

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 8, 2003/Sravana 17, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the officials of Income Tax Department have conducted raids at the residences of the parents and relatives of Ms. Mayawati. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. There is a Reference to be made. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

11.01 hrs.

HOMAGE TO MARTYRS OF FREEDOM MOVEMENT AND VICTIMS OF ATOMIC BOMBS DROPPED ON HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may recall that sixty-one years ago, on 9th August, 1942, Mahatma Gandhi, gave an ultimatum to the Britishers to 'Quit India'. He also gave a call to the people of India to 'do or die' and to free the motherland from the colonial rule.

The movement shook the very foundation of the British rule in India and culminated in the realization of the cherished dream of every Indian i.e. a free India. On this occasion, we pay our respectful homage to Mahatma Gandhi and to all those who laid down their lives for the cause of freedom of our country.

Hon. Members may also recall that the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed due to dropping of atomic bombs on 6th and 9th of August, 1945, respectively. Thousands of innocent people died,

millions were maimed and many people are suffering from the after effects of the nuclear radiation till today.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki remind us of the importance of elimination of all nuclear weapons to ensure perpetual peace among nations. Efforts towards this end should be sincere, comprehensive and non-discriminatory. To ensure global peace, all countries must exercise restraint and adhere to the path of non-violence.

The House may now observe a minute's silence in the memory of the freedom fighters and the victims of the atomic holocaust.

11.02 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a minute.)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has appeared in today's newspapers that the officials of Income-Tax Department have conducted raids at the residences of the parents and relatives of Ms. Mayawati. Valuable goods have been seized from their houses. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. I want your protection. We would like to cooperate with the government in the House but it is a very serious issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Indeed it is a serious issue.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, valuable items have been recovered during the raids conducted at the residences of the parents and relatives of Ms. Mayawati in Uttar Pradesh. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received the notices on different issues. Also I have received the notices for the suspension of the Question Hour. The Government also desires to move a motion for the suspension of the Question Hour.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj.

11.04 hrs.

MOTION RE: SUSPENSION OF QUESTION HOUR

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that according to the decision taken in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held on 7 August, 2003 today the 'Question Hour' be suspended and the discussion should be held on the Constitution (94 Amendment) Bill and the Constitution (99th Amendment) Bill.

[English]

I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it provides for the first hour of the sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up the consideration and passing of the Constitution (94th Amendment) Bill, 2002 and Constitution (99th Amendment) Bill, 2003."

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to cooperate with the government.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, I thank the Government for having moved a motion to suspend the Question Hour to ensure the passage of these two important Constitution Amendment Bills.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Let these two Constitution Amendment Bills be over. We have other issues to raise. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I will just submit for a minute. Today morning the Gujarat Pradesh Congress Office has been invaded by the police while a

democratic *bandh* of the State was called by the Congress. This is most unfortunate and unprecedented and we condemn it.

Sir, we will cooperate with the Government today to ensure the passage of the Bills. We have no objection if such Bill are passed even without any debate.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will put to vote the motion moved by the Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: One Member should speak at a time, then only it can be heard. If all the Members speak simultaneously then how the business can be conducted, it is not possible. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Sir, I may be allowed to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Rashtrapalji, we will take up your matter on some other day. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. The officials of the Income-Tax Department conducted raids at the residences of the parents and relatives of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh wherein they have seized three bags containing government files from their residences. I urge upon the House that it is a very serious issue. It is revealed from the raids that they have accumulated property amounting to crores of rupees ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am putting the motion moved by the hon. Minister to vote.

The question is:

"That this House do suspend Rule 32 of the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in

so far as it provides for the first hour of the sitting being made available for the asking and answering of questions, in order to take up the consideration and passing of the Constitution (94th Amendment) Bill, 2002 and Constitution (99th Amendment) Bill, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I have to make another observation.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am making an observation. Please cooperate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to cooperate with the government on the Constitution Amendment Bill. We would like that both the Constitution Amendment Bills be passed, but Sir, it is a very serious issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I heard you because it is a serious issue. You know that I have accepted the Adjournment Motion moved by the government and the 'Question Hour' has been suspended. Shri Jaswant Singh, the Minister of Finance is standing. He would like to speak. Let us hear him. Hon. Minister, please express your views.

...(Interruptions)

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

MR. SPEAKER: As it is a serious issue, I heard your views.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Three bags containing files were recovered. Documents regarding the huge unaccounted property were recovered from the residence of the brother-in-law of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, the relatives of Ms. Mayawati. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Rashtrapalji, I have already told you that somehow or other, we will try to take up your issue on some other time. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is also your responsibility to honour the decision taken in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajan, U.P.) Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me for two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, please go to your seat and then speak.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, it is a very serious issue, the hon. Prime Minister, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Government. ...(Interruptions)

11.08 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY SPEAKER

RE: Business of the House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Question Hour has been suspended. As you know, a Short Notice Question is also listed in today's Agenda. The Short Notice Question may be postponed to a later date to be fixed in consultation with the concerned Minister.

We may now take up the consideration and passing of the Constitution 94th Amendment Bill and the Constitution 99th Amendment Bill listed at Serial Nos. 10 and 11 of today's order paper. If the House agrees, we may complete the discussion on both the bills by 12.30 p.m., before lunch. Since only 45 minutes will be available for discussion on each Bill, I would request the hon. Members to be very brief in their speeches.

As per the decision taken at the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee yesterday, the voting on these two Bills may be taken up, one after another, at 12.30 p.m.

I hope the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I have given notice of Adjournment Motion. I may be allowed to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) Sir, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh may be heard for two minutes. This is my request to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.10 hrs.

**RE: REPORTED RAIDS BY OFFICIALS OF
INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT AT THE
RESIDENCES OF THE RELATIVES OF
CHIEF MINISTER OF U.P. IN NOIDA
AND DELHI**

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a serious issue. The hon. Prime Minister, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of Finance are demoralizing the officials of Income Tax Department. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Akhilesh ji, I have allowed you to speak but it does not mean that you can deliver long speech. I have given my ruling and the House is agreed to it. Now, you can express your views in one minute only. I am not allowing you to speak for more than one minute. If you accept it, then you can speak otherwise not.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, please allow me also. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to express your views only for one minute and not more than that. Akhilesh ji. I have allowed you to speak, please speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot take up each and every notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is what starts it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me go to the business before the House now. Shri Ramdas Athawale, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the officials of Income-Tax Department have conducted raids at the residences of the relatives of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Ms. Mayawati in Delhi, Meerut and Noida. Cash, valuable jewellery and objectionable files of Noida have been recovered during the raids. Thereafter, the hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs are exerting undue pressure on the officials of the Income-Tax Department to save her relatives. It is a serious issue. We want your protection and also like that you should get it probed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please sit down.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Three bags of files have been recovered from there. Newspapers dare saying this.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not heard both of you, neither you nor he.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, my privilege notice against the hon. Minister of Law and Justice is pending. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: What is the response of the Government in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I shall hear you later.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Sir, the farmers in Gujarat are on the verge of agitation on

account of hike in power tariff from Rs. 500 per HP during the Congress regime to Rs. 1,260 per HP now. ...*(Interruptions)* The fascist Government of Gujarat have raised it to Rs. 1,260. The students and parents are also fighting against the abnormal rise in the school and college fees. ...*(Interruptions)* People are being arrested. ...*(Interruptions)* All sections of the society there have declared a *Bandh* today. I am extremely sorry to inform you that the Police in Gujarat have entered the Congress Party office. ...*(Interruptions)* Let the hon. Deputy Prime Minister reply to it as these things have happened in his constituency. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: What is the stand of the Government there on, this is being got done deliberately? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All the notices of Adjournment Motion and suspension of Question Hour have been rejected by me and, therefore, I go to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, you told me you would give me time. Please give me one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, the Police have entered the premises of the Congress Party and detained the workers. ...*(Interruptions)* They have arrested MLAs also and instructed the district officials to see that the agitation is crushed. The Police force is doing everything. ...*(Interruptions)* There is misuse of the State administration. ...*(Interruptions)* We want a reply from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. As a special case I have permitted you to speak. You must be satisfied at some stage.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, my privilege notice against the hon. Minister of Law and Justice is pending.

MR. SPEAKER: Your privilege notice is under my consideration.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All privilege notices are under my consideration. Now the hon. Minister of Finance Shri Jaswant Singh to speak. Shri Jaswant Singh ji, you may start.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We had agreed to it yesterday. Shri Ram Das ji, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we have agreed that these two Bills be passed. Then, we will raise the other issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have rejected those notices. I can consider them at right time.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, you only mentioned about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said that it is under my consideration. The reply to your notice will be told to you before evening today.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, please mention it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to speak on that, I can take it up on Wednesday when the House meets again.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Sir, my privilege notice against Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is pending.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a number of notices against each other. All the notices are under my consideration.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, kindly allow them.

MR. SPEAKER: They will be considered by me, not allowed.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

many Hon'ble Members seem to be quite agitated and they are raising this issue simultaneously making it difficult form to respond to all of them at the same time. Still I would try to reply to the queries of some of the hon. Members. Today in the morning when Sushmaji asked me what the matter was all about. I asked her as to what is the difference between imaginary and concocted. She said that there was no difference between the two. Let me make it clear here that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That matter is not before me. That matter has been resolved.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Minister reply if he wants to. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Let me clarify that at none of the residence belonging to any relative to Hon'ble Chief Minister of U.P. neither in Kanpur, nor Lucknow and anywhere. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Those are at NOIDA and in the Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I know a little bit of the task assigned to me. Kunwar Sahib, you are really getting angry. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not just reading it out rather I say with full information that no raids have been conducted against any relative of her at any residence in Kanpur, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh or NOIDA which is also a part of Uttar Pradesh. No raids have been conducted, no such material has been found. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Please also tell about Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I will also tell about Delhi. In general, you might agree that it is not proper to make public the findings of such inquiries in this way as many aspects of many citizens are involved. The narcotics department had indeed initiated action against the travelling agents for smuggling of narcotics in Delhi. When they initiated action against the travelling agents, they also requested the department of Income Tax to co-operate. Whatever has been made of the action taken in Delhi in altogether baseless. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would submit, had the hon'ble Members sought information in this regard, their blood pressure would not have shot up to this extent. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please ask him to apologise to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we go to Constitution (Amendment) Bill. Shri Jual Oram.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The discussion is not on this issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have disallowed the Adjournment Motion.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the news report published in the newspaper. It is not the news of our making. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a notice against the newspaper that the news is baseless.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jual Oram ji, please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please all of you take your seats. It is not good. There is noting left in it after the Minister has replied.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please, both of you come to my chamber.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Akhilesh ji, come to my chamber and quarrel. Why do you make it here?

...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Export of Wheat by STC

*281. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation had exported poor quality of wheat during the last year resulting in huge loss;

(b) if so, the exact amount of loss incurred by the Corporation;

(c) whether an enquiry had been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action initiated against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Target for Export of Leather Goods

*282. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for the export of leather products during 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of Maharashtra therein;

(d) the incentives given by the Government to leather exporters; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of leather products?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An indicative target of US\$ 2030 million was fixed for export of leather & leather products for the year 2002-2003. No state-wise export targets are fixed.

(d) and (e) Government of India is providing financial support:

(i) to individual exporters for participation in international fairs & buyer-seller meets.

(ii) to Council for Leather Exports for research & development activities for increasing exports.

(iii) to Indian companies to strengthen their market network by establishing warehousing and showroom facilities in focus countries like USA and European countries.

(iv) to exporters to establish design studios to enhance their design development capabilities to boost export.

(v) to State Governments for filling infrastructural gaps.

(vi) for skill up-gradation, and

(vii) for market intelligence.

In addition, incentives are available to exporters under various export promotion schemes.

Deposit Limit on RBI Bonds

*283. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have lifted the deposit limit on RBI bonds in budget for the year 2003-2004;

(b) whether there is a limit of three lakhs on post office's MIS scheme under National Saving Scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons for this disparity;

(d) whether the Government propose to raise the limit from three lakhs to five lakhs of post office MIS scheme for the benefit of Senior Citizens; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is no maximum limit for investment in Savings Bonds, 2003 (RBI Bonds). Deposits under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) are, however, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 3 lakh in case of a single account and Rs. 6 lakh in case of a joint account.

(c) to (e) The Savings Bonds, 2003 and the POMIA are two separate saving options with different features and objectives. While the POMIA provides for a bonus @ 10% of the deposit at maturity and the facility of premature withdrawal to the small investor, 8% Savings (taxable) Bonds do not provide such benefits. Government has also introduced the scheme of "Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana" with an assured return of nine per cent per annum for senior citizens.

Clean currency note policy

*284. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the 'clean currency note policy' of the RBI;

(b) whether surprise checks by RBI have revealed that certain banks are not adhering to this policy;

(c) if so, the action taken against these banks; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to utilize the staff which have been declared surplus after the implementation of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The "Clean Note Policy" announced in January, 1999 by the RBI envisaged making available fresh and clean notes to the Citizens. The banks have been given directive by RBI to do away with stapling, to stop writing on notes and issue only clean notes to the Citizens. Inspections are conducted by RBI to ensure compliance of these instructions and appropriate action is taken by RBI upon non-compliance.

(d) As on date, no staff is rendered surplus. Some amount of redeployment within the Reserve Bank of India as considered necessary, has been done.

[Translation]

Pending Cases in Court

*285. SHRI SUBODH ROY:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

(a) the number of civil and criminal cases pending at present in the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts and other lower courts in each State/Union Territory, age-wise;

(b) whether the non-filling of vacancies of judges, inadequate judges strength, lawyer's strike and frequent adjournment of cases are the main cause for pendency of cases in different courts;

(c) if so, the number of posts of judges vacant at present in above courts.

(d) the measures taken for filling up of the vacancies of the judges;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue directions to open the courts during the summer vacations at it was open in Gujarat during summer vacation of 2003; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) A statement I showing the number of civil and criminal cases pending at present in the Supreme Court and High Courts is enclosed. The age-wise pendency of cases in High Court is at statement-II. The age-wise pendency of civil & criminal cases in District Courts and other lower courts in each State/UT is shown at statement-III.

(b) The non-filling of vacancies of judges, inadequate judges-strength, lawyers strike and frequent adjournment of cases are some of the major reasons for pendency of cases in different courts.

(c) As on 1.8.2003, there are two vacancies in the Supreme Court, and 158 vacancies of Judges/Additional Judges in the High Courts. The vacancy position of judicial officers State-wise/UT-wise is indicated at statement-IV.

(d) Necessary measures have been taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies in the Supreme Court, the High Courts and the Subordinate Courts.

(e) and (f) The Central Government have requested all the High Courts and State Governments to re-examine the annual vacation and working days in High Courts.

As regards vacation in the Subordinate Judiciary, the First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) has observed that by increasing the hours of work in Court and number of working days, and at the same time, reducing the vacation, arrears/pendency of cases could be reduced to some extent. The Government of India have requested all High Courts and State Governments to take action in this regard.

Statement I***Pendency of Cases in Supreme Court and High Courts***

Sl. No.	Pendency of cases			As on
	Criminal	Civil	Total	
Supreme Court	4747	19634	24381	1/11/2002
High Courts				
1. Allahabad	149587	760054	909641	31/3/2002
2. Andhra Pradesh	10863	152649	163512	31/3/2002
3. Bombay	27936	265344	293280	30/9/2001
4. Calcutta	36433	190697	227130	31/3/2002
5. Delhi	17718	160283	178001	31/12/2000
6. Guwahati	5629	39413	45042	31/12/2000
7. Gujarat	19526	120041	139569	31/12/2000
8. Himachal Pradesh	4037	13910	17947	31/3/2002
9. Jammu & Kashmir	1740	31625	33365	31/3/2002
10. Karnataka	7417	87819	95236	31/3/2002
11. Kerala	17107	393972	411079	31/3/2002
12. Madhya Pradesh	47420	88319	135739	31/6/2002
13. Madras	33258	314562	347820	31/12/2001
14. Orissa	10598	137168	147766	31/3/2002
15. Patna	17297	63942	81239	31/3/2002
16. Punjab & Haryana	44487	188288	232775	31/3/2002
17. Rajasthan	27713	110406	138119	31/12/2001
18. Sikkim	20	102	122	31/3/2002
19. Uttaranchal	5365	25479	30844	31/8/2002
20. Jharkhand	5437	9028	14465	31/12/2001
21. Chhattisgarh	16948	22690	39638	31/10/2002
Total	506536	3175791	3682329	—

Statement II**Age-wise Pendency of Cases in the High Courts**

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Pending As on	Case Type	1 year	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs	5-6 yrs	6-7 yrs	7-8 yrs	8-9 yrs	9-10 yrs	10 yrs	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Allahabad	31.3.2002	Main	20935	72526	64180	60528	47185	34968	33436	28033	27824	34109	240960	664684
			Misc.	21470	26189	24384	16014	16583	13238	9688	1151	11302	12714	82024	244957
			Total	42405	98715	88564	76542	63768	48206	43124	39384	39126	46823	322984	909641
2.	Andhra Pradesh	31.3.2002	Main	29124	25708	21736	17406	13489	10464	8267	9633	4985	2637	4012	144761
			Misc.	12818	5265	621	15	13	12	7	0	0	0	0	18751
			Total	41942	30973	22357	17427	13502	10476	8274	6933	4985	2637	4012	163512
3.	Bombay	30.9.2001	Main	57027	23115	21068	17454	14519	12942	11223	9850	9092	6657	31544	214491
			Misc.	32359	12656	9840	7889	5561	2470	1900	1626	1425	1301	1762	78789
			Total	89386	35771	30908	25343	20080	15412	13123	11476	10517	7958	33306	293280
4.	Calcutta	31.3.2002	Main	20180	14637	13572	15639	13977	8707	10402	7360	12684	7701	100666	225475
			Misc.	944	360	245	165	215	331	633	449	396	269	1405	5412
			Total	21124	14997	13817	15804	14192	9038	11035	7809	13080	7970	102071	230887
5.	Delhi	31.12.0000	Main	17246	9554	9614	6559	5485	4825	4511	4822	4834	3661	29817	100928
			Misc.	22301	15270	9728	7210	4917	2441	2230	2415	2197	2316	6048	77073
			Total	39547	24824	19242	13769	10402	7266	6741	7237	7031	5977	35865	178001
6.	Guwahati	31.12.2000	Main	13905	8232	5095	3404	1864	764	290	86	40	2	0	33682
			Misc.	4618	2824	2097	1093	492	235	0	1	0	0	0	11360
			Total	18523	11056	7192	4497	2356	999	290	87	40	2	0	45042
7.	Gujarat	30.6.2001	Main	33551	11475	7751	6611	7675	5878	9770	4336	2973	3005	12060	105085
			Misc.	12247	5670	3922	2284	3487	1781	1394	723	1785	203	986	34482
			Total	45798	17145	11673	8895	11162	7659	11164	5059	4758	3208	13046	139567
8.	Himachal Pradesh	30.3.2002	Main	7587	1811	1192	1216	989	593	746	444	79	19	20	14696
			Misc.	2587	320	129	78	44	33	34	14	9	3	0	3251
			Total	10174	2131	1321	1294	1033	626	780	458	88	22	20	17947
9.	J&K	31.3.2002	Main	5098	5070	2923	1755	1157	607	218	159	76	34	106	17203
			Misc.	5215	5267	2700	1455	808	299	151	67	75	31	94	16162
			Total	10313	10337	5623	3210	1965	906	369	226	151	65	200	33365

