction under section 92C to the Transfer Pricing Officer.

(2) Where a reference is made under sub-section (1), the Transfer Pricing Officer shall serve a notice on the assessee requiring him to produce or cause to be produced on a date to be specified therein, any evidence on which the assessee may rely in support of the computation made by him of the arm's length price in relation to the international transaction referred to in sub-section (1).

(3) On the date specified in the notice under sub-section (2), or as soon

thereafter as may be, after hearing such evidence as the assessee may produce, including any information or documents referred to in sub-section (3) of section 92D and after considering such evidence as the Transfer Pricing Officer may require on any specified points and after taking into account all relevant materials which he has gathered, the Transfer Pricing Officer shall, by order in writing, determine the arm's length price in relation to the international transaction in accordance with sub-section (3) of section 92C and send a copy of his order to the Assessing Officer and to the assessee.

- (4) On receipt of the order under sub-section (3), the Assessing Officer shall proceed to compute the total income of the assessee under sub-section (4) of section 92C having regard to the arm's length price determined under sub-section (3) by the Transfer Pricing Officer.
- (5) With a view to rectifying any mistake apparent from the record, the Transfer Pricing Officer may amend any order passed by him under sub-section (3), and the provisions of section 154 shall, so far as may be, apply accordingly.
- (6) Where any amendment is made by the Transfer Pricing Officer under sub-section (5), he shall send a copy of his order to the Assessing Officer who shall thereafter proceed to amend the order of assessment in conformity with such order of the Transfer Pricing Officer.
- (7) The Transfer Pricing Officer may, for the purposes of determining the arm's length price under this section, exercise all or any of the powers specified in clauses (a) to (d) of sub-section (1) of section 131 or sub-section (6) of section 133.

Explanation – For the purpose of this section, "Transfer Pricing Officer" means a Joint Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner, authorised by the Board to perform all or any of the functions of an Assessing Officer specified in sections 92C and 92D in respect of any person or class of persons."'. (30)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 39A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 39A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 40 to 52 were added to the Bill.

Clause 53 Amendment of Section 132

Amendment made :

Page 18, *after* line 40, *insert* –

'(ea) in sub-section (10), after the words "requesting for the return of the books of account or other documents", the words "and the Board may, after giving the applicant an opportunity of being heard, pass such orders as it thinks fit" shall be inserted:'. (31)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 53, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 53, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 54 and 55 were added to the Bill.

Clause 56 Amendment of Section 139

Amendment made :

Page 19, *for* line 54, *substitute* –

'(a) in sub-section (1), in the first proviso, in clause (iii), for the word "telephone", the words "cellular telephone not being a wire-less in local loop telephone" shall be *substituted*;

(aa) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :-' (32)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 56, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 56, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 57 to 60 were added to the Bill.

Clause 61 Amendment of Section 158B

Amendment made :

Page 22, line 27, *for* "shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of June, 2002", *substitute* "shall be inserted

and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 1st day of July, 1995". (33)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 61, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 61, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 62 Amendment of
Section 158BB**

Amendment made :

Page 22, lines 28 and 29, *for* "1st day of June, 2002", *substitute* "1st day of July, 1995". (34)

Page 22, line 34, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted". (35)

Page 22, line 36, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted". (36)

Page 22, line 38, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted". (37)

Page 22, line 39, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted". (38)

Page 22, line 52, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted". (39)

Page 22, line 53, *after* "shall be inserted", *substitute* "shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted." (40)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 62, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 62, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 63 Amendment of
Section 158BC**

Amendments made :

Page 23, lines 1, *omit* "with effect from the 1st day of June, 2002". (41)

Page 23, lines 3, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been substituted with effect from the 1st day of July, 1995" (42)

Page 23, line 4, *after* "shall be substituted", *insert* "with effect from the 1st day of June, 2002". (43)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 63, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 63, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 64 and 65 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 66 Insertion of new
Section 174A**

Amendment made :

Page 23, line 39, *for* "such person", *substitute* "such association". (44)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 66, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 66, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 67 and 68 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 69 Amendment of
Section 193**