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10.	Karnataka	31.3.2002	Main	21882	36017	15821	8039	3699	3232	1809	1846	871	1116	902	95234
			Misc.	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
			Total	21882	36017	15821	8039	3699	3234	1809	1846	871	1116	902	95236
11.	Kerala	31.3.2002	Main	27855	24514	18006	13776	10540	8763	6367	4804	3480	2453	2013	122571
			Misc.	48551	48079	41944	34502	27854	22775	18345	17018	13290	11878	4272	288508
			Total	76406	72593	59950	48278	38394	31538	24712	21822	16770	14331	6285	411079
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31.6.2002	Main	22407	30033	21545	14684	11219	8416	6464	4980	3767	2622	7955	134092
			Misc.	754	523	330	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1647
			Total	23161	30556	21875	14724	11219	8416	6464	4980	3767	2622	7955	135739
13.	Madras	31.12.2001	Main	50156	22172	14082	10131	8388	6956	5762	4579	3073	2940	5703	133942
			Misc.	105782	46799	25845	15598	8360	5343	2738	1977	744	421	271	213878
			Total	155938	68971	39927	25729	16748	12299	8500	6556	3817	3361	5974	347820
14.	Orissa	30.9.2001	Main	5700	16506	11985	9859	10346	7829	5700	3185	2580	1759	5927	81376
			Misc.	4021	27347	21359	11428	664	436	437	361	128	97	46	66437
			Total	9721	43853	33344	21287	11010	8265	6137	3546	2708	1856	5973	1478813
15.	Patna	31.3.2003	Main	43480	6260	4789	3751	2895	1659	1509	1874	1674	1844	5812	74707
			Misc.	4972	745	440	227	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	6534
			Total	48432	7005	5229	3978	3045	1659	1509	1874	1674	1844	5812	81241
16.	Punjab & Haryana	31.3.2002	Main	13796	33651	21845	19720	16442	15308	12904	12463	9856	9796	56698	222479
			Misc.	9665	425	125	46	26	7	1	1	0	0	0	10296
			Total	23461	34076	21970	19766	16468	15315	12905	12464	9856	9796	56698	232775
17.	Rajasthan	31.12.2001	Main	21417	14038	13300	11903	4484	6316	4717	4273	3845	2714	7933	97940
			Misc.	13198	8745	8127	6334	2051	721	458	280	315	104	46	40179
			Total	34615	22783	21427	18237	6535	7037	5175	4553	4160	2818	7979	138119
18.	Sikkim	31.3.2002	Main	61	9	3	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	83
			Misc.	26	5	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
			Total	87	14	5	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	122

Statement III*Number and Age-wise Pendency of Civil and Criminal Cases in the District and other Lower Courts*

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	As on	Pending Civil Criminal	Age-wise pendency				
				Less than 6 months	6-12 months old	1-3 years old	3-10 years old	Over 10 years old
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12/2002	469025	85130	107272	215539	58086	2998
			415446	75317	97135	207461	33862	1671
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6/2002	311	50	130	100	31	0
			1469	815	310	214	130	0
3.	Assam	12/2001	37029	9378	9994	12627	4285	745
			103208	31164	31560	30219	9164	1101
4.	Bihar	6/2002	216045	19085	35362	73272	65130	24596
			843792	96688	192084	304947	202865	47208
5.	Chhattisgarh	6/2002	47776	9612	10906	14367	10779	2112
			159965	41572	41323	48176	25088	3806
6.	Goa	12/2002	23767	2838	2924	8372	7595	2038
			11388	2992	2240	4061	1887	208
7.	Gujarat	12/2002	717102	89504	81091	212343	277639	56525
			2603176	333253	524426	895055	750870	99572
8.	Haryana	12/2002	196214	37612	40805	77272	39652	873
			380499	96246	95696	111912	76015	630
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12/2002	68252	15034	15533	24895	12591	199
			81002	23091	17608	26293	13897	113
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12/2002	43418	19495	13439	6609	2615	1260
			82596	33094	24498	15731	7050	2223
11.	Jharkhand	12/2002	52762	5154	7526	19479	17738	2865
			250881	30034	54250	85996	72760	7841
12.	Karnataka	12/2002	599468	94693	108722	220604	162069	13380
			479428	120540	155310	140081	59856	3641
13.	Kerala	12/2002	229220	57962	48681	87678	32455	2444
			484204	178988	97530	173416	33808	462

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6/2002	278223	55671	64413	78335	62826	16978
			757494	154797	171838	228366	174673	27820
15.	Maharashtra	12/2002	911765	136189	136085	295915	257784	85792
			2256294	340509	329512	815770	598990	171513
16.	Manipur	12/2002	4278	898	875	1302	1182	21
			3487	658	676	1044	768	341
17.	Meghalaya	12/1999	2826	675	661	774	641	75
			9151	3115	1323	2912	1402	399
18.	Mizoram	6/2001	47	41	0	6	0	0
			153	71	59	9	12	2
19.	Nagaland	N.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—
			—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Orissa	12/2002	144942	19544	19939	50446	49517	5496
			563877	56666	140948	239588	110388	16287
21.	Punjab	12/2002	225373	50928	54708	84107	34532	1098
			304735	127804	80625	74927	20901	478
22.	Rajasthan	12/2001	268018	39310	37380	85801	87981	17546
			572334	104093	91394	186882	168008	21957
23.	Sikkim	12/1999	268	143	21	42	62	0
			524	413	60	41	10	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	6/2002	572427	291634	182805	79989	16037	1962
			362254	152963	76015	79331	46109	7836
25.	Tripura	12/2002	6558	2040	1946	2018	416	138
			14282	5682	4054	3241	1198	107
26.	Uttar Pradesh	12/2002	1141808	158221	192545	326109	358192	106741
			2706146	437599	576926	857104	691645	142872
27.	Uttaranchal	N.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—
			—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	West Bengal	6/2002	484867	70064	68466	137756	135727	72854
			1090918	208818	217061	385484	212765	66790

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	6/2002	876	231	156	272	205	12
			52459	12627	13570	22822	3432	8
30.	Chandigarh	12/2002	13239	3599	3242	3751	2573	74
			38248	13936	12410	8390	3341	171
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12/2002	399	76	40	213	68	2
			2188	230	425	1049	460	24
32.	Daman & Diu	12/2002	739	96	139	245	239	20
			800	179	160	270	182	9
33.	Delhi	12/2002	142491	23171	18878	51652	39435	9355
			653538	338605	107008	133741	67696	6488
34.	Lakshadweep	12/2002	71	17	13	28	9	4
			42	18	3	19	2	0
35.	Pondicherry	12/2002	6524	1688	1344	2373	835	284
			6236	3071	1608	1357	185	15
Total			22198324	4325431	4424286	7260200	5128345	1060082

Statement IV

*Status on the Appointment of Judicial Officers
(Updated on 30.07.2003)*

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UT	No. of sanctioned posts of Judicial Officers	No. of posts filled	No. of vacant posts	Information as on
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	682	601	81	May 03
2.	Assam*	259	205	54	Jun 01
3.	Arunachal Pradesh*	293	293	0	Dec 98
4.	Bihar	1137	929	208	Jun 02
5.	Jharkhand	551	537	14	Jan 03
6.	Gujarat	655	586	69	Apr 03
7.	Goa	44	36	8	Apr 03

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	283	236	47	Jun 02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	98	92	6	Jun 03
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	197	194	3	Jun 02
11.	Karnataka	677	589	58	July 03
12.	Kerala	380	370	10	Jun 02
13.	Madhya Pradesh	792	660	132	Dec 02
14.	Chhattisgarh	189	163	26	Jun 02
15.	Maharashtra	1095	994	101	Jun 02
16.	Manipur	32	28	4	Jun 01
17.	Meghalaya	8	7	1	Jun 02
18.	Mizoram	34	18	16	Jun 02
19.	Nagaland	21	18	3	Jun 02
20.	Orissa	483	385	98	Jun 02
21.	Punjab	303	273	83	Jun 03
22.	Rajasthan	792	686	106	Jun 02
23.	Sikkim	10	10	0	Mar 03
24.	Tamil Nadu	767	702	65	Jan 03
25.	Tripura	75	60	15	May 03
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2136	1592	544	May 02
27.	Uttaranchal	186	59	127	Jun 03
28.	West Bengal	588	470	118	Apr 0 3
29.	A&N Islands	8	8	0	July 03
30.	Chandigarh	19	19	0	Nov 02
31.	Delhi	385	313	72	April 03
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	2	0	Jun 02
33.	Daman & Diu	1	1	0	Jun 02
34.	Lakshadweep	3	3	0	Apr 03
35.	Pondicherry	19	13	6	Jan 03
Total		13,204	11,129	2075	

*Judiciary is not completely separated from executive.

[English]

Outstanding Central Excise and Customs

*286. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding amount of Central Excise and Customs as on date;

(b) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for this huge outstanding amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether nearly 70 percent of court cases are lost due to inept handling of the cases by the lawyers; and

(e) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce this outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The outstanding dues of Central Excise and Customs as on 30.6.2003 are approximately Rs. 11245 Crore and Rs. 2978 Crore respectively.

(b) and (c) The reasons for non-recovery of outstanding dues include stay orders by Courts and other competent authorities; permissible period of three months for filing the appeal not being over; cases pending with the Committee on Disputes in respect of Public Sector Units; sick units registered with BIFR; company under liquidation and assets under the control of official liquidator/court receiver; assets taken over by banks and financial institutions.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Amongst other, steps taken include speedy action for recovery of realisable arrears of duty; monitoring cases before different Courts/Tribunal; moving petitions before Courts and other appellate authorities for early hearing and disposal of pending cases and expediting disposal of cases pending with Commissioners (Appeals).

Saving Traditional Indian Medicines

*287. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the action taken to strengthen the work already initiated in the TRIPS (Trade Related Intellectual Property) to save traditional Indian medicines in the global consumers

market in view of extensive public health and safety risks posed by counterfeit medicines?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): The TRIPS Agreement lays down minimum standards of protection of intellectual property rights which WTO Member countries are obliged to implement in their law. The TRIPS Agreement does not deal with the issue of counterfeit medicines from the public health and the safety risk perspective.

There have been several instances of bio-piracy and seeking patents in other countries on Indian biological resources and associated traditional knowledge, existing in public domain. In order to address this problem, India along with a number of bio-diversity rich developing countries made a proposal in the WTO for prevention of bio-piracy and to ensure a mutually supportive relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity. India has proposed that "the TRIPS Agreement should be amended in order to provide that Members shall require that an applicant for a patent relating to biological materials or to traditional knowledge shall provide, as a condition to acquiring patent rights:

- (i) disclosure of the source and country of origin of the biological resource and of the traditional knowledge used in the invention;
- (ii) evidence of prior-informed consent through approval of authorities under the relevant national regime; and
- (iii) evidence of fair and equitable benefit sharing under the national regime of the country of origin."

Legislation to Ban Consumption of Tobacco

*288. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

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

(a) whether bidi and chewing tobacco account for 48% and 38% of the tobacco production respectively;

(b) whether there is any Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents of their packs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring an effective legislation to ban the consumption of tobacco in any form?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Available statistics suggest that, on an average, bidis and chewing tobacco accounted for about 24.11% and 20.43% respectively of the total tobacco production during the five year period between 1997-98 to 2001-02.

(b) and (c) There is no Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents in tobacco products at present. However, the recently enacted "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" provides for grant of recognition to testing laboratories for testing of nicotine and tar contents in cigarettes and other tobacco products. Action in this direction has been initiated.

(d) "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" provides for measures like total ban on advertisement of tobacco products, prohibition of smoking in public places and ban on sale of tobacco products to persons below 18 years of age and within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions to discourage the use of tobacco products. The Act covers all tobacco products and is applicable to the whole country.

Export of Service Sector

*289. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian Engineering Consulting Companies are exporting their services;

(b) if so, the countries to which services are being exported alongwith the value of export and employment potential generated during the last three years;

(c) the status of competitiveness of these companies in the global market;

(d) the steps taken by the government to improve competitiveness by way of subsidies and exemption of service tax;

(e) whether any long-term strategy for market friendly export of such services is being considered; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) A large number of Indian Engineering consulting firms have been exporting their services in sectors like power, transportation, water supply, sanitation, infrastructure, housing etc. The details of the total value of consultancy exports during 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 alongwith the names of the countries and the employment potential generated are as under:

Name of the Countries	Value of Contracts Secured (in Rs. Crores)	No. of Persons deployed
Saudi Arabia	200.62	914
Nigeria	197.09	1718
Malaysia	137.40	95
Qatar	62.30	87
Algeria	39.81	38
Kuwait	37.70	510
Columbia	29.16	9
Iran	16.80	26
Mongolia	12.72	34
Turkey	10.74	24
Ethiopia	7.06	7
Bangladesh	6.51	7
UAE	4.56	91
Uganda	1.19	6
Total	763.66	3566

Source: Exim India, Mumbai.

(c) the competitiveness of engineering consulting companies is decided by the availability of contemporary technology with them as well as successful implementation of the same at economical prices. Indian companies do not always have the latest available technologies and also the financial strength to handle large sized projects. Therefore, they have to face very stiff competition from the technologically advanced countries. Though the Indian consultancy firms have undertaken a range of consultancy assignments in varied sectors, often in challenging markets overseas, they are unable to penetrate to the desired extent.

(d) For promoting services, a new scheme known as Duty Free Entitlement Certificate Scheme for service providers has been announced in the Exim Policy on 31.3.03, which allows duty free imports on the basis of the average foreign exchange earned by the service provider in the preceding three years. The Duty free import can be used for import of spares, office equipments, furniture, professional equipments and consumables other than agriculture and dairy products.

Government also extends financial assistance to consultancy exporters for some identified export promotion activities under the schemes of Market Development Assistance and Market Access Initiative. The Exim Bank of India, operates programmes for sponsoring and part financing Indian consultants for providing consultancy services to private sector Small & Medium Enterprises in developing countries under the 'Technical Assistance Programme' of International Finance Corporation (IFC), Washington D.C. and other International agencies.

The Service Tax on export of services was recently withdrawn vide ST Circular No. 56/5/2003 dated 25/4/2003 of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue.

(e) and (f) Realising the need to promote services exports particularly in areas where India has competitive advantage, the Task Force on Project Exports has identified the following strategies to promote export of project consultancy services.

1. Constitution of High Level Standing Committee to ensure co-ordinated support to promote exports. The Committee will also consider taxation and related issues for facilitating project exports including consultancy services.
2. Streamlining and Capacity Building of Indian Missions Overseas to improve their delivery mechanism and support system and also to set up Project Facilitation Cells to assist Indian project exporters including consultancy exports.
3. Strengthening of Exim India and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation to provide necessary financial support at internationally competitive terms and conditions.

WTO Negotiations for Agricultural Trade

*290. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether WTO has been considering the question of liberalization of trade in agriculture in its ongoing negotiations in various fora;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) India's stand on the issue and the countries which are favouring Indian stand and those opposing it; and

(d) the steps taken to bring round the opposing countries and the success achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Towards continuation of the reform process in agriculture, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Agriculture has an in-built mandate to commence negotiations on 1 January 2000, taking into account the experience of Members from implementing their reduction commitments on support and protection, non-trade concerns, and special and differential treatment for developing countries. Phases 1 and 2 of the negotiations, based on this mandate, in the Special Sessions of the Committee on Agriculture of the WTO, were largely analytical and a number of negotiating proposals were submitted by Members. In the 14 November 2001 Doha Declaration, Ministers have agreed on negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access; reduction of, with a view to phasing out, all forms of export subsidies; and substantial reduction in trade-distorting domestic support.

Government's priority in these negotiations is to safeguard the interests of Indian farmers by, *inter alia*, providing appropriate levels of tariff protection on imports and taking into account our food security and livelihood concerns and increased market access for agricultural products of export interest to us.

In the negotiations, so far, divergences among Members of the WTO on key issues are evident, including on the levels of ambition as regards the further commitments in the three pillars of the negotiations, namely, market access, domestic support and export competition. While the Cairns Group (consisting of major agricultural products' exporting developed and developing countries, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Malaysia, and South Africa) and the US favour steep tariff reductions on imports, substantial reduction in domestic support, and elimination of direct export subsidies, the European Communities (EC) and its candidate States, Japan, Switzerland, Norway, and Korea favour moderate tariff reductions based on the Uruguay Round approach. These

Members have linked their flexibility on support and protection in the farm sector with incorporation of non-trade concerns, such as animal welfare, in the negotiations. Countries which have recently acceded to the WTO, such as China, Croatia, Jordan and Oman, favour exemption from further commitments, having already made substantial commitments across all WTO Agreements during their process of accession. Developing countries, which are net importers of food attach importance to improved availability of food at affordable process, and therefore, do not insist upon elimination of export subsidies. Small economies with a heavy reliance on preferential trading arrangements with Members, such as the EC and US, for economic development and growth, support continuation of preferential access to these markets. Least developed countries have been seeking complete exemption from any further commitments in support or protection of agriculture. As may be seen, while there are common interests and concerns between India and some other WTO Members, divergences in positions remain across some other issues.

India has been continuously making efforts to build coalitions with other WTO Members holding similar interests and concerns. India along with Cuba, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Indonesia, Korea, Nigeria, Turkey, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Venezuela have made a submission to the WTO Committee on Agriculture on various aspects of special and differential treatment for developing countries. India, along with over 75 WTO Members which include the EC and Japan, have advocated using the Uruguay Round approach to further tariff reductions. Further, along with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India had co-sponsored a meeting of like-minded developing countries to discuss issues of common interest, namely, the instruments of Special Products (SP projects), and the new Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM), proposed for developing countries to enable them to address food security and livelihood concerns and rural development. This meeting also considered domestic support modalities for developed countries in order to better address the distortions in world agriculture markets, and use of sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures to deny market access in products of export interest to developing countries. The negotiations are scheduled to be concluded by 1 January 2005.

Futures Trading in Sugar

*291. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to allow futures trading in sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the futures trading in sugar is likely to bring about stability in price;

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

(e) the number of applications received for futures trading in sugar during the year 2002-03 and current fiscal year; and

(f) the benefits which the farmers and consumers are likely to derive from such trading?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government approved futures trading in sugar on 26.4.2001 and the notification was issued on 14.5.2001.

(c), (d) and (f) Futures trading in sugar is expected to help price discovery, i.e. in knowing prices of sugar likely to prevail in future, in guarding against future price risks or hedging, and in price stabilization since the fluctuations tend to get moderated. Futures trading provides for risk management in trading and farmers, as well as consumers are likely to benefit through price discovery and stabilization.

(e) During the year 2002-2003 one application was received.

[Translation]

Revival of Super Bazar

*292. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive the Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to seek the cooperation of the private and the cooperative sectors in order to revive this organisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The Super Bazar, Delhi has been wound up by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies on 5.7.2002 under the provisions of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984.

(c) and (d) The provisions of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 do not permit transfer of management of Multi State Cooperative Society to any willing investor in private sector. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation had informed earlier that no other Multi State Cooperative Society in Delhi registered under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 in the field of consumers willing to accept the transfer of Super Bazar, Delhi.

Import of Agricultural Products

*293. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

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

(a) whether agricultural produce which are available in abundance in the country are also being imported;

(b) if so, the details of agricultural produce imported during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for importing such agricultural produce;

(d) the impact of such import on Indian agriculturists;

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to stop import of such produce; and

(f) the success achieved by the Government as a result of the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (f) Quantitative restrictions on the import of various items including agricultural products have been removed as a part of the process of economic liberalisation and also in terms of our international commitments and obligations. The import of agricultural products, besides various other economic factors, is primarily dependent on domestic demand and supply and the need to provide inputs to processors/manufacturers of agro-based products at reasonable price. Year-wise

and commodity-wise statistics on import of various items, including agricultural products, is published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics in the 'Monthly Statistics of foreign Trade of India Volume-I and copies thereof are available in the Parliament Library.

Import of agricultural commodities during April 02-February 03 was Rs. 9841.72 crores as compared to Rs. 7267.36 crore over the same period in the preceding year. Edible oil accounts for nearly 60-65% of the total agri imports while raw cashew nuts and pulses are among the other dominant agri imports. Import of raw cashew nuts is mainly for processing and re-export of cashew kernels.

As reported in the Economic Survey for 2002-03, the removal of Quantitative Restrictions provided an opportunity to farmers and agro based industries to tap the world markets. The new economic environment has created a conducive environment for improving the terms of trade for agriculture *vis-a-vis* the manufacturing sector. The price index of agricultural products has moved much faster as compared to the manufactured products in recent years. The trade liberalization and removal of Quantitative Restrictions have helped promote greater export growth in agricultural commodities.

In order to ensure that any significant surge in import of any item including agricultural products do not cause any undue hardship to the Indian farmers, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and is committed to providing adequate protection to the domestic producers by resorting to various WTO compatible measures. The WTO Agreement on Agriculture already provides for suitable calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels and initiation of trade remedial measures including imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances.

In the recent past, customs duties on a number of agricultural items like edible oil, coconut, tea, coffee, pepper, cloves, cardamom, poppy seeds, natural rubber, latex, poultry products, garlic etc. were increased. Besides this, the import of wheat, rice, maize, copra, coconut oil etc. are under the State Trading regime. Necessary care has also been taken to ensure a level playing field to domestic producers *vis-a-vis* imports by subjecting agricultural imports to conform to domestic regulations like Food Adulteration Act, Meat Food Product Order, Tea Waste (Control) Order and sanitary and phyto-sanitary

permits based on the import risk analysis of the imported agricultural product.

[English]

External Aid Sought by States

*294. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sent requests to the Union Government for financial assistance

from the Foreign Financial Institutions for their projects during the last three year and upto June 30, 2003;

(b) If so, the details of those projects, State-wise, FFI-wise, project-wise and amount-wise; and

(c) the present status of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of projects approved since 1.4.2000 are given in Statement-I. The details of proposals received since 1.4.2000 are in Statement-II.

Statement I

Projects Approved Since 1.4.2000

(Figures in loan currency in millions)

S.No	State	Institution	Name of the Project	Date of Agreement	Loan currency	Loan Amount	Cumulative disbursement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
LOANS							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	AP district poverty initiative project	12.5.2000	SDR	82.90	25.18
2.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka watershed development	25.7.2001	SDR	79.00	2.67
3.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka community-based tank management project	4.6.2002	SDR	80.00	2.93
4.	Kerala	IDA	Kerala rural water supply and environmental sanitation	4.1.2001	SDR	50.10	5.43
5.	Rajasthan	IDA	Rajasthan district poverty initiatives project	12.5.2000	SDR	75.00	6.77
6.	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	AP community forest management project	8.10.2002	SDR	85.50	1.85
7.	Uttar Pradesh	IDA	UP fiscal reform and public sector restructuring program	16.5.2000	SDR	93.30	93.30
8.	Gujarat	IDA	Gujarat emergency earthquake reconstruction project	4.6.2002	SDR	356.00	77.89
9.	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	AP rural poverty reduction project	3.4.2003	SDR	114.00	3.58
10.	Madhya Pradesh	IDA	MP district poverty initiatives project	5.12.2000	SDR	84.20	8.47
11.	UP, Uttaranchal	IDA	UP health systems development project	19.5.2000	SDR	82.10	11.10
12.	Multistate	IDA	Third technical education project	18.10.2000	SDR	48.90	9.67
13.	Multistate	IDA	Technical engineering education quality improvement project	4.2.2003	SDR	189.00	4.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Rajasthan	IDA	Rajasthan second district primary education project	27.7.2001	SDR	58.50	14.58
15.	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	Andhra Pradesh economic program	15.3.2002	SDR	101.00	101.00
16.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka economic restructuring program	26.7.2001	SDR	58.90	58.90
17.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka economic restructuring program-II	15.3.2002	SDR	40.50	40.50
18.	Maharashtra	IDA	Mumbai urban transport project	5.8.2002	SDR	62.50	13.21
19.	Mizoram	IDA	Mizoram state roads project	6.5.2002	SDR	47.50	4.29
20.	Karnataka	IDA	Second Karnataka rural water supply and sanitation	8.3.2002	SDR	119.00	3.50
21.	Orissa	IDA	Orissa water resources consolidation part-H	18.12.2000	SDR	37.80	20.64
22.	Rajasthan	IDA	Rajasthan water sector restructuring	15.3.2002	SDR	110.00	4.48
23.	Uttar Pradesh	IDA	UP water sector restructuring	8.3.2002	SDR	117.00	4.37
24.	Rajasthan	IBRD	Rajasthan power sector restructuring	27.2.2001	USD	180.00	59.22
25.	Uttar Pradesh	IBRD	UP power sector restructuring	19.5.2000	USD	150.00	104.40
26.	Gujarat	IBRD	Gujarat state highway project	18.10.2000	USD	381.00	83.64
27.	Karnataka	IBRD	Karnataka state highways improvement project	26.7.2001	USD	360.00	40.56
28.	Kerala	IBRD	Kerala state transport project	6.5.2002	USD	255.00	18.88
29.	Uttar Pradesh	IBRD	Uttar Pradesh state road project	19.2.2003	USD	488.00	10.00
30.	Andhra Pradesh	IBRD	Andhra Pradesh economic reform program	15.3.2002	USD	125.00	125.00
31.	Karnataka	IBRD	Karnataka economic restructuring program	26.7.2001	USD	75.00	75.00
32.	Karnataka	IBRD	Karnataka economic restructuring program-II	15.3.2002	USD	50.00	50.00
33.	Uttar Pradesh	IBRD	UP fiscal reform and public sector restructuring program	16.5.2000	USD	126.27	126.27
34.	Maharashtra	IBRD	Mumbai urban transport project	5.8.2002	USD	463.00	22.90
35.	Gujarat	ADB	1803-IND Gujarat power sector development program	14.12.2000	USD	150.00	51.50
36.	Gujarat	ADB	1804-IND Gujarat power sector development project	14.12.2000	USD	200.00	14.39
37.	Madhya Pradesh	ADB	MP power sector development project	21.3.2002	USD	200.00	9.28
38.	Madhya Pradesh	ADB	MP state roads sector development program	5.12.2002	USD	30.00	12.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
39.	West Bengal	ADB	WB corridor development project	10.12.2002	USD	210.00	2.10
40.	Kerala	ADB	Modernizing government and fiscal reform in Kerala project	16.12.2002	USD	200.00	100.00
41.	Gujarat	ADB	Gujarat earthquake rehabilitation and reconstruction	26.4.2001	USD	350.00	112.37
42.	Karnataka	ADB	Karnataka urban development and coastal environment management	19.5.2000	USD	145.00	4.31
43.	West Bengal	ADB	Calcutta environmental improvement project	18.12.2001	USD	220.00	4.52
44.	Gujarat	IFAD	Livelihood security project for earthquake	18.12.2002	SDR	116.50	0.74

GRANTS

1.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka watershed development	14.2.2001	USD	0.18	0.18
2.	Multistate	IDA	Rural water supply and sanitation, Kerala/Karnataka	12.7.2000	USD	0.41	0.29
3.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka integrated health, nutrition and family welfare	3.1.2002	USD	0.68	0.07
4.	Karnataka	IDA	Karnataka community-based tank management project	14.2.2001	USD	0.40	0.30
5.	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	AP rural poverty reduction project	28.12.2001	USD	0.50	0.34
6.	Gujarat	IDA	Gujarat district primary education	10.8.2001	USD	26.47	5.24
7.	Maharashtra	IDA	Second Maharashtra rural water supply and environment	7.2.2002	USD	0.72	0.40
8.	Kerala	ADB	Modernizing government and fiscal reform in Kerala (Grant)	17.12.2002	USD	50.00	25.00

Statement II*Proposals Received Since 1.4.2000 and Pending*

Sl. No.	State(s)	Source Organization	Name of the proposal	Currency	Proposed amount	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Uttaranchal, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu.	World Bank	Dam safety assurance, rehabilitation and disaster management project	Rs. Crores	718.99	Posed. Response awaited.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh & Jharkhand					
2.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Maharashtra water services improvement project	Rs. Crores	2041.50	Posed. Under active consideration of World Bank.
3.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Tamil Nadu water resources consolidation project-II	Rs. Crores	3902.00	Posed. Under active consideration of World Bank.
4.	Haryana	World Bank	Haryana water resources consolidation project-II	Rs. Crores	880.00	Posed. Not included in World Bank's priority for lending.
5.	Andhra Pradesh Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Pondicherry & Punjab	World Bank	Hydrology project-II	Rs. Crores	709.00	Posed. Under consideration of world Bank
6.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Tamil Nadu structural adjustment loan	USD millions	600.00	Posed. Not yet approved
7.	Karnataka	World Bank	Karnataka structural adjustment loan	USD millions	250.00	posed. Not yet approved
8.	Andhra Pradesh	World Bank	AP structural adjustment loan	USD millions	250.00	Posed. Not yet approved
9.	Orissa	World Bank	Orissa fiscal reform	USD millions	750.00	Posed. Not yet approved
10.	Rajasthan	World Bank	Rajasthan state health system development project.	Rs. Crores	419.00	posed.
11.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Tamil Nadu state health system development project.	Rs. Crores	650.00	Posed.
12.	Assam	World Bank	Assam state health system development project.	Rs. Crores	382.00	Posed.
13.	Kerala	World Bank	Kerala state health system development project.	Rs. Crores	810.00	Posed.
14.	Kerala	World Bank	Kerala strengthening and upgrading of Medical colleges	Rs. Crores	130.00	Not posed.
15.	West Bengal	World Bank	West Bengal state health system development project.	Rs. Crores	777.00	Posed.
16.	Karnataka	World Bank	Karnataka health, nutrition and population project	Rs. Crores	790.00	Posed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Maharashtra strengthening and upgrading of medical colleges	Rs. Crores	550.00	Not posed.
18.	Madhya Pradesh	World Bank	Madhya Pradesh state health system development project	Rs. Crores	630.00	Not posed.
19.	Karnataka	World Bank	Karnataka municipal reform project	USD millions	200.00	Posed.
20.	Gujarat	World Bank	Gujarat urban reform project	USD millions	200.00	Posed. The Bank have suggested a Project Preparation Facility (PPF) for the project.
21.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Nagpur water supply augmentation and sewerage scheme	—	Yet to be decided	The proposal is being revised.
22.	Andhra Pradesh	World Bank	Andhra Pradesh urban reforms and municipal service project	USD millions	100.00	Posed.
23.	Jammu & Kashmir	World Bank	Sewerage system for Greater Srinagar	—	Yet to be decided	Comments of Line Ministry awaited.
24.	Jammu & Kashmir	World Bank	Sewerage system for Greater Jammu	—	Yet to be decided	Comments of Line Ministry awaited.
25.	Bihar	World Bank	Salt affected lands in Gandak Command Area of Bihar	Rs. Crores	1340.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
26.	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Tami Nadu	World Bank	Sericulture	Rs. Crores	1200.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
27.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Maharashtra rural credit project phase-III	Rs. Crores	700.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
28.	Multi-state	World Bank	National disaster management capacity building	—	Yet to be decided	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
29.	Uttar Pradesh	World Bank	Socio-economic empowerment of Ambedkar villages	Rs. Crores	2000.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
30.	Gujarat	World Bank	Comprehensive agriculture development project (NAEP-III)	Rs. Crores	460.69	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
31.	Gujarat	World Bank	Global grassroots entrepreneurs trading network	USD millions	20.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
32.	Kerala	World Bank	By-product utilisation of coconut in Kerala	Rs. Crores	10.50	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
33.	Kerala	World Bank	Agro based micro entrepreneur programmes for farm women in Kerala	Rs. Crores	25.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
34.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Integrated development of tribal population in five districts of Maharashtra	Rs. Crores	222.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Rajasthan	World Bank	Rural housing project for Sahariya's primitive tribal groups of Kishanganj-Shahbad block of Baran district in Rajasthan	Rs. Crores	21.12	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
36.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Maharashtra horticultural produce marketing infrastructure project.	Rs. Crores	1400.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
37.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Agricultural intensification and diversification project	Rs. Crores	1792.50	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
38.	Multi-state	World Bank	Natural disaster mitigation-Earthquake disaster mitigation through S&T interventions	Rs. Crores	200.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
39.	All States and Union Territories in the country	World Bank	Strengthening of emergency and fire services	Rs. Crores	1959.44	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
40.	Multi-state	World Bank	National earthquake preparedness and mitigation programme	Rs. Crores	1039.00	Not posed. Clearance of Line Ministry, etc. awaited.
41.	Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Agriculture higher education reforms project	USD millions	200.00	Posed. Revised concept paper being prepared.
42.	Gujarat	World Bank	Integrated rural development support programme in Gujarat	Rs. Crores	489.65	Posed.
43.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Tamil Nadu empowerment and poverty reduction project	USD millions	214.44	Posed.
44.	Tripura	World Bank	Tripura agricultural development project	Rs. Crores	403.00	Posed.
45.	Chhattisgarh	World Bank	Chhattisgarh district rural poverty project	USD millions	132.00	Approved. Agreements likely to be signed shortly.
46.	Assam	World Bank	Assam rural infrastructure and agricultural services project. Ph. II	USD millions	250.00	Posed.
47.	Karnataka	World Bank	CHETNA' (Community heralded empowerment, transformation and new awakening)	USD millions	240.00	Posed.
48.	Jharkhand, Uttaranchal	World Bank	Integrated new and sustainable technologies for elimination of poverty project (INSTEP)	Rs. Crores	5.00 (Grant)	Posed.
49.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Kanchi area development and participatory project	USD millions	2.34	Posed.
50.	Uttaranchal, Meghalaya	IFAD	Livelihood improvement project for the Himalayas	Rs. Crores	150.00	Posed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
51.	Gujarat	World Bank	Gujarat forestry	Rs. Crores	2673.00	Posed. Pending finalization of World Bank strategy on forestry sector in India, the project has been put on hold
52.	Manipur	World Bank	Manipur forestry	Rs. Crores	1053.90	-do-
53.	Jharkhand	World Bank	Jharkhand forestry	Rs. Crores	1146.77	-do-
54.	Tripura	World Bank	Tripura Forestry	Rs. Crores	256.23	-do-
55.	Maharashtra	World Bank	Second Maharashtra rural water supply and sanitation	Rs. Crores	1300.00	Posed. Yet to be approved by the Bank.
56.	Tamil Nadu	World Bank	Tamil Nadu rural water supply and sanitation project	Rs. Crores	230.00	Posed. Yet to be approved by the Bank.
57.	Assam	ADB	Assam power sector development program	USD millions	200.00	The project is pipelined for CY 2003.
58.	Madhya Pradesh	ADB	Urban water supply and environmental improvement in MP	USD millions	250.00	The project is pipelined for CY 2003.
59.	Chhattisgarh	ADB	Chhattisgarh state roads	USD millions	200.00	The project is pipelined for CY 2003.

Competition from Private Sector Banks

*295. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit margins of public sector banks have declined to a great extent due to stiff competition from private sector banks especially by foreign banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Handicrafts Sector

*296. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives of marketing and support services scheme;

(b) the funds released under the scheme to Central/ State handicrafts Corporations during last three years;

(c) the achievements made under the scheme in terms of artisans and organisations benefited during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for effective implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The main objectives of marketing support and Service scheme are as under:

(i) To project Indian handicrafts and create its awareness among the masses by organising a number of marketing events in big and small cities.

(ii) To provide direct marketing outlets to the craft persons living in far flung, remote and hilly areas by inviting them for participation in various marketing events/historical meals in different cities for augmenting their sales eliminating the role of middlemen.

- (iii) To provide financial assistance to State Handicrafts Corporations, Apex Cooperatives and prominent NGOs for opening new Emporia at suitable places to enable the craftpersons to have permanent sales outlets for their products.
- (iv) To establish direct contact of the craftpersons with the exporters and marketing organisations for regular and continuous flow of orders without middlemen by organising Buyers-Sellers Meets.
- (v) To provide financial assistance to Institutions, Societies, organisation, Corporations and NGOs in the field of handicrafts to project, popularize and promote handicrafts by undertaking market related activities with ultimate objective to augment the employment and income of craftpersons.
- (vi) To set up various types of Haats at prime locations in the country to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craftpersons by rotation to ensure their full employment and economic development.
- (vii) To develop entrepreneurship among the craftpersons by way of organising workshops, training, seminars, etc.
- (viii) To project handicrafts within the country by creating greater awareness about the crafts by way of publicity both through print as well as electronic media.