Amendment made :

Page 24, lines 7, *omit* "new". (45)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 69, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 69, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Clause 70 Amendment of
Section 194**

Amendment made :

Page 24, *for* line 15, *substitute* –

"Provided that no such deduction shall be made in the case of a shareholder, being an individual, if –

- (a) the dividend is paid by the company by an account payee cheque; and
- (b) the amount of such dividend or, as the case may be, the aggregate of the amounts of such dividend distributed or paid or likely to be distributed or paid during the financial year by the company to the shareholder, does not exceed one thousand rupees :

Provided further that the provisions of this section shall not apply to such income credited or paid to—". (46)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 70, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 70, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 71 to 75 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 76 Substitution of
New section for
section 194K**

Amendment made :

Page 25, after line 16, insert—

"Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply where the amount of such income or, as the case may be, the aggregate of the amounts of such income credited or paid or likely to be credited or paid during the financial year by the person responsible for making the payment to the account of, or to, the payee does not exceed one thousand rupees :

Provided further that the amount of one thousand rupees shall be computed with reference to the income credited or paid—

- (a) in respect of a branch office of the Mutual Fund or of the Unit Trust of India, as the case may be, and
- (b) under a particular scheme under which the units have been issued". (47)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 76, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 76, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 77 to 94 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of Rule 80(I)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :—

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in

Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 48 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 48 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 33A

Amendment made :

Page 27, after line 5, insert—

Amendment 94A. In section 253 of the Income-tax Act, of section 253 in sub-section (1), in clause (c), after the words, figures and letters "under section 12AA or under section 263", the words and figures "or under section 271" shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of June, 2002'. (48)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 94A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 94A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 95 to 97 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri N. Janardhana Reddy — not present.

The question is :

"That clause 98 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 98 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 99 to 113 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 114 Amendment of
Section 14**

Amendment made :

Page 30, line 10, for "offer of sale", substitute "offer for sale".

(49)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 114, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 114, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 115 to 120 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 50 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 50 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 120A

Amendment made :

Page 30, after line 49, insert -

Amendment of Section 75. 120A. In section 75 of the Customs Act, in sub-section (1), in the second proviso, for the words and figures "Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973", the words and figures "Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999" shall be substituted.

(50)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 120A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 120A was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 51 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 51 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 120B

Amendment made :

51 Page 30, after line 49, insert -

Insertion of New Chapter XA	120B. After Chapter X of the Customs Act, the following Chapter shall, with effect from such date as may be appointed by the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, be inserted, namely :-
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"Chapter X A

Special provisions Relating to Special Economic Zone

Notification of Special economic zone	76A. The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify economic zones comprising specifically delineated areas where any goods admitted shall be regarded, in so far as duties of customs are concerned,
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	as being outside the customs territory of India as provided in this Chapter.		countervailing and safeguard duties under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, where applicable, as leviable on such goods when imported; and
Application of provision	76B. The provisions of this Chapter and other Chapters shall apply to goods admitted to a special economic zone but in the event of conflict between the provisions of this Chapter and other Chapters, the provisions of this Chapter shall prevail.	51 of 1975	(c) the rate of duty and tariff valuation, if any application to goods admitted to, or removed from, a special economic zone shall be the rate and tariff valuation in force as on the date of such admission or removal, as the case may be, and where such date is not ascertainable, on the date of payment of the duty.
Establishment and control	76C. (1) The Central Government may make rules specifying the requirements relating to goods or class of goods admissible to a special economic zone, the nature of operations to which such goods or class of goods may be subjected to, the conditions to be fulfilled and the procedures to be followed in this regard. (2) The Board may specify, in the regulations made in this behalf, arrangements for customs control in a special economic zone. (3) The proper officer shall have the right to carry out checks, at any time, on the goods kept at stored in a special economic zone.	Authorised Operation	76G. All goods admitted to a special economic zone shall undergo such operations including processing or manufacturing as may be specified
		Goods utilised within a special Economic zone	76H. (1) The Central Government may make rules in this behalf to enumerate the cases in which goods to be utilised inside a special economic zone may be admitted free of duties of customs and lay down the requirements which shall be fulfilled. (2) Goods utilised contrary to the provisions of rules made under sub-section (1) shall be chargeable to duties of customs in the same manner as provided under clause (b) of section 76F as if they have been removed for home consumption.
Admission of Good	76D. Subject to such conditions as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf, any goods imported directly from outside India or procured from within India shall be authorised for admission to a special economic zone.		
Exemption from duties of customs	76E. Without prejudice to the provisions of section 76F, 76G and 76H, any goods admitted to a special economic zone shall be exempt from duties of customs.	Drawback on goods Admitted to a special Economic zone	76 I. Any goods admitted to a special economic zone from the domestic tariff area for the purposes authorised under this Chapter shall be eligible for drawback under section 75 as if such goods are export goods for the purposes of that section.
Levy of duties of customs	76F. Subject to the conditions as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf, – (a) any goods admitted to a special economic zone from the domestic tariff area shall be chargeable to export duties at such rates as are leviable on such goods when exported. (b) any goods removed from a special economic zone for home consumption shall be chargeable to duties of customs including anti-dumping,	Duration of stay	76 J. Any goods admitted to a special economic zone shall not be allowed to remain within such zone beyond such time as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf.
		Security	76 K. Any goods admitted free of duty to a special economic zone or goods under transshipment to and from such zone without payment of duty shall be subject to execution of such bond and such surety or security as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf.