(b) The details of funds released under the scheme to Central/State Handicrafts corporations during the last three years is as under:

Sl.No.	Year	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	2000-2001	688.69
2.	2001-2002	683.56
3.	2002-2003	524.43
Total:		1896.69

(c) The estimated number of artisans benefited directly/indirectly and organisation benefited during the last three years are as under:

Sl.No.	Year	Artisan benefited (estimated)	Organisation benefited
1.	2000-2001	65760	243
2.	2001-2002	106520	277
3.	2002-2003	74360	285
Total		246640	805

(d) The steps taken/proposed to be taken for effect implementation of the scheme include: issue of identity cards to the bonafide artisans; nomination of artisans in various urban haats on rotational basis; setting up of regional level screening committee with representatives drawn from concerned state Governments and State Handicrafts Development Corporations; setting up of state level coordination committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Industries) of the concerned state Govt.; inspection of marketing events by field level functionaries; wide publicity to create awareness amongst the general public to boost domestic sales; assistance provided to Corporations/Apex societies etc. to make them commercially more viable by restructuring/rationalizing the manpower and improving the management efficiency; constitution of Governing Body for Urban Haats and joint inspection committee for Dilli Haat consisting of representative of DC (HC), DC (HL) and Delhi Tourism.

[English]

Procurement of Paddy

*297. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:
SHRI PRADIP YADAV:

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

(a) the total quantum of paddy alongwith its value procured by the Government agencies from the farmers during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether some State Governments and representatives of farmers have requested the Government to procure more paddy from the respective States;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government on these requests?

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

(a) The State-wise position of the total quantity of paddy procured during the Kharif Marketing Season 2000-01 and 2001-02 by the FCI and the State Government Agencies and the value of the said paddy, on the basis of the MSP of paddy for each of the two years, is annexed as statement.

(b) to (d) The governments and farmer's representatives of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have approached the Central Government for procurement of paddy in these States. The position regarding the procurement of paddy in these States during the current KMS 2002-03 is as under:

Assam: The FCI who were asked to undertake procurement of Boro Paddy in selected districts of the State have opened 22 procurement centres. However, little paddy of the requisite specifications has been offered at these centres.

Bihar: The FCI have opened 100 paddy procurement centres in the State. A quantity of 2.27 lakh tonnes of paddy has been procured during the current KMS, as compared to 1.32 lakh tonnes during the previous year.

Jharkhand: The State Government had sought procurement of marketable surplus of paddy in the State by the FCI in March, 2003. In view, however, of very small procurement of paddy in the past, there are no

purchase centres or infrastructure for paddy procurement and the FCI are currently exploring the possibility of establishing procurement centres in areas which have surplus availability of paddy, in consultation with the State Government.

Madhya Pradesh: The FCI have taken up paddy procurement in the Chambal, Gwalior and Jabalpur Divisions directly from farmers at 43 procurement centres, in addition to the procurement being done by the State Agencies; 0.97 lakh tonnes of paddy have been procured in the State.

Orissa: The FCI, in consultation with the State Government, have opened 20 paddy procurement centres, keeping in view the areas where reports of distress sale are received as also the potential for procurement; 505 MTs of paddy have been procured so far.

Tamil Nadu: The State Government have undertaken the procurement of paddy under the Decentralised Procurement Scheme from the current KMS 2002-03; 1.59 lakh MTs of paddy have been procured so far.

Tripura: The State Government have evinced interest in implementing the Decentralised Procurement Scheme and the Guidelines of the same have been sent to the State Government whose response is awaited.

A&N Islands: The Union Territory Administration have sent a proposal for the procurement of paddy/rice from farmers under the Decentralised Procurement Scheme, the modalities of which are being determined.

Statement

Statewise Quantity of Paddy Procured and its Value during KMS 2000-01 and 2001-02.

(In '000 tonnes)

States/U.T.	2000-01		2001-02	
	Quantity procured	Value (in Crore)	Quantity procured	Value (in Crore)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	430	232.20	303	169.68
Bihar	29	15.66	133	74.48
Chandigarh	24	12.96	—	—
Chhattisgarh	524	282.96	1886	1056.16

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	1363	736.02	1575	882.00
Himachal Pradesh	1	0.54	Neg.	—
Karnataka	1	0.54	Neg.	—
Madhya Pradesh	119	64.26	266	148.96
Maharashtra	32	17.28	148	82.88
Punjab	8629	4659.66	9434	5283.04
Rajasthan	31	16.74	17	9.52
Tamil Nadu	2530	1366.20	1272	712.32
Uttar Pradesh	540	291.60	895	501.20
Uttaranchal	63	34.02	39	21.84
Total	14316	7730.64	15968	8942.08

Neg—Below 500 tonnes.

[Translation]

Production of Rubber

*298 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

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

(a) the names of the States producing rubber at present;

(b) the achievements made by the States in cultivation and production of rubber during the Ninth Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount provided to these States by the Union Government for cultivation of rubber during the above period;

(d) whether the production of natural rubber is much less than the demand of the country;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the details of the schemes proposed to be taken to encourage the cultivation and to boost the production of rubber; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to compete with foreign countries in production of rubber and to safeguard the interests of the rubber growers?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Presently Natural Rubber (NR) is produced in 16 States. Names of the States alongwith year-wise achievements made by these States in cultivation and production of rubber during the 9th Five Year Plan, are enclosed as statement.

(c) Since rubber cultivation is a subject of the Union, no funds are allotted to the State Governments directly. During the Ninth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 139.70 crore has been spent by the Union of India for cultivation/ plantation development of natural rubber.

(d) and (e) The country has achieved near self sufficiency in Natural Rubber production. During the Ninth Five Year Plan period, the total production of rubber was 30,72,945 tonnes as against consumption of 30,61,160 tonnes.

(f) and (g) Government of India, through Rubber Board is implementing a number of schemes for the development of the rubber sector. The schemes include financial/technical assistance to the growers, processors and exporters for:

- increasing production of NR through expansion of area, enhancement of productivity,
- improving the quality of produce to achieve competitiveness in the global markets.
- promoting agricultural and technological research in the interest of industry, and
- promoting export of Natural Rubber.

During the 10th Plan Period, the Board is implementing seven schemes viz., Rubber Plantation Development Scheme; Research on Natural Rubber;

Processing, Quality Up-gradation and Product Diversification Scheme; Export Promotion of NR; Market Development; Human Resource Development; and Rubber Development in the North Region.

The 10th Plan Schemes being implemented aim at the overall development of the natural rubber sector and making Indian rubber globally competitive both in terms of quality and cost. For achieving this, financial and technical support is provided to small holdings for adopting latest agro-management practices. Special educational and training programmes are being implemented to inculcate quality consciousness among small rubber producers.

Statement

State-wise Area under Rubber Cultivation

(In Hectares)

State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerala	465282	469924	472900	474365	475039
Tamil Nadu	18470	18631	18659	18710	18704
Karnataka	18475	19323	19565	19735	20017
Tripura	22582	24120	25380	26495	27947
Assam	10060	10805	11644	12117	12806
Meghalaya	3757	3958	3683	4029	4354
Nagaland	1287	1416	1615	1791	2024
Mizoram	628	671	543	585	619
Manipur	1308	1401	1610	1588	1698
A&N	989	931	931	931	960
Goa	924	939	839	872	843
Orissa	149	358	408	493	517
Maharashtra	305	163	180	189	165
Arunachal Pradesh	128	161	244	280	323
West Bengal	115	158	285	388	430
Andhra Pradesh	75	82	98	102	109
Total	544534	553041	558584	562670	566555

Statewise Production of Natural Rubber

(In tonnes)

State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Kerala	541935	559099	572820	579866	580350
Tamil Nadu	19175	20263	21134	21611	21631
Karnataka	12150	12549	13115	13368	13465
Tripura	7631	8588	9312	9740	10304
A&N Islands	603	680	700	700	397
Assam	1623	1785	2867	2456	1755
Meghalaya	287	1424	1690	1717	2378
Nagaland	120	167	159	285	393
Mizoram	7	59	3	64	63
Manipur	69	136	115	198	198
Goa	146	210	215	309	314
Maharashtra	29	45	74	34	47
Orissa	10	13	6	12	26
Arunachal Pradesh	43	24	24	16	42
West Bengal	—	2	30	28	36
Andhra Pradesh	2	1	1	1	1
Grand Total	583830	605045	622265	630405	631400

*[English]***National Jute Manufactures Corporation**

*299. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Jute Manufactures Corporation is on the verge of closure;

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

(c) the number of employees working in the Corporation as on date; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for revival of this ailing Corporation and to protect the interest of its employees?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC) Ltd. had been suffering cash losses consistently since its inception in 1980. In view of continuous cash loss and complete erosion of net worth, NJMC was referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1992. The BIFR is yet to give its final decision regarding the NJMC Ltd.

(c) The number of employees working in Corporation is 15,410 (as on 30.06.2003).

(d) The Government is consistently providing financial support for payment of wages, salaries and other statutory dues of the employees of the NJMC Ltd. During the current financial year there is a provision of Rs. 112 crores in this regard. The Corporation has offered an attractive VRS package for the willing employees.

[Translation]

Decline in Rural Branches

*300. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks in rural areas of the country as on date;

(b) whether the number of branches of the banks in rural areas has declined during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons for the said decline in the number thereof and the percentage of decline; and

(e) the reaction of the Government towards this decline and corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) As on 31st March, 2003, the number of such branches is 19195.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The details are:

	31.3.2001	31.3.2002	31.3.2003
Number of branches	19418	19284	19195
Percentage of decline	—	0.69%	0.46%

The main reasons for decline are as under:

- (i) Banks are allowed to close their loss-making rural branches at centres having two or more branches of commercial banks functioning there (excluding, the RRBs) on mutual consultation, without prior approval of DCC/State Government.
- (ii) While closure of a single branch of a bank in rural areas is not allowed, they are permitted to convert the branch into a Satellite Office which functions for 2/3 days in a week, to provide service to the clientele.
- (iii) Under the Reconstruction Plan of Weak Banks approved by Government and RBI, three banks, viz., Indian Bank, UCO Bank and United Bank

of India were allowed to rationalize branch network by closure/merger of their loss-making rural branches.

(e) The RBI's emphasis remains on ensuring that, as far as possible, such rationalization be done without affecting banking service in rural areas.

[English]

Exports of Cars

2586. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh markets have been explored to increase the export of cars and to earn more foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details of the export targets set by the different car manufacturing companies for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The export market for Indian car manufacturers has primarily been Western Europe. However, some of the countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are now emerging as new markets.

(b) Due to the competitive nature of the business, the car manufacturing companies normally do not share the information pertaining to their export targets. However, the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) has projected the target of US\$ 450 million for exports of jeeps and cars etc., for the year 2003-04.

Cheap Foreign Loans

2587. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian companies are queuing up for dollar loans as soft US interest rates and a fall in the cost of heading foreign exchange exposures have made overseas borrowings cheaper than local rupee debt as reported in *Times of India* on the June 3, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued its own guidelines in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) are permitted by Government as an additional source of finance in order to augment domestically available resources to corporates and public sector undertakings for purposes of expansion of existing capacity as well as for fresh investments. ECB borrowing up to US\$ 50 million under all windows are under the automatic route. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been empowered to approve ECBs beyond US\$ 50 million and up to US\$ 100 million. ECBs exceeding US\$ 100 million are approved by the Government. The raising of resources through ECB is a commercial decision of the company.

(c) and (d) The ECB policy and procedures are available at the web address "www.finmin.nic.in".

Notary Public

2588. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of notary public in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make necessary amendment in the Notaries Act so as to enhance the number of notaries as proposed by various State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Government have not come across shortage of notaries public in any State.

(c) and (d) As the quotas for number of notaries in various States/Union territories have very recently been fixed for the purpose of uniformity throughout the country, it has not been found appropriate to revise the same.

Company Secretaries

2589. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies having paid-up share capital between Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 2 crores that have submitted certificates from company secretaries in practice;

(b) the number of Company Secretaries in practice and the manner in which the Institute of Company Secretaries of India monitors their performance;

(c) whether there are any companies that have not submitted compliance certificate; and

(d) if so, the names of such companies and the action taken/proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), there are 2818 Company Secretaries in practice as on 04-08-2003. ICSI has brought out a Comprehensive Guidance Note on compliance certificate providing check list for verifying compliance of each of 33 paragraphs of the Compliance Certificate. The Council of ICSI has constituted a Disciplinary Committee to hold inquiry relating to cases of misconduct in the prescribed manner. The Council/Disciplinary Committee inquire the complaint(s) in accordance with the provisions of the Company Secretaries Act, 1980 and the Company Secretaries Regulations, 1982, and action as deemed fit is taken against the members.

[Translation]

Trade Volume

2590. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the countries with which India's trade has increased during the last financial year alongwith the percentage thereof;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase it further during this year as well as to increase our trade with other countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof and its outcome; and

(d) the countries with which our trade percentage has declined during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) India's export to its major trading partners registered a robust growth in 2002-03 as compared to the previous year. The list of countries with which India's exports has increased during the last financial year along with the percentage share is in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In order to significantly enhance India's trade with new regions, "Focus LAC" Programme and "Focus Africa" Programme were launched in 1997 and 2002, respectively. "Focus CIS" programme was launched this year to enhance trade with the countries of this region. Steps are being taken regularly to increase our trade with the different trading partners and important issues related to trade are sorted out during the Joint Business Council meetings.

(d) Egypt, Nigeria, Russia, Switzerland, Argentina and Malaysia are some of the countries to which our exports have declined along with a decline in share in India's total exports in 2002-03 as compared to the previous year.

Statement

India's Exports to Principal Countries

US\$ Million

Countries	April-March 2001-2002	Percentage Weight	April-March 2002-2003	Percentage	
				Growth	Weight
1	2	3	4	5	6
Brazil	219.01	0.50	479.02	118.72	0.92
China P.R.	951.95	2.17	1961.11	106.01	3.75
Luxembourg	4.47	0.01	9.14	104.46	0.02
Turks & Calcos Is.	29.10	0.07	50.56	73.79	0.10
Turkey	219.05	0.50	367.89	67.95	0.70
Indonesia	533.71	1.22	825.92	54.75	1.58
Israel	428.02	0.98	634.47	48.23	1.21
Singapore	972.31	2.22	1422.61	46.31	2.72
Sri Lanka	630.89	1.44	920.88	45.96	1.76
Pakistan	144.01	0.33	205.81	42.92	0.39
Nepal	214.46	0.49	297.22	38.59	0.57
Republic of Korea	471.37	1.08	644.66	36.76	1.23
South Africa	352.94	0.81	475.67	34.77	0.91
United Arab Emirates	2491.79	5.69	3313.69	32.98	6.34
Greece	106.53	0.24	139.62	31.06	0.27
Ireland	102.38	0.23	132.10	29.03	0.25

1	2	3	4	5	6
U.S.A.	8513.34	19.43	10855.58	27.51	20.78
Japan	1510.44	3.45	1857.60	22.98	3.56
Australia	418.02	0.95	502.76	20.27	0.96
Spain	677.21	1.55	805.06	18.88	1.54
Netherlands	863.88	1.97	1024.83	18.63	1.96
Belgium	1390.62	3.17	1648.12	18.52	3.16
Canada	584.82	1.33	690.69	18.10	1.32
Denmark	151.86	0.35	178.76	17.72	0.34
Ukraine	81.05	0.18	93.59	15.48	0.18
FRG	1788.36	4.08	2060.73	15.23	3.95
United Kingdom	2160.87	4.93	2472.93	14.44	4.73
Saudi Arabia	826.43	1.89	940.56	13.81	1.80
Thailand	633.13	1.44	710.76	12.26	1.36
Sweden	154.27	0.35	173.06	12.18	0.33
France	945.00	2.16	1055.23	11.66	2.02
Italy	1206.43	2.75	1339.68	11.04	2.56
Norway	54.30	0.12	59.96	10.43	0.11
Mexico	237.45	0.54	261.70	10.21	0.50
Bangladesh	1002.18	2.29	1094.57	9.22	2.10
Portugal	147.84	0.34	161.38	9.15	0.31
Austria	76.33	0.17	81.31	6.52	0.16
Hongkong	2366.36	5.40	2444.22	3.29	4.68
Kazakhstan	45.70	0.10	46.78	2.35	0.09
Finland	69.75	0.16	70.83	1.56	0.14

Compiled by Economic Division, Ministry of Commerce based on DGCI&S, provisional data.

[English]

Decrease in LIC Business

2591. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after opening insurance sector for private participation, the number of policy holders of LIC has come down;

(b) if so, the details of the policy holders of LIC before opening of insurance sector for private participation and as on date;

(c) whether LIC has taken various measures to increase in number of its policy holders;

(d) if so, to what extent these measures have been helpful to increase its business; and

(e) the further steps taken or being taken by LIC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total number of policies of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are 917.26 lacs, 1131.11 lacs and 1258.76 lacs respectively.

(c) and (d) LIC has informed that they have taken various measures to increase the number of policies which interalia include additional publicity campaign, introduction of new products, recruitment of new agents including corporate agents, training of agents, modernisation and upgradation of information technology etc. All these have helped in increasing the number of policies.

(e) LIC has informed that they have taken various Customer Relationship Management (CRM) initiatives with a view to bring about more customer satisfaction and also improve business prospects. Some of the steps include targeting high net worth clients, enhancing the productivity level of Development Officers & Agents in terms of quantity and quality, strengthening of alternative distribution channels, further strengthening the information technology areas etc.

Export of Readymade Garments

2592. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether readymade garments are being exported to various countries particular to Germany from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the value of the garments exported during each of the last three years, country-wise particularly of Germany?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India's readymade garments are exported to more than hundred countries. However, the USA, EU Member States including Germany, U.A.E., Japan, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Australia, etc. are the major importing countries of our readymade garments.

(c) As per available DGCI&S data, the readymade garments exports to various countries including Germany during the last three years i.e. 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 has been as given below:

(In US\$ million)

	2000-01 (April-March)	2001-02 (April-March)	2002-03 (April-March)
Readymade Garment exports to all countries	5087.0	4618.7	5031.5
Of which, Readymade Garment exports to Germany	258.1	346.5	400.5

Family Courts in West Bengal

2593. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether creation of posts for members in some family courts is pending in West Bengal;

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

(c) the time by which the family courts are likely to start functioning systematically in all districts of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two Family Courts are functioning in Kolkata. The State Government of West Bengal is also setting up of Family Courts in the Districts of Howrah, Burdwan, 24-Parganas (South), 24-Parganas (North) and Darjeeling.

Production Cost of Indian Tea

2594. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have caused a study into the cost structure of tea production in India for economizing the cost of production of tea in India, to be able to withstand global competition;

(b) if so whether any areas in production process have been identified for reducing costs of production;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, with specific reference to Assam Tea and Darjeeling Tea;

(d) the cost of production of Indian tea in comparison to that in China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Indonesia; and

(e) the support or protection proposed to be given to Indian tea producers other than that by way of import duty, to enable Indian tea to withstand global competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) As a part of implementation of the medium term export strategy, the Tea Board has set up a Task Force to look into the areas for reducing the cost of production of tea which would include all teas produced in the country. The Task force has assigned a study in this regard to the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bangalore.

(d) The cost of production of Indian tea in comparison to that in China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam & Indonesia is as follows:

Country	Cost of Production in US\$ Kg.
India	1.62
China	Not Available
Sri Lanka	1.43
Vietnam	0.96
Indonesia	0.64

(e) Government/Tea Board has taken a number of steps to support the Indian tea producers to enable Indian tea to withstand global competition. These measures include implementation of a medium term export strategy on tea, increasing the allowance under Section 33AB of the Income Tax Act from 20% to 40% to encourage

profit making units to go in for rejuvenation and re-plantation of their gardens & modernisation of machinery, implementation of factory upgradation scheme to encourage the production of good quality orthodox and non-reconditioned CTC (Cut-Tear-Curl) teas in the country, financial incentives to exporters of tea for meeting part of cost of handling, packaging, transport/freight charges & value addition cost, implementation of a quality upgradation programme for improving quality of tea manufactured by small growers and implementation of a number of developmental schemes during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country.

Performance of Textiles Production

2595. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance in respect of garment and textiles production has been reviewed recently;

(b) if so, the details of standard/parameters separately, with regard to the plants and undertakings falling under public and private sector;

(c) whether the requirements of additional financial provisions have been highlighted in the budget for want of financial resources;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the status of garments and textiles industries in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) to (d) A comprehensive review of performance of the garment and textile sector was done at the time of formulation of the National Textile Policy 2000, and is being continuously reviewed thereafter. As a consequence of this review, the limits on investment on the knit sector was raised to Rs. crore; the limits on the garment sector were removed and the sector deserved. To support the changes in policy, new schemes to encourage growth such as Apparel Parks Scheme and Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme were formulated and the plan budget of the Ministry enhanced in the Tenth Plan to Rs. 3580 crore from Rs. 1414.50 crore in the Ninth Plan.

(e) A statement is enclosed.

Statement**Status of the Textile Industry**

Items	Unit	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cotton/Man-Made Fibre Textile Mills						
	No.	1824	1850	1846	1860	1875
Spinning mills (Non-SSI)	No.	1543	1565	1565	1579	1599
Composite mills (Non-SSI)	No.	281	285	281	281	276
Spinning mills (SSI)	No.	901	921	996	1046	1146
Exclusive weaving mills (Non-SSI)	No.	199	202	203	207	209
Powerloom units	Lakh No.	3.58 *	3.67	3.74	3.75	3.80
Capacity Installed						
Spindles (SSI+Non-SSI)	Million No.	36.67	37.08	37.91	38.33	39.02
Rotors (SSI+Non-SSI)	Lakh No.	4.34	4.44	4.54	4.80	4.69
Looms (Organised sector)	Lakh No.	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.41	1.37
Powerloom	Lakh No.	15.99	16.30	16.62	16.66	16.92
Handloom	Lakh No.	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91
Man-made fibres	Million kg.	1064	1066	1081	1090	1096
Man-made filaments	Million kg.	1033	1078	1128	1135	1190
Worsted spindles (Woollen)	Thousand No.	575	585	598	598	598
Non-worsted spindles (Woollen)	Thousand No.	412	419	426	426	426
Production of Fibres						
Raw cotton*	Lakh bales	165.00	156.00	140.00	158.00	136.00
Man-made fibres	Million kg.	782	835	904	834	914
Raw wool	Million kg.	48.33	46.50	47.00	47.00	47.00
Raw silk	Million kg.	15.54	15.21	15.86	17.35	16.21
Production of Yarn						
Cotton yarn	Million kg.	2022	2204	2267	2212	2177
Other spun yarn	Million kg.	786	842	893	889	904
Man-made filament yarn	Million kg.	850	894	920	962	1100
Production of Fabric						
Cotton	Million sq. mtr.	17948	18989	19718	19769	19296 *

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Blended	Million sq. mtr.	5700	5913	6351	6287	5876
100% Non-cotton (including Khadi, Wool & Silk)	Million sq.mtr.	12479	14306	14164	15978	16934
Total	Million sq. mtr.	36127	39208	40233	42034	42106
Per capita availability of cloth	Sq. mtr.	28.19	30.55	30.68	31.97	31.37
Production of Textile Machinery	Million US\$	270.32	256.70	286.90	225.84	Not available
Textile Exports						
Readymade Garments.	Million US\$	4365.07	4771.26	5586.47	5024.59	5099.22@
Total Exports including RMG (chapter 50-63)	Million US\$	9009.89	9934.38	11593.04	10388.59	10644.63@
Textile Imports						
Readymade Garments	Million US\$	9.18	16.16	21.69	36.30	20.53@
Total Imports including RMG, (Chapter 50-63)	Million US\$	851.14	1128.51	1172.40	1537.10	1499.52@

P = Provisional.

* = Cotton year.

@ = Date relates to 2002-03 (Apr-Feb)

Note:-Exports/Imports data-Source-DGCI & S, Kolkata.

Fine by SEBI

[Translation]

2596. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the second week of July SEBI has slapped Rs. 1 crore fine on 12 firms;

(b) if so the details of companies with reasons;

(c) whether SEBI, DCA, RBI shall plan any joint action against these companies to resolve investors complaints; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which investors get their dues?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Abhijit Sen Committee Report

2597. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied the Abhijit Sengupta Committee report; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The Department has examined the major recommendations made by the High Level Committee on Long Term Grain Policy (HLC) constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. Abhijit Sen.

(b) The action taken with regard to the main recommendations of the HLC are as under:

(i) The HLC has made several recommendations with regard to the fixation of the Minimum

Support Prices of foodgrains. The Government has, however, decided that the present Minimum Support Price Regime should continue.

- (ii) With regard to the recommendation of the HLC for introduction of a "universal Public Distribution System (PDS)" with uniform Central Issue Prices (CIPs), it is felt by the Government that the Targeted PDS was introduced in June, 1997 with a view to target the under privileged sections of society, as the earlier universal PDS did not adequately focus on the hungry and had an urban bias. Under the TPDS, the families Below the Poverty Line (BPL) have been identified and foodgrains are supplied to the BPL families at highly subsidized rates at less than 50% of the economic cost at the scale of 35 kg. per family per month. The introduction of a universal PDS will result in the PDS losing its focus on meeting the needs of the poor.
- (iii) The HLC has recommended that for an effective foodgrains management system, it is necessary to liquidate the excess accumulation of stocks. To achieve this, several measures have been taken as a result of which stocks have reduced from 630 lakh tonnes as on 1st July 2002 to 352 lakh tonnes as on 1st July 2003.
- (iv) The HLC also recommended disposal of old stocks and stock procured under relaxed quality stocks. As a result of measures taken for disposal of such stocks, over 80% of current stocks are less than 2 years old.
- (v) As recommended by the HLC, the coverage of households has been increased by an additional 50 lakh persons with focus on the destitute population under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana.
- (vi) The allocation under the Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) and Special Component of the SGRY scheme has been considerably enhanced as recommended by the HLC.

- (vii) To improve functioning of the PDS, instructions have already been issued for strict implementation of PDS Control Order to ensure greater transparency in the working of the PDS and reduction in the diversion of foodgrains under the PDS. Guidelines have been issued for the involvement of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the implementation of the TPDS.

[English]

Import of Cotton

2598. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the import of cotton from various countries particularly from USA have been on the rise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years indicating the foreign exchange involved and price paid per unit as against the price paid to the Indian farmers for equivalent quality;
- (c) whether the area under cotton has been on the decrease for the last few years and the production has remained stagnant;
- (d) whether the farmers are shying away from cotton because of poor returns due to heavy imports; and
- (e) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) and (b) In recent time the textile mills have imported cotton of desired quality parameters to meet their requirements. Import of cotton during the last three years and the foreign exchange involved are as under:

(Quantity: in Ton)

(Value: in Crore Rupees)

Year	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
(April-March)						
Total Import	2,12,361	1,185	3,87,039	2,054	2,01,315	1,041
From USA	14,080	91	1,41,613	646	66,798	331

(Source: Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India: DGCI&S, Kolkata.)

Price of cotton differs from variety to variety and also depends upon various quality parameters. The landed price (weighted average) of imported cotton was higher

than the weighted average price of domestic cotton.

(c) Area under cotton cultivation and production during the last few years are as under:

Area: In lakh hectares

Production: In lakh bales of 170 kg. each

	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Provisional)
Area	87.31	85.76	87.30	75.72
Production	156	140	158	136

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

(d) There is no long-term perceptible shift from cultivation of cotton in favour of other crops. Seasonal and short-term indicators in this regard need to be analysed against the secular trend over the long run. However, it is pertinent to mention that the cotton growers are assured of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) through support price operations as and when the market price touches the MSP level.

(e) Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) to improve the productivity and quality of cotton. Bt. Cotton has been permitted for commercial cultivation to reduce cost of cultivation on account of its pest resistance quality. With a view to reduce the uncertainty in income of cotton growers and to provide organic linkages between the growers and the industry, Government is facilitating popularization of integrated cotton cultivation.

[Translation]

Gem Testing Centres

2599. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gem-testing centres located in the country particularly in Chhattisgarh, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more such centres in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY

AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per the available information provided by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai, a representative autonomous body of the trade sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the details of the gems Testing Centres in the country, are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Maharashtra | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gemmological Institute of India
29, Gurukul Chambers,
187/189 Mumbadevi Road,
Mumbai-400 002. 2. St. Xaviers College
Gemmology Division,
Geology Department,
Maha Nagar Palika Marg,
Mumbai-400 001. 3. International Gemmological
Institute
Mittal Court,
Nariman Point,
Mumbai-400 021. 4. Pan Gemtesting Laboratory,
Pan Gem Enterprises,
10 Sangeeta,
Behind Panchratan,
Tadiwala Road,
Pune-411 011. |
| Rajasthan | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Gem Testing Laboratory,
Rajasthan Chamber Bhavan,
Mirza Ismail Road,
Jaipur-302 003 |
| West Bengal | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Gem Testing Laboratory, CPL,
GSI,
27, J.N. Road,
Kolkata-700 116. |

- Tamil Nadu 7. Gem Testing Laboratory,
66, Cathedral Road,
Chennai-600 086.
8. Shri Ramkrishna Gem Testing
Laboratory,
70 Perannagar Main Road,
Salem-636 007.
9. Trichy Gem Testing Laboratory,
Epoor Complex,
86, Diamond Bazar,
Trichy-620 002.
- Andhra Pradesh 10. Gem Testing Laboratory,
4-3-346 Raja Bhagwandas Marg,
Bank Street,
Hyderabad-500 195.
- Kerala 11. Gem Testing Laboratory,
Kerala Mineral E & D Project,
(Govt. of Kerala),
Kesavdasapuram, Pottom Palace,
P.O. Trivandrum-695 004.
- Delhi 12. Indian Gemmological Institute,
"F" Block, Jhandewalan Flatted
Factories Complex,
Rani Jhansi Road,
New Delhi-110 055.
- Gujarat 13. Indian Diamond Institute,
Katargam GIDC,
Sumul Dairy Road,
Surat-395 008.

As per the information made available by Government of Chhattisgarh and Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council, there is no gems testing centre working in the State of Chhattisgarh.

(b) Government do not have any proposal to set up any such gem testing centers in the country. However, setting up of any gem testing laboratory or centre does not require any specific approval from Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

(c) Does not arise.

(English)

Printing of Revenue Stamps

2600. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether revenue stamps are not being supplied adequately to Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure sufficient supply of revenue stamps in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) On the basis of a specific communication received from the Government of Karnataka, no, supplies of any Stamps have been made to the Government of Karnataka w.e.f. 01.04.2003.

(b) Does not arise.

Special Loans to Grape Producers

2601. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that, though it has decided to grant special loans to grape producers in scarcity area of Maharashtra, the banks have not received formal orders from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD);

(b) whether the grape growers are to be given concessional rate of interest on the loans on line of farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Keeping in view the difficulties faced by the Grape growers owing to drought during Kharif 2002, National Bank for agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has, as a one-time measure, approved/sanctioned a special refinance package for grape growers during 2002-03 in drought affected districts of Sangli, Solapur, Nasik, Pune, Beed, Latur, Osmanabad and Satara districts of Maharashtra in order to meet the additional cost of irrigation. Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank, Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and scheduled Primary Urban Cooperative Banks have been advised by NABARD to provide financial assistance to the grape growers on the basis of realistic credit requirements of the farmers and avail refinance from NABARD against the disbursements under the scheme. The loan is repayable within a period of five years or the remaining life of the grape garden, whichever is earlier. The rate of interest charged by NABARD on refinance is 6.75% per annum.

Reconstitution of Law Commission

2602. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken a decision to reconstitute the Law Commission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the terms and reference of new Commission;
- (d) the main recommendations made by the present Law Commission;
- (e) the number of recommendations out of them accepted; and
- (f) the reasons for not accepting all the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to constitute the 17th Law Commission for a period of three years from 1.9.2003 till 31.8.2006. The Law Commission makes important contribution towards the progressive development and codification of the laws of the country.

(c) The terms of reference of the Law Commission are:

1. Review/Repeal of obsolete laws:

- (i) To identify laws which are no longer needed or relevant and can be immediately repealed.
- (ii) To identify laws which are in harmony with the existing climate of economic liberalization which need no change.
- (iii) To identify laws which require changes or amendments and to make suggestions for their amendment.
- (iv) To consider in a wider perspective the suggestions for revision/amendment given by Expen Groups in various Ministries/Departments with a view to coordinating and harmonizing them.

(v) To consider references made to it by Ministries/ Departments in respect of legislation having bearing on the working of more than one Ministry/Department.

(vi) To suggest suitable measures for quick redressal of citizens grievances, in the field of law.

2. Law and Poverty:

- (i) To examine the Law which affect the poor and carry out post-audit for socio-economic legislation.
- (ii) To take all such measures as may be necessary to harness law and the legal process in the service of the poor.

3. To keep under review the system of judicial administration to ensure that it is responsive to the reasonable demands of the times and in particular to secure:

- (i) Elimination of delays, speedy clearance of arrears and reduction in costs so as to secure quick and economical disposal of cases without affecting the cardinal principle that decisions should be just and fair.
- (ii) Simplification of procedure to reduce and eliminate technicalities and devices for delay so that it operates not as an end in itself but as a means of achieving justice.
- (iii) Improvement of standards of all concerned with the administration of justice.

4. To examine the existing laws in the light of Directive Principles of State Policy and to suggest ways of improvement and reform and also to suggest such legislation as might be necessary to implement the Directive Principles and to attain the objective set out in the Preamble to the Constitution.

5. To revise the Central Acts of General Importance so as to simplify them and to remove anomalies, ambiguities and inequities.

6. To recommend to the Government measure for bringing the statute book up-to-date by repealing obsolete laws and enactments or parts thereof which have outlived their utility.

7. To consider and to convey to the Government its views on any subject relating to law and judicial

administration that may be referred to it by the Government through Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs).

(d) The present Law Commission has so far submitted eleven Reports which are as follows:

1. 175th—The Foreigners (Amendment) Bill, 2000
2. 176th—The Arbitration And Conciliation (Amendment), Bill, 2001
3. 177th—Law Relating to Arrest.
4. 178th—Recommendations for Amending Various Enactments, both Civil and Criminal.
5. 179th—Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers.
6. 180th—Article 20(3) of the Constitution of India and Right to Silence.
7. 181st—Amendment to section 106 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882.
8. 182nd—Amendment to section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.
9. 183rd—A Continuum on the General Clauses Act, 1897 with special reference to the admissibility and codification of external aids to interpretation of statutes.
10. 184th—Legal Education & Professional Training and Proposals for Amendments to the Advocates Act, 1961 and the University Grant Commission Act, 1956.
11. 185th—Review of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

(e) and (f) The reports have been forwarded to the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments for examination/implementation. The examination/implementation of Law Commission Reports is a continuous and ongoing process. The concerned administrative Ministry/Department takes final decision on a Law Commission Report.

NABARD Lending to District Cooperative Banks

2603. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development is considering a proposal to extend direct refinance to district cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the present system followed by NABARD with regard to re-financing credit extended to farmers;

(c) to what extent direct re-finance by NABARD to district cooperative banks is likely to help the farmers; and

(d) the service charges and other expenses likely to be taken by NABARD thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A proposal is under consideration to amend the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Act, 1981 to enable NABARD to provide refinance to District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) directly.

(b) Under the existing system, NABARD provides refinance to State Co-operative Banks (SCBs) which is routed to through DCCBs and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to the farmers.

(c) In the existing arrangement NABARD's refinance funds passes through several tiers of the cooperative system, and at each of these tiers transaction costs get added which ultimately have to be borne by the farmers. Direct refinance by NABARD to DCCBs is, therefore, expected to bring down the interest rates charged on crop loans by the PACS.

(d) The details of the interest to be charged will be finalised after the amendment of the NABARD Act.

FFI Investment

2604. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government put a ceiling of US Dollars 1.5 billion for investment in debt by Foreign Institutional Investors;

(b) if so, whether the FFIs have demanded that this ceiling may be raised; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c) SEBI have informed that they have not received any demand for raising the overall ceiling for investment in debt by Foreign Institutional Investors (FFIs).

Sick Tea Companies

2605. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the tea companies which have fallen sick;

(b) if so, the details of such sick tea companies, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for their sickness;

(d) the approximate number of workers affected thereby; and

(e) the steps taken to provide them alternative employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of the tea gardens identified as sick are as follows:

State	No. of Gardens
West Bengal	19
Kerala	11
Assam	3
Tripura	3
Total:	36

(c) Ownership disputes, managerial deficiency, financial mismanagement and protracted litigation are some of the root causes for the sickness of these tea gardens. The situation has been further accentuated by the fall in the auction prices of tea over the last few years.