Transfer of Ownership 76 L. Any goods admitted to, or produced or manufactured in, a special economic zone shall be allowed for transfer of ownership subject to such conditions as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf.

Removal of Goods 76 M. Any goods admitted to, or produced or manufactured in, a special economic zone may be removed in accordance with such procedure as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf.

Closure of special Economic zone. 76 N. In the event of closure of a special economic zone by the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, the goods admitted to, or produced or manufactured in, such zone shall be removed within such time and in such manner as may be specified in the rules made in this behalf." (51)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 120B be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 120B was added to the Bill.

Clauses 121 to 126 were added to the Bill.

Clause 127 Amendment of Section 3

Amendment made :

Page 32, for lines 42 and 43, *substitute* –

Amendment of Section 3 '127. In section 3 of the Central Excise Act, in sub-section (1),–

- (i) in clauses (a) and (b), after the words "excisable goods" wherever they occur, the brackets and words "(excluding goods produced or manufactured in special economic zones)" shall, with effect from such date as may be appointed by the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, be inserted;

- (ii) in the proviso, –

- (a) in clause (1), the words "or a special economic zone" shall, with effect from such date as may be appointed by the Cen-

tral Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, be omitted;

- (b) In Explanation 2, for clause (i), the following clause shall be substituted, namely :–". (52)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 127, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 127, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 128 Amendment of Section 5A

Amendments made :

Page 32, for lines 46 and 47, *substitute* –

Amendment of Section 5A '128. In section 5A of the Central Excise Act, –

- (i) in sub-section (1), in the proviso, –

- (a) in clause (i), the words "or a special economic zone"; and

- (b) in the *Explanation*, the words, "special economic zone",

shall, with effect from such dates as may be appointed by the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, be omitted;

- (ii) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :–". (53)

Page 33, line 1, for "(ii)", *substitute* "(iii)". (54)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 128, as amended part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 128, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 129 to 136 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(I)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :–

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in

Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 55 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 55 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted

New Clause 136A

Amendment made :

Page 33, after line 55, insert –

Amendment of Central Excise Rules, 2002 and validation of action taken thereunder. "136A. The Central Excise Rules, 2002 made by the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Central Excise Act and published vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. G.S.R. 143(E), dated the 1st March, 2002, shall stand amended and shall be deemed to have been amended in the manner as specified in column (2) of the Ninth Schedule, on and from the date specified in column (3) of that Schedule, retrospectively and, accordingly, notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court, tribunal or other authority, any action taken or anything done or purported to have been taken or done under the said rules, shall be deemed to be, and always to have been, for all purposes, as validly or effectively, taken or done as if the rules as amended by this section had been in force at all material times." (55)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 136A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 136A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 137 to 141 were added to the Bill.