(d) State-wise details of workers affected by the closure of the tea gardens are given below:

State	No. of workers affected
West Bengal	19619
Kerala	6648
Assam	1661
Tripura	550
Total:	28478

(e) Based on the findings of the Expert Committees set up by the Government to make an in-depth study of the closed tea gardens in the States of West Bengal, Kerala, Assam & Tripura and suggest a package of measures for their viability and revival, Government is facilitating discussions by the management of the closed tea gardens, which have been identified as potentially viable, with their bankers to work out a revival package, which would take care of the employment aspects of the affected workers also.

Value of Rupee

2606. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has been intervening frequently in the foreign exchange market to ensure that the value of the rupee *vis-a-vis* remains low;

(b) if so, how many times did the RBI intervene to buy dollars during the last financial year;

(c) whether any assessment has been made on what would be the impact of allowing the rupee to appreciate naturally;

(d) if so, the findings in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to allow the rupee to appreciate to a level higher than it is now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) intervenes in the forex market for maintaining orderly conditions in the market by providing and absorbing foreign exchange as considered necessary from time to time, and preventing the emergence of destabilising and self-fulfilling speculative activities. The RBI makes sales and purchases of foreign currency in the forex market for smoothening lumpy demand or supply. It also

conducts operations in the spot, forward and swap markets. In addition, the RBI uses monetary and other administrative measures as effective tools of intervention strategy. Intervention figures indicating sale/purchase of US Dollar are released by the RBI on a monthly basis. As per international norms, intra-day operations of the RBI in the forex market are not disclosed because of possible market repercussions.

(c) to (e) The exchange rate of rupee is determined by underlying demand and supply conditions. RBI's exchange rate policy has focused on the management of volatility without a fixed rate target. It is imperative to ensure that the exchange rate of rupee is in consonance with the economic fundamentals.

[Translation]

Automatic Teller Machines

2607. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ATM network of the public sector banks in the country;

(b) whether all the ATMs are functioning properly;

(c) if not, the details of such ATM centres where the ATM machine remained out of order for one year or more since its installation; and

(d) the detailed reasons for which the ATMs remained out of order at some places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Number of ATMs installed by public sector banks is given below:

Name of the Bank	No. of ATMs
1	2
State Bank of India	1836
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	47
State Bank of Hyderabad	58
State Bank of Indore	15
State Bank of Mysore	15
State Bank of Patiala	69
State Bank of Saurashtra	16

1	2
State Bank of Travancore	71
Allahabad Bank	51
Andhra Bank	232
Bank of Baroda	100
Bank of India	155
Bank of Maharashtra	44
Canara Bank	236
Central Bank of India	28
Corporation Bank	525
Dena Bank	88
Indian Bank	76
Indian Overseas Bank	126
Oriental Bank of Commerce	60
Punjab National Bank	290
Punjab and Sind Bank	6
Syndicate Bank	69
UCO Bank	15
Union Bank of India	105
United Bank of India	12
Vijaya Bank	18
Total	4363

(b) to (d) Public Sector Banks have reported that all the ATMs installed at various places are functioning properly. However, occasional problem occur in cases of some ATM centres which are attended to promptly.

[English]

Task Force for Sugar Industry

2608. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

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

(a) whether a high power task force has been constituted to go into the problems of sugar industry;

(b) whether the sugar industry has requested tax holiday for five years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken for the revival of the sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) It was, *inter-alia*, indicated in the Budget Speech, 2003-2004 that the Ministries of Food and Finance would jointly address the problems of the Sugar Industry. Accordingly, an Inter-ministerial Group has been constituted for the purpose.

(b) and (c) The Sugar Industry's Associations had requested for certain tax concession like Reduction of Excise Duty on molasses and concessional Import Duty on equipment for cogeneration of power etc.

(d) In recent months, the Central Government initiated several steps to assist the sugar industry including certain of Buffer Stocks of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar (in December, 2002) for a period of one year, reimbursement of internal transport charges and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage on exports of sugar.

SEZ in Karnataka

2609. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

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

(a) whether Union Government have received the comprehensive State Policy on Special Economic Zones submitted by the Government of Karnataka as per requirement under the SEZ policy;

(b) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to accord full-fledged approval for Hassan Special Economic Zone for which the Union Government had granted "in principle" approval;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government on the request of the State Government in this respect;

(d) whether the State has also requested the Union Government to accord in principle approval for setting up of Coastal SEZs in three locations i.e. Mangalore, Padubidri and Agsur with private sector initiatives; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The request of the State Government for granting formal approval for Hassan Special Economic Zone (SEZ) was considered by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on SEZ in its meeting held on 30th July, 2003 and the Committee decided to recommend granting of formal approval to Hassan SEZ.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The request of the State Government was considered by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on SEZ in its meeting held on 30th July, 2003. After discussions, as suggested by the State Government and the Developer, the Committee decided to recommend 'in-principle' approval for setting up of SEZ at Mangalore.

[Translation]

Fake Insurance Policies

2610. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that LIC agents are indulging in issuing fake insurance policies to achieve the targets given by their managers;

(b) whether it is going on in connivance with higher officers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to investigate into the matter and punish the guilty officers?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Technical Agreements of MNCs with Indian Companies

2611. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Multi-National Companies bidding for projects in India may be compelled to enter into technical as well as other agreements with Indian Companies;

(b) whether the Government propose to implement this on the basis of the proposal prepared by the Parliamentary Standing Committee concerning this Ministry; and

(c) if so, the time by which this is likely to be implemented alongwith the details thereof?

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

[English]

Increase in Unemployment

2612. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to United Nations Development Programmes Human Development Report, India have largest number of hungry people;

(b) if so, whether the said report has expressed grave concern over disparity in income levels, rising unemployment and low life expectancy in India; and

(c) if so, the reactions of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir, the latest Human Development Report for 2003, published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) indicates that "India is home to the largest number of hungry people, 233 million."

(b) The report further indicates that China and India, together containing a third of world's population, have enjoyed tremendous economic growth over the past

decade. Though both countries achieved rapid sustained economic growth, their rates of progress have been quite different. There are wide regional variations in India. In 1992-97 per capita economic growth ranged from -0.2 percent in Bihar to 7.8 percent in Gujarat. Similar variations appear in other human development indicators, such as those for education and health.

(c) As per our official estimates of poverty published by the Planning Commission, the number of people living below poverty line decreased from 320.3 million in 1993-94 to 263.3 million in 1999-2000. Over the years the Indian Government has undertaken several employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes. The ongoing economic reforms have also a human face and strong commitment for development of human resources and eradication of poverty.

Education Programme for STs Girls

2613. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme was started on experimental basis in the year 1996-97 to prepare a package of special education development programme for girls belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in the district having very low rate of literacy;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements of the said programme;

(c) whether a decision to merge this scheme with the ongoing schemes of the primary education department has been taken;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the funds allocated under this scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas was introduced during 1993-94 for imparting education to Scheduled Tribe girls.

(b) Of the 136 districts identified under the scheme in 17 states, 169 complexes have been set up in 74 districts of 15 states which have been providing educational facilities to about 20,000 Scheduled Tribe girl students annually.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No such proposal for merger of the Scheme of Educational Complexes in Low Literacy Pockets with the Schemes of Primary Education Department has been received. The State-wise allocation under the scheme for the year 2003-04 is at enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise allocation for 2003-04 under the Scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas

Budget Allocation for 2003-04 Rs. 800.00 Lakhs

S.No.	Name of the State	Allocation*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	230.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00
3.	Bihar	5.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	20.00
5.	Gujarat	30.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	5.00
7.	Jharkhand	5.00
8.	Karnataka	50.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	100.00
10.	Maharashtra	20.00
11.	Orissa	200.00
12.	Rajasthan	50.00
13.	Tamil Nadu	5.00
14.	Tripura	10.00
15.	U.P.	10.00
16.	Uttaranchal	10.00
17.	West Bengal	40.00
Total		800.00

*The Allocation has been made keeping in view the committed liabilities of on-going projects.

Smuggling in Gaya Airport

2614. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Lax customs so Gaya gets more smugglers than pilgrims" appearing in *Hindustan Times* of July 16, 2003;

(b) if so, whether corrupt custom's officials have been letting in contraband on a weekly basis on the Indian Airlines flight from Bangkok and the smugglers mostly from Delhi, would just walk out and take domestic flights or other transport to wherever they are based;

(c) if so, whether Gaya Custom's team has been transferred and a report has been submitted to the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC);

(d) if so, whether the CBEC considered the report by now and taken any action in the matter; and

(e) if so, the details of action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nexus, if any, between Customs officers posted at Gaya Airport and carriers is under investigation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Commissioner of Customs, Patna has been asked to look into the matter and to provide adequate training to Customs officers to enable them to prevent and detect smuggling of contraband goods into the country.

NABARD Assistance to Kerala

2615. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the NABARD under the RIDF scheme in Kerala State during the last three financial years and the total number of developmental projects undertaken from this amount; and

(b) the number of projects for which assistance has been sought during the year 2003-2004 alongwith the amount of assistance sought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has sanctioned a total amount of Rs. 574.64 crores under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 811 projects in Kerala during the last three years, as per details given below:

Tranches	No. of Projects	Amount (Rs. crores)
RIDF-VI (2000-01)	256	186.33
RIDF-VII (2001-02)	296	191.76
RIDF-VIII (2002-03)	259	196.55
Total	811	574.64

(b) NABARD has further reported that it has sanctioned so far an amount of Rs. 3.05 crores under RIDF-IX (2003-04) to Government of Kerala for undertaking 6 projects of minor irrigation and drainage facilities.

Pending Projects

2616. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects pending during the last two years on which the assistance from World Bank/ International Monetary Fund has been sought;

(b) whether any assurance for releasing of funds has been received by the Government from these FFIs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) There are 43 proposals presently with the World Bank for funding. No project-based assistance is available from the International Monetary Fund.

(b) and (c) Since April 2001, the World Bank has approved loan of US\$ 5435.92 million for 24 projects/ schemes in sectors of poverty reduction, infrastructure, social, water resources, rural development, etc.

(d) Approval of a project follows the cycle of posing, project identification, preparation, appraisal, negotiation and approval. Government of India interacts with the World Bank in this process closely.

Financial Assistance to Maharashtra

2617. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance given by financial institutions and NABARD to Maharashtra for development projects during each of the last two years and current year so far;

(b) whether the assistance is very low when compared to the other States; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Financial assistance given (disbursed) by financial institutions (IDBI, IFCI Ltd., IIBI, SIDBI, Exim Bank and NABARD) for Development Projects in Maharashtra during the last 2 years (2001-02 & 2002-03) and the current year (2003-2004) so far is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the Institution	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004 (April-June/July)	
	Disb.	% to TA#	Disb.	% to TA#	Disb.	% to TA#
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
IDBI	4277.1	140.33	1433.5	38.19	269.6	63.06
IFCI Ltd.	123.2	15.58	527.7	43.22	2.4	4.79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
EXIM Bank	790.6	—	1262.6	—	259.2	—
IIBI	250.05	23.37	195.25*	17.89	30.24@	10.53
SIDBI	1215.1	20.53	1534.1	22.60	136.24*	15.90
NABARD:						
Refinance to Banks	741.35	—	589.60	—	4.99	—
RIDF Refinance \$	325.71	—	220.10	—	2.75	—

#Total Assistance.

*Provisional

@Estimated

\$RIDF-Rural Infrastructure Development Fund.

(b) As reported by FIs and RBI the relative share of assistance of Maharashtra in All India sanctions and disbursements is not low as compared to the other States.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Paper

2618. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which paper is being exported from India;

(b) the quantity and value of paper exported during each of the last three years from India;

(c) the country to whom maximum paper has been exported during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to boost the export of paper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Paper and paper boards are mainly exported to Sri-Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, China, UAE, Chinese Taipei, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, U.S.A., Myanmar, Egypt, Nigeria, Iran, Hong Kong, Nepal, etc.

(b) The quantity and value of the paper exported from India during each of the last three years are as under:

Quantity (in M.T.)	Value (Rs. in Crores)	
2000-2001	153890	544.09
2001-2002	181979	598.76
2002-2003 (upto Dec. 2002)	171059	596.94

(c) The country to which maximum export was made during 2000-2001 was Sri Lanka, in 2001-2002 to Bangladesh and during 2002-2003 (up to December, 2002) maximum export has been made to Sri Lanka.

(d) Steps taken/being taken to increase the export of paper include setting up of apex research organization dedicated to applied research in Pulp & Paper (Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute, Saharanpur) and Development Council for Pulp & Paper Industry for continuously monitoring research & development with the objective of making paper production more cost effective and qualitative. The Government also commissioned a study on "Global Competitiveness of the Indian Paper Industry" by an international expert and consultant in the respective area. One of the thrust areas was to identify the potential export market, and the determinants for enabling the Indian Paper Industry to increase export by way of improved quality and optimised cost of production of various grades of Paper.

*[English]***Funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

2619. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have rerouted the funds for the centrally sponsored schemes funded by various social sector ministries;

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

(c) whether this change in the procedure has delayed the allocation of funds to different schemes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir. It has been since decided that funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes be released directly to the implementing agencies, as before, instead of being routed through State Governments.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Procurement of Cotton

2620. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for creation of infrastructure for procurement, ginning, billing and storing of cotton under the Cotton Technology Mission in Orissa; and

(b) the details of the steps have been taken or being taken by the COTFED for procurement of cotton from the farmers of KBK districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) Five market yards of Orissa, viz. Utkela, Gunupur, Karlapada, Jogimunda and Rayagad, have been taken up for development under Mini Mission III of the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The infrastructure being developed in these market yards include pucca road, pucca platform, weigh bridge, fire fighting arrangements, grading laboratories, godowns, sheds, farmers' information centre etc. Under Mini Mission IV of the TMC, two ginning and pressing factories of Orissa have been covered for modernisation.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd (CCI) has purchased kapas (seed cotton) equivalent to lint cotton of 5,595 bales (of 170 kg. each) in Orissa during the current cotton season 2002-03 (October-September). Whenever the market price of kapas touch the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) announced by the Government, the CCI undertakes support price operations and purchases kapas offered to it without any quantitative limit. During the current cotton season 2002-03, kapas prices are ruling above the MSP in the country including Orissa.

Development of Sericulture

2621. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the development of the sericulture and its affiliated industries in Jharkhand State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by the Government in this direction during the last three years; and

(d) the extent to which the Government have achieved success in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is great scope for the growth of sericulture and its affiliated industries in Jharkhand State. Sericulture is being practiced in the Districts of Ranchi, Lohardaga, Palamu, Garhwa, Gumla, Sahibganj, Giridih, Dumka, Pakur, Godda, Deogarh, Simdega & Singhbhum.

(c) and (d) The details of programme being implemented by Central Silk Board for development of sericulture in Jharkhand and achievements during last three years are as given below:

(1) UNDP assisted sub-programme for development of Non-mulberry silks under Fibres and Handicrafts Programme (FHAP) of Country Co-operation Framework-I (CCF-I).

Central Silk Board implemented the UNDP project for 4 years from 1999-2000 to 2002-2003. Physical and Financial achievements of the Project are given below:

Physical Progress.

- 1890 beneficiaries approx., largely belonging to the weaker sections of the society, cooperatives, women groups, self-help groups etc. were trained.

- An estimated employment of 0.184 lakhs man-years was generated.
- About 18.4 MT tasar raw silk, 6.41 MT tasar spun silk has been produced.
- Technology and input support has been provided to rearers, reelers, spinners and weavers.

Expenditure Rs. In lakhs

Year	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	Total
Expenditure	20.48	55.26	43.70	42.94	162.38

(2) Catalytic Development Programme

Under the Centrally Sponsored Catalytic Development Programme assistance has been provided to the State for development of sericulture and silk industry. Details of physical and financial achievements are in the enclosed statement.

(3) Special Swaranajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) Projects

Special SGSY Projects are being implemented for development of tasar and eri culture in Jharkhand with grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. The first phase of the project has been approved for 2 years from 2003-04 to 2004-05 with an outlay of Rs. 13.69 crores.

(4) Research and Development Programmes

The Central Silk Board has established the following infrastructural units in Jharkhand to supplement the efforts of the state Government in developing sericulture and silk industry:

(i) Research Units

1. Central Tasar Research and Training Institute, Ranchi
2. Regional Sericultural Research Station for Mulberry Silk, Ranchi
3. Regional Tasar Research Station, Dumka
4. Research Extension Centre, Hatgamaria
5. Research Extension Centre, Maheshpurraj
6. Research Extension Centre, Gumla
7. Research Extension Centre, sub-unit, Bhandra
8. Research Extension Centre, sub-unit, Rajmahal

(ii) Units for Development Activities

1. Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre, (BSMTC) Kathikund
2. Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre, Kharswan
3. Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre, Madhupur
4. Raw Material Bank, Chaibasa.