Clause 142 Amendment of Act 32 of 1994

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Amendment No. 80 – Shri N. Janardhana Reddy – Not present.

Amendments made :

Page 41, line 5, for "subscriber", substitute "customer". (56)

Page 42, line 11, for "130", substitute "137" (57)
(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 142, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 142, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 143 to 144 were added to the Bill.

Clause 145 Amendment of Section 8

Amendments made :

Page 44, line 12, after "that State", insert, "whichever is lower." (58)

Page 44, after line 39, insert –

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

'(vi) after sub-section (5), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely :–

"(6) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, no tax under this Act shall be payable by any dealer in respect of sale of any goods made by such dealer, in the course of Inter-State trade or commerce, to a registered dealer for the purpose of manufacture, production, processing, assembling, repairing, reconditioning re-engineering, packaging or for use as trading or packing material or packing accessories in an unit located in any special economic zone, if such registered dealer has been authorised to establish such unit by the authority specific by the Central Government in this behalf.

- (7) The goods referred to in sub-section (6) shall be the goods of such class or classes of goods as specified in the certificate of registration of the registered dealer referred to in that sub-section.
- (8) The provisions of sub-sections (6) and (7) shall not apply to any sale of goods made in the course of inter-State trade or commerce unless the dealer selling such goods furnishes to the authority referred to in sub-section (6) a declaration in the prescribed manner on the prescribed form obtained from the authority referred to in sub-section (5), duly filled in and signed by the registered dealer to whom such goods are sold.

in its application to Government amendment No. 60 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 145A

Amendment made :

Page 44, after line 39, insert –

Amendment

145A In section 10 of the Central Sales Tax Act, –
Amendment 145A
of Section 3

- (i) in clause (a), after the word, brackets and figure "sub-section (4)", the words, brackets and figures "or sub-section (8)" shall be inserted;
- (ii) in clause (d), after the word, brackets and figure "sub-section (3)", the words, brackets and figures "or sub-section (6)" shall be inserted;
- (iii) in clause (e), after the words, brackets and figure "or sub-section (4)", the words, brackets and figure "or sub-section (8)" shall be inserted; (60)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 145, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 145, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 60 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 145A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 145A was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 61 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in

Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 61 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 145B

Amendment made :

Page 44, after line 39, insert – 145B (New)

Amendment

Amendment 145B. In section 13 of the Central Sales Tax Act, in sub-section (1), after clause (a), the following clause shall be inserted, namely :—

"(aa) the form and the manner for furnishing declaration under sub-section (8) of section 8;"'. (61)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That new clause 145B, be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 145B, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 146 to 151 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :—

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 62 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 62 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, why do you retain rule 80 (i) for mere suspension ? There is always 'suspension' and 'suspension'. . . .(Interruptions) What is the meaning of retaining this rule ? .(Interruptions) What is this ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, in such contingency, suspension of rule is made. Wherever necessity arises, it is done.

New Clause 151A

Amendment made :

Page 46, after line 8, insert – 151A
(New clause)

Amendment of notification issued under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act read with section 5A of the Central Excise Act.

"151A. (1) The notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas No. S.O. 417(E), dated the 12th April, 2002 issued under sub-section (4), of section 15 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act read with section 5A of the Central Excise Act, by the Central Government, shall be deemed to have come into force on and from the 1st day of March, 2002 retrospectively, and accordingly, notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court, tribunal or other authority, any action taken or anything done or purported to have been taken or done under the said notification, shall be deemed to be and always to have been, for all purposes, as validly or effectively taken or done as if the notification as amended by this sub-section had been in force at all material times.

(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the Central Government shall have and shall be deemed to have the power to exempt the goods specified in the notification referred to in the said sub-section with retrospective effect as if the Central Government had the power to exempt the said goods under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Oil industry (Development) Act read with section 5A of the Central Excise Act, retrospectively, at all material times.

- (3) Refund shall be made of all such duty of excise, which have been collected, but which would not have been so collected, if the exemption referred to in sub-section (1) had been in force at all material times.

- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 11B of Central Excise Act, an application for the claim of refund of the duty of excise under sub-section (3) shall be made within one year from the date on which the Finance Bill, 2002 receives the assent of the President.

Explanation :- For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that no act or commission on the part of any person shall be punishable as an offence which would have been so punishable if the notification referred to in this section had

not been amended retrospectively by this section." (62)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

21.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That New clause 151A, be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 151A, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 152 to 153 were added to the Bill.

First Schedule

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 47, for lines 10 to 15, – substitute

Rates of income-tax

- (1) Where the total income does not exceed Rs. 50,000
- (2) Where the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000
- (3) Where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,50,000
- (4) Where the total income exceed Rs. 1,50,000

Nil;

10 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000;

Rs. 5000 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000;

Rs. 15,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000 (64)

'(4) in Chapter 4,–

- (i) for the entry in column (4) occurring against each of the sub-headings (except sub-heading 0402.10, 0402.21, 0405.10, 0405.20, 0405.90 and 0406.90), the entry "30%" shall be substituted;

- (ii) for the entry in column (4) occurring against each of the sub-headings 0405.20 and 0405.90, the entry "40%" shall be substituted;". (64)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment No. 84 to First Schedule moved by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

Amendment made :

Page 52, line 29, for "provisions of item of", substitute "provisions of". (63)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the First Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The First Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Second Schedule

Amendment made :

Page 55, for lines 8 and 9, substitute–

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Second Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Second Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Third Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Fourth Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Fifth Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Sixth Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Seventh Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Eighth Schedule was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80(i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :-

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 65 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 65 to the Finance Bill, 2002 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Ninth Schedule

Amendment made :

65. Page 76, after line 5, insert—

Schedule

Ninth (New Schedule)

'The Ninth Schedule

(See section 136A)

Notification No. and date	Amendment	Date of effect of amendment
1	2	3

G.S.R. 143(E), dated the 1st March, 2002 [4/2002—Central Excise (N.T.), dated the 1st March, 2002]

In the Central Excise Rules, 2002, —

- (a) in rule 8, after sub-rule (1), the following sub-rule shall be inserted, namely :—

"(1A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (1), the duty on the goods removed from the factory or the warehouse, in the State of Gujarat, during the second fortnight of February, 2002 and the month of March, 2002 shall be paid by the 31st March, 2002 :

Provided that where an assessee in the State of Gujarat is availing of the exemption under a notification based on the value of clearances in a financial year, the duty on goods cleared during the month of February, 2002 shall be paid by the 31st March, 2002.

Explanation :— For removal of doubts, it is hereby clarified that the duty liability shall be deemed to have been discharged only if the amount payable is credited to the account of the Central Government by the specified date.;"

- (b) after rule 8, the following rule shall be inserted, namely :—

"8A. Manner of payment in respect of specified goods on which excise duty has been imposed with effect from 1st March, 2002. —

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in rule 8, the duty on the goods, specified in the Annexure to this rule, removed from the factory or the warehouse during the period commencing on and from

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the 1st March, 2002 and ending with and including the 31st May, 2002, shall be paid by the 15th day of June, 2002.

Explanation. – For removal of doubts, it is hereby clarified that the duty liability shall be deemed to have been discharged only if the amount payable is credited to the account of the Central Government by the specified date.

- (2) The duty of excise shall be deemed to have been paid for the purposes of these rules on the excisable goods removed in the manner provided under sub-rule (1) and the credit of such duty allowed, as provided by or under any rule.
- (3) If the assessee fails to pay the amount of duty by due date, he shall be liable to pay the outstanding amount along with interest at the rate specified by the Central Government vide notification issued under section 11AB of the Act on the outstanding amount, for the period starting with the first day after due date till the date of actual payment of the outstanding amount.
- (4) If the assessee defaults in payment of duty by the 15th day of June, 2002, then, the assessee shall forfeit the facility to pay the dues in instalments as provided under sub-rule (1) of rule 8 for the clearances made after the 1st day of June, 2002 for a period of two months, commencing on and from the date of communication of the order passed by the Assistant Commissioner of Central Excise or the Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise, as the case may be, in this regard, or till such date on which the dues are paid, whichever is later, and during this period the assessee shall be required to pay excise duty for each consignment by debiting to the account current and in the event of any failure to do so, it shall be deemed that such goods have been cleared without payment of duty and the consequences and penalties as provided in these rules, shall follow.