Statement***Progress achieved under Catalytic Development Schemes in Bihar/Jharkhand (2000-01)***

S.No.	Name of the scheme	Physical progress		Amount Released by CSB (L. Rs.)
		Unit	Quantity	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Installation of Common Facility Centre for handloom silk processing	No. of units	1	12.96
2.	Enterprise Development Programme	Training programmes	1	0.82

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Support to agencies for the up-gradation and popularisation of improved reeling/spinning devices	No. of devices	158	4.16
4.	Crop insurance support for tasar	Lakh dfis	11.23	3.92
5.	Support for data base development	Not quantifiable		1.50
Total				23.36

Progress achieved under Catalytic Development Schemes in Bihar/Jharkhand (2001-02)

1.	Creation of improved mulberry variety bank	Lakh Saplings	4.00	0.22
2.	On farm training and start up tools to new mulberry sericulturists	Tool kits	190	0.59
3.	Support to states for the upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure	Hectare Units	31 2	6.94
4.	Support to agencies for the upgradation and popularisation of improved reeling/spinning devices	No. of devices	77	1.32
5.	Crop insurance support for tasar	Lakh dfis	1.60	1.15
6.	Support for data base development	Not quantifiable		1.87
7.	Support for installation of quality linked cocoon purchase system	Unit	1	3.00
Total				15.09

Progress achieved under Catalytic Development Schemes in Jharkhand (2002-03)

1.	Assistance to seed rearers for maintenance of systematic tasar host plantation	Ha	721	12.12
2.	Assistance to tasar commercial rearers for the development of chawki garden	No.	550	17.55
3.	Support to private tasar graineurs	No.	63	8.51
4.	Support to tasar commercial rearers for procuring rearing equipments	No.	3000	60.72
5.	Crop insurance for tasar	L.DfIs	2.76	2.32
6.	Augmentation of eri food plant with training and start-up tools	No.	125	1.11
7.	Support to agencies for the popularisation of improved tasar reeling devices	No.	20	1.02
Total				103.35

*[Translation]***Export of Handicrafts**

2622. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the handicraft items exported during each of the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether there has been decline in the export of the handicraft items during the current year; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) State-wise details of handicrafts items exported is not maintained. However the handicraft items exported from the country during each of the last three years is as under:

		Rs. in Crores		
Items		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
A.	Carpet & other Floor Coverings			
1.	Woolen	2045.96	2152.69	2293.79
2.	Silk	167.03	198.27	209.42
3.	Synthetic	102.16	85.17	87.05
	Total (A)	2315.15	2436.13	2590.26
B.	Other Handicrafts			
1.	Art Metalware	1778.10	1758.90	2165.21
2.	Woodwares	434.44	431.88	511.35
3.	M.P. Textiles Scarves	1276.75	1221.59	1466.52
4.	Embroidered & Crocheted	1964.78	1931.97	2477.15
5.	Shawls as Artware	27.20	27.01	32.70
6.	Zari & Zari goods	142.32	134.04	159.47
7.	Imitation Jewellery	121.68	117.53	138.79
8.	Misc. Handicrafts	1210.08	1146.58	1391.62
	Total (B)	6955.35	6769.50	8343.41
Grand Total (A+B)		9270.50	9205.63	10933.67

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

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

(a) the total percentage of outsourcing works of US companies is done in India;

(b) whether US administration is posing a number of obstacles on outsourcing work;

(c) If so, whether some of the American States have passed Act against outsourcing I.T. business;

*[English]***US Act against Outsourcing**

2623. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the likely impact of this Act on India's I.T. business;

(f) whether the Government have taken up the matter with US Government;

(g) if so, the response of the US Government thereto;

(h) whether the Government are satisfied with the US Government's response; and

(i) if not, the action plan chalked out by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry with the coordination of other concerned Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No such data is available, however, as per estimates out of India's total IT exports, 67.7% are to the United States of America.

(b) to (e) US State of New Jersey, Washington, Missouri, Connecticut, have introduced Bills for restricting outsourcing of Government contracts to outside of USA. None of the Bills in any of the US States have been passed so far. The Bills if passed would have a marginal effect on our exports to USA.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The issue has been raised at several forums including the recent meeting of the Minister of Commerce & Industry with United States Trade Representative (USTR). USTR described these Bills as "bad policy".

(h) and (i) The Government is closely monitoring the progress of the various bills introduced in some States of USA. A task force to be chaired by the Department of Information Technology and having representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Commerce & Industry is being constituted by Department of Information Technology to protect India's interests in this matter. The Government has also involved the Indian industry in this effort.

Permission for Marketing by Multi National Companies

2624. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission of marketing by Multi National Companies to trade beyond the two years without setting up the industry;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the likely effect of this decision on domestic trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) As per the extant policy, FDI upto 100% is permitted for specified activities such as exports; bulk imports with ex-port/ex-bonded warehouse sales; cash and carry wholesale trading activity; project imports; provision of after sales services, trading of hi-tech medical and diagnostic items, domestic sourcing of products for exports etc. Since FDI in retail trading is not permitted, it is not likely to affect domestic retail trade.

Construction of Living-cum-Worksheds for Weavers in Karnataka

2625. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has sent a proposal for sanction of Central grant for the construction of living-cum-worksheds for weavers in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount sought for and the number of living-cum-worksheds proposed to be constructed; and

(c) the amount, if any, released by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Karnataka has forwarded a proposal for construction of 289 House-cum-worksheds during the current financial year. The proposal is incomplete as per the guidelines of the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme. As soon as the remaining details

are received from the State Government, the proposal will be considered for sanction.

Potential of Herbal Export

2626. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any survey of the potential of herbal exports;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any safeguards/measures to be taken to see that seeds/seedlings of herbs are not exported in the name of herbal products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government funded a market survey for herbal products in the USA. A scheme has also been implemented to provide assistance to industry for conducting market survey. In addition through CHEMEXCIL, an autonomous Export Promotion Council, setup by the Department of Commerce, market studies and follow-up activities are being financed to promote exports of products including herbal exports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) With regard to seeds and seedlings as well as parts of plants, herbs etc., necessary safeguards with regard to their exports are provided in Schedule-2 of ITC (HS) classification of Export & Import Items, 2002-2007 at Code No. 1201 to 1214 as part of EXIM Policy 2002-2007. The said publication is duly notified and has been made available to the Parliament Library.

Voters Identity Cards

2627. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

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

(a) the progress made in providing voters identified by the Election Commission so far;

(b) the percentage of electorates provided with identity cards so far, State-wise and Territory-wise;

(c) the criteria adopted for issuing new voters card in case of loss;

(d) whether some foreign national like Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Nepalis have been included in the voter lists of some States;

(e) if so, the details of such voters, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to remove the names of these voters from the voter list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Election Commission of India has informed that Elector's Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) have been issued to 65.90% electors in the country so far. The State/Union Territory-wise status of issuance of EPICs is contained in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The Commission has informed that in case of loss of EPIC the person concerned is required to lodge an FIR at the Police Station. Thereafter an application is to be made before the Electoral Registration Officer of the assembly constituency concerned for issue of duplicate EPIC. For this a standard application Form No. ECI-EPIC-002 has been prescribed by the Commission. The Commission has also prescribed a fee of Rs. 25/-per card for issue of duplicate cards. The duplicate card will have the same EPIC number as the existing one. The word "Duplicate" will be stamped on the front side of the card.

(d) The electoral rolls for the territorial constituencies are prepared under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of India under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. As per these provisions, only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, there are few instances of foreign nationals getting enrolled in the electoral rolls by furnishing false information. The Commission has informed that specific details of foreign nationals like Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Nepalis included in the voters' lists are not available with it. However, as per the reports received from all the States and Union territories, there were a few cases of Bangladeshi nationals getting enrolled in

the electoral rolls in the States of Assam, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi by furnishing false information.

(e) The Statement-II containing the details of cases of inclusion of Bangladeshi nationals in the electoral rolls

is enclosed.

(f) Whenever such cases of wrongful inclusion come to the notice of the registration authorities, immediate action is taken for removing their names from the electoral rolls.

Statement I

Election Commission of India

Status Report on Progress of Electors Photo Identity Cards

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	Total Electors	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards	Percent (figures in 4 as % of 3)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54,936.102	32,549,914	59.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	663.066	288.040	43.44
3.	Assam	14,426,221	67,479	0.47
4.	Bihar	45,453.577	17,092,234	37.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	13,333.596	9,620,499	72.15
6.	Goa	936.085	559.634	59.78
7.	Gujarat	33,238.195	22,213.432	66.83
8.	Haryana	12,247.273	10,713.212	87.47
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4,069.878	2731903	67.12
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,163.274	2,251.824	36.54
11.	Jharkhand	16,233.841	7,385.389	45.49
12.	Karnataka	37,231.412	33,388.007	89.68
13.	Kerala	21,548.000	20,519.000	95.22
14.	Madhya Pradesh	35,347.783	21,855.970	61.83
15.	Maharashtra	61,468.890	44,455.999	72.32
16.	Manipur	1,503.402	1033733	68.76
17.	Meghalaya	1,280.766	1,033.575	70.70
18.	Mizoram	505.587	378.768	74.92
19.	Nagaland	1,012.541	697.609	68.90
20.	Orissa	25,567.097	19,987.030	78.17
21.	Punjab	16,394.079	8,366,305	51.03
22.	Rajasthan	33,788.459	26,311,914	77.87

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	266.168	132.242	49.68
24.	Tamil Nadu	49,327.491	31,662.414	64.19
25.	Tripura	1,930.718	1,495.315	77.45
26.	Uttaranchal	5,568.898	3,203.225	57.52
27.	Uttar Pradesh	99,685.000	62,830.538	63.03
28.	West Bengal	46,462.519	38,946.215	83.82
29.	A&N Islands	230.555	126.216	54.74
30.	Chandigarh	503.930	278.499	55.27
31.	D&N Haveli	118.964	58.618	49.27
32.	Daman & Diu	77.146	45.645	59.17
33.	NCT of Delhi	8,256.176	5,699.482	69.03
34.	Lakshadweep	37.888	23.588	62.26
35.	Pondicherry	614.823	611.479	99.46
All India Total		650,429,400	428,614,946	65.90

Statement-II**(a) Assam**

In 126 Assembly Constituencies of the State 2,00,930 cases of doubtful nationality were identified and referred to competent authority. Out of these, as of now in case of 2749 cases citizenship status have been confirmed and accepted by the Competent Authority, 502 cases have been declared as illegal migrants and 1,97,679 cases are pending with Competent Authority.

(b) Maharashtra

The C.I.D. Branch of Mumbai Police reported to the District Election Officer (DEO), Mumbai Suburban that six Bangladeshi nationals were included in the electoral rolls of 39-Amboli and 49-Kurla Assembly Constituency in Mumbai Suburban District (five and one respectively). The electoral Registration Officers of above Constituencies have initiated action on the basis of police report under rule 21 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 to enquire the status of their citizenship. Their names will be deleted from the rolls if they are proved to be Bangladeshi nationals after inquiry.

The DEO, Raigad has reported that one elector named Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin has been included in the electoral rolls of 13-Shriwardhan Assembly Constituency since 1995. The police has filed case in the Court of JMFC, Shriwardhan against 9 Bangladeshi nationals in June 2001 for unauthorised stay in India. Out of these, the name of only one Bangladeshi national viz. the aforementioned Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin has been found to be enrolled in the roll of 13-Shriwardhan Assembly Constituency. The Hon'ble Court has ordered to handover eight Bangladeshis excluding Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin to BSF, Calcutta. Accordingly, the police handed over the eight Bangladeshis on 17th December 2001 to them. The Hon'ble Court has released Shri Patware Gulab Mustafa Fajumuddin on bail and the matter is pending trial.

(c) Orissa

After inquiry, 370 names of Bangladeshis were found in the Electoral Roll of 2002 and the same have been deleted. Similarly, names of 197 Bangladeshis were found in Electoral Rolls of 2003 for which action is being taken to delete their names. Besides, names of 2 Bangladeshis have been identified in the Electoral Rolls of 2003 of 135-Sundargarh Assembly Constituency which have not

been deleted as the matter is subjudice in the Hon'ble court of Orissa.

(d) Uttar Pradesh

District Election Officers, Faizabad, Raibareli and Jhansi have reported that 14, 3 and 1 Bangladeshi nationals respectively were enrolled in the electoral rolls of 2002. These names have been deleted from the rolls of 2002.

(e) NCT of Delhi

A few names of Bangladeshis have been found to exist in the Electoral Rolls. Election Department of Government of NCT of Delhi has received lists of Bangladeshi migrants from its Home Department for taking necessary action for the deletion of their names (if existing) from the Electoral Rolls of the concerned Assembly Constituencies in the NCT of Delhi. The list of Bangladeshi migrants were sent to concerned Electoral Registration Officers for taking further necessary action to delete their names from the Electoral Rolls. As per the information received from the concerned Electoral Registration Officers, they have so far deleted 75 such names appearing in the rolls. This has now become a routine process i.e. the receipt of the list of Bangladeshi migrants and inquiry/deletion.

Companies Excluded from BSE-500 List

2628. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of investors who invested in scrips of 94 firms are going to lose the capital gain tax benefits available on BSE-500 scrips as these companies have been excluded from the BSE-500 list;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for excluding these companies from BSE 500 list; and

(d) the manner in which Government protect the interest of investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a), (b) and (d) Exemption of the long term capital gains from tax is available to shares of companies which were constituents of the BSE-500 index as on the 1st day of March, 2003. Any change in the

BSE-500 index subsequent to the 1st day of March, 2003 shall not affect the exemption provided to such shares under the Income Tax Act.

(c) the exclusion of 93 companies from the BSE-500 index was part of the periodic review of the various indexes of the Mumbai Stock Exchange (BSE), on April 13, 2003. The changes are made as per guidelines laid down by the Index Committee. The announcement of the changes was made on April 14, 2003, giving a six weeks' notice to the market before the changes became effective from May 26, 2003. The above announcement by the BSE was prior to the enactment of the Finance Act, 2003.

Relative Prices of Essential Commodities

2629. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines for the maximum permissible difference between the wholesale and retail price of the essential commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been violations of these guidelines;

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

(e) whether the Government have any mechanism to monitor the prices of essential commodities particularly the retail prices;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Wholesale and retail prices are mainly determined by market forces of supply and demand. There are no specific guidelines issued by Government for maximum difference permissible between wholesale and retail prices. However, for those essential commodities, which are supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS), issue prices are prescribed by the Government.

(e) to (g) The retail and wholesale prices of 12 essential commodities of mass consumption are monitored regularly by the Central and State Governments at the highest level through various high powered committees. The daily retail prices and weekly wholesale prices of 12 selected essential commodities (rice, wheat, gram dal, tur/arhar, sugar, tea, groundnut oil, mustard oil, vanaspati, potato, onion and salt) are being monitored by the Price Monitoring cell in the Department of Consumer Affairs. Two new items viz. atta and milk have been added for price monitoring from 1.7.03. On the basis of the data on prices collected from 18 state capitals and some major producing centers through State Civil Supplies Departments, a close watch on the retail prices of essential commodities in different parts of the country is maintained and appropriate measures are taken by them to safeguard the interest of the consumers from time to time.

Dispensation of Auction System in Tobacco Sector

2630. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco growers are demanding to dispense with the auction system and allow traders to buy tobacco from farmers directly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

IFCI Dues to Companies

2631. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India have decided to recover its dues by taking over the management of some companies;

(b) if so, the outstanding amount against each of the company;

(c) the names of the companies who have been taken over by the IFCI;

(d) whether IFCI have disposed of the assets of any of these companies;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount recovered therefrom; and

(f) the manner in which the recovery of dues from the remaining companies are likely to be recovered by IFCI;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) IFCI Ltd. has reported that other than takeover of mortgaged assets, it has not taken over the management of any assisted company.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) IFCI has reported that the recovery of dues from other companies is made through normal follow-up, reaching negotiated settlements, re-structuring or rescheduling of debt, resorting to legal process through DRTs/Courts etc. IFCI also take action for recovery of its dues from chronic NPA cases under the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Export of Wheat

2632. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian wheat exporters are facing stiff competition from France and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to protect domestic producers and exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) Export competitiveness depends upon a number of factors including demand, pricing, quality etc. which vary from time to time.

The Government fixes minimum support price for wheat conforming to specifications for procurement by Food Corporation of India and State agencies to protect the interest of farmers.

In view of the surplus stock in the Central Pool, wheat is offered for export. Some of the promotional measures taken by the Government include:

- (i) Procedural restrictions liberalized.
- (ii) An empowered Standing Committee on Exports takes expeditious decisions.
- (iii) In order to offer a stable price regime, the Government fixes the offer price of export of wheat from the Central Pool for a period of 3 months with an additional month given for lifting of stocks and to announce the prices 45 days in advance before the commencement of the concerned quarter.
- (iv) WTO compatible post-delivery and related expenses are allowed to the exporters.

Procurement of Cotton by CCI

2633. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of the cotton growers in Orissa and particularly of Kalahandi and Nuapara districts;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the huge stock of cotton in these districts; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for procurement of cotton from these districts by Cotton Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) The Government is aware of the general problems of the cotton growers in the country including those in Orissa. To protect the interests of the cotton growers, Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and whenever market price of kapas (seed cotton) touches the MSP, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd (CCI) undertakes support price operations. During the current cotton season 2002-03 (October-September), kapas prices, in Orissa and other parts of the country, are ruling above the MSP.

(b) As per the reports received, there is no unsold stock of kapas in Kalahandi and Nuapara districts of Orissa.

(c) The CCI has purchased kapas equivalent to lint cotton of 5,595 bales (of 170 kg. each) during the current cotton season 2002-03 in Orissa. Apart from the CCI, private ginner/traders have also purchased kapas from the cotton growers in Orissa.

Witnesses Turning Hostile

2634. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a huge piling up of cases under the present criminal justice system;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce 'plea bargain' facility in regard to minor offences which attracts lower punishment to the accused pleading guilty before the trial begins; and

(c) if so, the measures contemplated to address the growing incidences of prime witnesses turning hostile leading to acquittal of the accused in high profile cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that there is huge pendency of cases under the present criminal justice system.

(b) and (c) The Law Commission of India in its 154th Report on the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has, inter-alia, recommended introduction of the concept of plea bargaining. Also, the Law Commission in its 178th Report has, among other things, recommended insertion of a new Section 164A in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 to prevent the evil of witnesses turning hostile.

The Committee on Criminal Justice System Reform also, in its Report has endorsed the recommendation of the Law Commission to introduce the concept of plea bargaining.

Since, the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, the Report of the Law Commission has been referred to State Governments for their views/comments. Implementation of the recommendations is subject to receipt of comments from the State Governments, and introduction and passage of an amendment Bill for which no time-frame can be fixed.