Annexure

- (1) All goods specified at S. Nos. 9 to 50 of the Table to the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. 10/2002-Central Excise, dated the 1st March, 2002 published in the Gazette of India vide number G.S.R. 131 (E), dated the 1st March, 2002, which were exempt from whole of the duty leviable thereon immediately prior to 1st March, 2002 and on which duty has become leviable with effect from 1st March, 2002, at the rate of 4% *ad valorem*, subject to the conditions specified in that notification or, as the case may be, at the rate of 16% *ad valorem*.

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(2) Granite falling under heading No. 68.07 manufactured by units which would have been eligible for exemption from duty whether in whole or in part under notification No. 8/2001-Central Excise or No. 9/2001-Central Excise, dated the 1st March, 2001, as they existed before 1st March, 2002 and granite falling under heading No. 68.07 manufactured by units which would have been eligible for exemption whether in whole or in part if such exemption had not been withdrawn under notification No. 8/2002 – Central Excise or, as the case may be, under notification No. 9/2002 – Central Excise, both dated the 1st March, 2002.

(3) Woven fabrics of cotton, falling under Chapter 52, when subjected to any one or more of the following processes, namely :—

- (a) flannellete raising;
- (b) stentering;
- (c) damping on grey and bleached sorts;
- (d) back filling on grey and bleached sorts;
- (e) singeing, that is to say, burning away of knots and loose ends in the fabrics;
- (f) cropping or buta cutting;
- (g) curing or heat setting;
- (h) padding, that is to say, applying starch or fatty material on one or both sides of the fabric; or
- (i) expanding,

if such fabrics are processed in a factory which does not have the facilities (including plant and equipment) for carrying out bleaching dyeing or printing or any one or more of these processes with the aid of power or steam and such fabrics were exempt from whole of the duties leviable thereon under the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986) and the First Schedule to the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 (58 of 1957), immediately prior to 1st March, 2002 and on which duties have become leviable with effect from 1st March, 2002, at the rate of 12% *ad valorem*.

(4) Woven fabrics of man-made fibres, falling under Chapter 54 or Chapter 55, when subjected to any one or more of the following processes, namely :—

- (a) singeing, that is to say, burning away of knots and loose ends in the fabrics;

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- (b) padding, that is to say, application of natural starch to one or both sides of the fabrics;
- (c) back filling, that is to say, application of starch to one side of the fabrics;
- (d) cropping, that is to say, cutting away mechanically of loose ends from the fabrics; or
- (e) the process of blowing (steam pressing) carried out on woven fabrics of acrylic fibre.

if such fabrics are processed in a factory which does not have the facilities (including plant and equipment) for carrying out bleaching, dyeing or printing or any one or more of these processes with the aid of power or steam, and such fabrics were exempt from whole of the duties leviable thereon under the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986) and the First Schedule to the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 (58 of 1957), immediately prior to 1st March, 2002 and on which duties have become leviable with effect from 1st March 2002, at the rate of 12% ad valorem.”;

(c) after rule 12, the following rule shall be inserted, namely :—

“12A. Filing of return in respect of specified goods on which excise duty has been imposed on and from the 1st March, 2002 – Notwithstanding anything contained in rule 12, every assessee shall submit, in respect of goods specified in the Annexure to rule 8A, to the Superintendent of Central Excise a return for the months of March, April and May, 2002, in the form specified by notification by the Board, of production and removal of the said goods and other relevant particulars, by the 10th day of June, 2002.”. (65)

1st March 2002

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

“That New Ninth Schedule be added to the Bill.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

The motion was adopted.

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

New Ninth Schedule was added to the Bill

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

21.07 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the Minister may move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 30, 2002/ Vaisakha 10, 1924 (Saka)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move :

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