*[Translation]***Jute Mills under BIFR**

2635. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the jute mills which have been referred to Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for rehabilitation and revival as on date; and

(b) the number and details of such mills which have since been shut down and referred for revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) Since the inception of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), the cases of 53 jute mills have been referred to them for their revival and rehabilitation till 30.06.2003. Revival Schemes were sanctioned by BIFR/Appellate Authority for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) in respect of 9 cases, whereas 6 companies were declared no longer sick after successful implementation of revival/rehabilitation schemes. The BIFR recommended cases of 12 sick jute companies for winding up. The details of the jute mills referred to BIFR and the status thereof is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement*State-wise list of Jute mills referred to BIFR*

Sl.No.	Case No.	Company	Bench	Workers	Networth	Acc. Loss	O.A	Date of Order
1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8

Revival Scheme Sanctioned under Section 18(4)

1.	36/1987	Budge Budge	II	3524	226.24	655.22	IFCI	10/02/1997
2.	80/1987	New Central Jute Mills	II	10611	316.62	2281.71	IRBI	31/10/1995
3.	117/1987	Anglo India Jute Mills	I	5969	251.69	525.89	IFCI	04/02/1994
4.	190/1987	Howrah Mills	II	4438	107.43	1424.35	IFCI	31/07/1987
5.	106/1994	Kanarhatti Company Ltd.	III	4707	81.20	761.22	IRBI	03/03/1999
6.	13/1995	Caledonian Jute & Industries Ltd	III	3304	53.00	333.00	IRBI	07/04/2003
7.	38/1995	Vijayshree Ltd.	III	4201	5.00	317.00	SBI	30/06/2000
8.	86/1996	Bhiwaniwala Jute Fibres Pvt. Ltd.	III	210	59.00	230.00	IDBI	30/07/1998

Dismissed as Non Maintainable

1.	96/1987	Dalhousie Jute	I	—	.00	.00	N.A.	22/03/1988
2.	148/1988	Victoria Jute Co. Ltd.	III	—	.00	.00	N.A.	09/02/1989
3.	150/1988	Samnuggar Jute Co. Ltd.	III	—	.00	.00	N.A.	08/02/1989
4.	154/1988	Titagarh Jute Factory Ltd.	I	—	.00	.00	N.A.	10/02/1989
5.	35/1989	Juggilal Kamlapat Jute Mills	IV	—	.00	.00	N.A.	10/01/1990
6.	53/1989	Winsome International Ltd.	IV	—	.00	.00	N.A.	18/09/1989
7.	616/1992	Tripura Jute Mills Ltd.	I	1327	326.00	810.00	N.A.	08/06/1993

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8
8.	97/1995	Bhiwaniwala Jute Fibre Pvt. Ltd.	IV	220	59.00	174.00	N.A.	12/03/1996
9.	62/2000	The Empire Jute Co. Ltd.	II	1979	69.00	969.00	N.A.	09/08/2000
10.	89/2000	Hiriyur Textiles Ltd.	II	127	210.00	326.81	N.A.	21/11/2001
11.	96/2000	Towels India Exports Ltd.	III	237	929.16	1289.24	N.A.	20/07/2000
12.	137/2000	Sundaram Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	III	698	118.37	451.74	N.A.	30/12/2000
13.	143/2000	Vaigai Thread Processors Ltd.	II	272	10.10	322.08	N.A.	20/09/2002

Draft Schemes Circulated

1.	42/1991	Andhra Pradesh Fibres Ltd.	II	357	81.21	85.32	IRBI	19/08/2002
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Winding up Recommend under Section 20(1)

1.	107/1987	Fort William Co.,	II	4870	74.34	1208.49	ICICI	01/09/2002
2.	151/1987	Shalimar Rope	IV	130	41.41	401.89	N.A.	15/12/1989
3.	154/1987	Angus Co. Ltd.	I	4643	182.54	1637.03	IFCI	28/05/1990
4.	220/1987	Kelvin Jute Co. Ltd.	III	3060	176.93	1157.32	IRBI	09/11/1995
5.	30/1988	Kannkarrah Co. Ltd.	I	3703	76.49	1129.48	IFCI	13/11/2002
6.	189/1988	Gourepore Co.	IIKK	4937	122.50	1815.25	IFCI	12/09/1991
7.	293/1988	Konark Jute Ltd.	I	2303	273.90	784.90	ICICI	07/09/2001
8.	297/1988	Nuddea Mills	II	4315	570.48	1305.13	ICICI	05/02/1990
9.	41/1989	Shree Gouri Shankar Jute Mills	III	2040	55.00	710.00	SBI	24/04/2003
10.	40/1992	Gopal Jute Industries Pvt. Ltd.	III	89	43.20	155.44	BOB	10/06/1994
11.	5/1995	Agarpara Jute Mills Ltd.	III	3665	1.00	690.00	IRBI	01/01/2000
12.	393/1999	The India Jute & Industry Ltd.	II	1577	296.97	463.85	IFCI	01/11/2002

Winding up Notice Issued

1.	11/1987	Kanoria Jute	III	3831	131.00	472.00	IFCI	26/06/2001
2.	258/1988	Nellinaria Jute	III	4174	77.64	293.16	IFCI	13/06/2002
3.	506/1993	National Jute Manufacturers Association	II	27364	5200.00	54355.00	IRBI	23/02/2001
4.	77/2000	Sumangla Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	I	213	144.96	257.96	IDBI	01/04/2003
5.	88/2000	Bharat Commerce & Industries Ltd.	III	6320	1136.56	1823.61	IDBI	10/03/2003

Under Inquiry

1.	124/2000	Norind Industry Ltd.	III	64	65.00	162.10	BOB	—
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Failed & Reopened							
1.	149/1994	Juggilal Kamlapat Jute Mills Co. Ltd.	I	2438	104.00	968.00	IFCI 01/11/2000
Remanded by AAIFR							
1.	91/2000	Debi Spinning Mills Ltd.	III	199	51.00	336.29	IDBI 24/10/2000
Stay Order by Courts							
1.	276/1987	Shri Hanuman Jute	III	—	23.98	338.23	IFCI 13/04/1993
2.	189/1988	Meghna Mills	III	—	.00	759.00	N.A. 14/07/1990
3.	39/1990	Ganes Mfg. Co.	II	5725	90.32	1795.89	IRBI 09/05/1998
Scheme Sanctioned by AAIFR							
1.	135/1988	Delta Jute	I	—	121.82	1335.85	ICICI 31/05/1992
Declared No Longer Sick							
1.	75/1987	Naihati Jute	I	3885	47.49	718.20	IRBI 20/06/2002
2.	112/1987	India Jute & Industries	III	6985	143.72	366.00	IFCI 30/11/1996
3.	240/1988	Prabartak Jute Mills	III	2084	41.79	128.91	IRBI 28/07/1999
4.	42/1989	Shri Bajrang Jute Mills	III	1929	29.00	237.27	IDBI 18/04/2002
5.	109/1989	Dalhousie Jute	I	3805	138.42	465.39	IRBI 26/03/1996
6.	142/1989	Naffar Chandra Jute Mills	III	2479	50.00	241.12	IFCI 13/03/1996
Stayed by AAIFR							
1.	127/1987	Calcutta Jute Mfg.	II	916	39.60	354.37	IRBI 30/01/2001

[English]

Shelf Life of Wheat in Plastic Bags

2636. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have explored the possibility of storing wheat, rice and sugar in plastic bags;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the shelf life of wheat, rice and sugar packed in plastic bags in bulk; and

(d) the extent to which it has prevented storage losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute, Hapur (IGMRI) has conducted a short term study to find out the suitability of PP/HDPE bags for the storage of foodgrains. It has been found that anti-slip PP/HDPE bags are suitable for storage of foodgrains. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have prescribed standards on PP/HDPE bags for packaging of sugar after taking into account the health and safety aspects.

(c) and (d) No such study has been conducted so far. However, a decision has been taken to entrust a long term study on this aspect to IGMRI.

Cash Management System

2637. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY
SHRI Y.V. RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce "Cash Management System" in some high spending Ministries on a pilot basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Ministries identified for introduction of Cash Management System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government have introduced Cash Management System in nine Departments viz. (i) Agriculture and Co-operation, (ii) Fertilizers, (iii) Food and Public Distribution, (iv) Health, (v) Family Welfare, (vi) Elementary Education and Literacy, (vii) Secondary Education and Higher Education, (viii) Women and Child Development, and (ix) Rural Development, from April, 2003, on a pilot basis, wherein expenditure ceilings are fixed on a quarterly basis, based on the actual requirements of the departments. This will reduce mismatch between receipts and expenditure and avoid rush of expenditure and the associated possible waste of resources in the last quarter of financial year.

Loan to NTC

2638. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering the huge dues payable to the workers of NTC and its subsidiary, the Ministry of Textile has asked the Ministry of Finance for a bridge loan of Rs. 200 crore;

(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 FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Sir, Ministry of Textiles had sought budgetary support of Rs. 200 crore during current financial year to enable NTC to clear statutory dues.

(c) NTC has been classified under category (C) that is—PSUs which would be able to clear the statutory dues through disposal of non-performing assets. Ministry of Textiles has been advised to process the matter accordingly.

Bank Loans to SC/ST/Farmers/Women

2639. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India have given any guidelines to the various banks to provide 18 per cent loans to farmers, 8 per cent loans to SC/ST and 5 per cent loans to women; and

(b) if so, the quantum of loans provided to these sector during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) As per the extant instructions and guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), domestic scheduled commercial banks are required to lend 18 per cent of their Net Bank Credit (NBC) to agriculture. No separate target has been fixed for lending to the SC/ST borrowers. However, a target of 10% of NBC has been fixed for lending to weaker sections which also include Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. RBI has also advised the public sector banks to achieve the target of 5% of their NBC for lending to women by March 31, 2004.

(b) The amount of loans provided by public sector banks to agriculture, weaker section and women for the last three years are as indicated below:

		(Rs. Crores)		
Sector		March 2001	March 2002	March 2003
Advances to Agriculture	Amount Outstanding	53685	63083	73507
	% to NBC	15.7	15.8	15.3
Advances to Weaker Sections	Amount Outstanding	24805	28975	32304
	% to NBC	7.28	7.3	6.76
Advances to Women	Amount Outstanding	—	13309	18428
	% to NBC	—	3.25	3.9

Trade Agreements

2640. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade agreements/MOUs signed by the Union Government with various countries during 2002-2003 and the current year till date with a view to promote bilateral trade and export of various items, particularly food items, spices and cash crops;

(b) whether export of these items has increased as a result thereof;

(c) if so, to what extent; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) A list of Trade Agreements/MOUs signed by the Union Government with various countries with a view to promote bilateral trade and export of various items including food items, species and cash crops during the year 2002-03 and the current year till date is enclosed as statement.

(b) to (d) These Agreements/MOUs are in operation for too short a period to make any assessment of their impact on the export of various items. It may, however, be mentioned that the Agreements which have been entered into with various countries in the past has the effect of lowering down barriers to trade among the contracting parties and thereby give impetus to trade.

Statement

List of Trade Agreement/MOUs signed by the Union Government with various countries during year 2002-03 and the current year till date with a view to promote bilateral trade and exports of various items

1. Bilateral Trade Agreement signed with Swaziland on 18th April, 2002.
2. Trade Agreement signed with Bosnia and Herzegovina on 23rd April, 2002.

3. Trade agreement signed with the Royal Government of Cambodia on 6th November, 2002.
4. India-Afghanistan Preferential Trade Agreement signed with the Government of Afghanistan on 6th March, 2003.
5. Bilateral Trade Agreement signed with Zambia on 21st April, 2003.
6. A Framework Agreement signed with Mercosur (a trade block of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay) on 16th June, 2003.
7. Agreements relating to trade signed with the People's of Republic of China during Prime Minister's visit to China during 22nd-27th June, 2003:
 - A Memorandum on expanding Border Trade.
 - A Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for exporting Mangoes from India to China.
 - A Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation including, inter-alia, the following elements pertaining to trade:
 - The importance of Ministerial meeting of the Joint Economic Group.
 - Setting up of a Compact Joint Study Group composed of officials and economists to examine the potential of complementarities between the two countries in expanding trade and economic cooperation.
8. An MOU on the establishment of Joint Trade Committee signed with the Government of Union of Myanmar on 14th July, 2003.

Stake in Public Sector Banks

2641. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring down its stake in public sector banks; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) It is proposed to amend Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 with a view to

modifying the stipulation of minimum prescribed Government shareholding in nationalized banks from 51% to 3% to enable nationalized banks to raise capital from market without affecting their public sector character. Accordingly, Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Amendment Bill, 2000 was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, 2000, which has been referred to Standing Committee on Finance.

RRB in Karnataka

2642. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of regional rural banks in Karnataka;
- (b) the performance of these banks in the priority sector lending during last three years; and
- (c) the number of farmers given loan and the trend of recovery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Thirteen Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are functioning in Karnataka.

(b) Loans disbursed by the RRBs in Karnataka under priority sector during 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 were Rs. 894.51 crores, 963.86 crores & 1095.65 crores respectively.

(c) The number of farmers provided loans under priority sector during 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 were 341029, 357196 & 370786 respectively and recovery percentages in the State for the years 1999-2000, 2000-01 & 2001-02 were 77.29, 77.12 & 75.99 respectively.

US GAAP Accounting System

2643. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian companies listed in the US bourses are likely to be adversely impacted under the USA GAAP accounting method in relation to Employee Stock Option Plans;

(b) the manner in which the GAAP is different from the prevailing Indian corporate accounting norms;

(c) whether recently the financial tally of the ICICI Bank in USA was found to be adversely affected by the GAAP system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Companies listed in the US can follow one of the two pronouncements prescribed under the US GAAP Accounting for ESOPs., viz Intrinsic Value method or Fair Value method. Indian companies, presently following the Intrinsic Value method of Accounting for ESOPs, if required to follow the Fair Value method in the US may be adversely affected. As per the SEBI ESOP guidelines 1999, an option to follow either the Intrinsic Value method or the Fair Value method is open to Indian Companies.

(b) The difference between Indian GAAP and US GAAP Accounting Principles relate to contents of financial statements, unrealised gains/losses on investments, amortisation of premium/discount on purchase of investments, retirement benefits, revaluation of property allowance for credit losses, etc.

(c) and (d) There are technical differences in the basis of accounting between the US GAAP and Indian GAAP. Therefore, the financial statements under the US GAAP and Indian GAAP for ICICI bank are not comparable.

[Translation]

IMF Loan

2644. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the loans taken by India from International Monetary Fund during the period 1981-1984 and 1991-1993;

(b) whether these loans have been repaid;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) whether India is now giving loans to IMF; and

(e) the manner in which IMF is utilizing these loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) India had made purchases of SDR 3900 Million during 1981-84 and SDR 3559.91 Million during 1990-94 from IMF. These purchases amount to taking loans by India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The last repayment was made in June 2000.

(d) India joined IMF's Financial Transaction Plan in the year 2002 which implies that India's quota contribution to the Fund can be used by IMF for lending to other member countries. India is thus a creditor member of IMF now.

(e) IMF is utilizing India's quota for lending to other member countries borrowing from IMF under various Lending Facilities of IMF.

[English]

Companies Using Mauritius Route

2645. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Mauritius route companies which were detected by SEBI in the recent times for violating all norms to enjoy double Tax Avoidance Treaty; and

(b) the details of the action has been taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government has not received from the Securities and Exchange Board of India any details regarding names of the Mauritius route companies for violating norms to enjoy Indo-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC). However, a circular was issued by the Government on 10-02-03 wherein it has been clarified that if a company has its place of effective management in India, then notwithstanding its being incorporated in Mauritius, it would be taxed under the Indo-Mauritius DTAC in India.

Revenues of Nagaland

2646. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government was to supplement the revenues of State of Nagaland out of the Consolidate Fund of India including the funds spent on developmental activities and administrative expenses as agreed to between the Union Government and people of Nagaland and also envisaged under Article 371 A, clause (c) of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not supplementing the total expenditure as grant incurred by the Government of Nagaland without any cut as loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government in its development through releases under the award of the Finance Commission, and release of Central Assistance for State Plan. The Central Assistance under State Plan is released to the State in the form of 90% Grant and 10% Loan as per the Gadgil formula approved by National Development Council, while the assistance under Finance Commission is released as Non-plan grants. The assistance released to the State Government is credited to the Consolidated Fund of the State. Financial Management of the State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The State Governments are accountable to their legislature for proper utilisation of funds through State Audit Report prepared by the C&AG of India under Article 151 (2) of the Constitution.

Bonus to Autonomous Bodies

2647. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to pay ad-hoc bonus to the employees of statutory/autonomous bodies at par with the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Decision to grant non-productivity linked (adhoc) bonus to the employees of Central Government and statutory/autonomous organisations will be taken at the appropriate time.

Food Security Box

2648. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether WTO authorities have agreed to the demand of creation of a Food Security Box to take care of India's Food security and livelihood concerns;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the further efforts being made by the Government to take up the issue of setting up a Food Security Box in the WTO regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) India has continuously been seeking to protect food and livelihood security of its vast population dependent on the agriculture sector in the on-going negotiations on agriculture in the World Trade Organisation (WTO). In its initial negotiating proposals submitted to the Committee of Agriculture in January 2001, India had, *inter alia*, proposed the creation of a Food Security Box for developing countries covering all the three pillars of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, namely, market access, domestic support and export competition. While all negotiating proposals remain on the table, the Revised *First Draft of Modalities for the Further Commitments* presented by the Chairman of the WTO Committee on Agriculture, Special Session, proposes special and differential treatment for developing. These include proposals to address food security and rural development and/or livelihood security in developing countries through lower tariff reduction on products designated as Special Products and a new domestic support pillar also, the Draft modalities propose exemption from reduction commitments in respect of Governmental support to domestic agriculture to address food and livelihood security concerns. Divergences among Members remain on key aspects of the various proposals on modalities for negotiations on agriculture, including the levels of ambition in the reduction commitments across all the three pillars by all WTO Members as well as the extent and nature of special differential treatment for developing countries.

Negotiations are still under way to establish modalities for negotiations on agriculture as soon as possible. Under the Doha Ministerial Declaration of 14 November 2001 the negotiations are scheduled to conclude by 1 January 2005.

Problems of Warehousing Corporations

2649. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Central Warehousing Corporation godowns are lying vacant in various States of the country;

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

(c) the reasons therefor alongwith the loss suffered due to non utilisation of these godowns; and

(d) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) State-wise storage capacity of warehouses of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and percentage utilization as on 1.7.2003 is indicated in the statement enclosed.

(c) Lower foodgrains production & procurement due to drought conditions, export of foodgrains and higher off-take under various schemes of Government are the main reasons for reduction in occupancy level of warehouses of CWC.

(d) Steps have been taken by CWC to improve occupancy level of its warehouses which include marketing for new business and diversification. The occupancy level of warehouses of CWC is expected to improve as the foodgrains production during current year is expected to be higher as compared to the last year.

Statement

State-wise total Capacity and % of Utilisation of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) as on 1st July, 2003.

(Figures in Metric tonnes)

States/UTs.	Number of Warehouses	Total Capacity	% of Utilisation
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	49	1336435	44
Assam	5	46307	52
Bihar	12	92179	93
Chandigarh	1	14187	83

1	2	3	4
Chhattisgarh	10	259939	89
Delhi	11	136343	98
Goa	2	30400	49
Gujarat	29	493058	55
Haryana	27	472708	76
Himachal Pradesh	2	5370	69
Jharkhand	3	33950	85
Karnataka	37	475632	72
Kerala	7	103939	58
Madhya Pradesh	31	690050	85
Maharashtra	48	1230204	68
Nagaland	1	13000	92
Orissa	12	181406	38
Pondicherry	1	9915	94
Punjab	31	850034	67
Rajasthan	28	331162	61
Tamil Nadu	25	658891	46
Tripura	2	24000	70
Uttaranchal	7	75490	57
Uttar Pradesh	52	1067996	69
West Bengal	40	601765	68

[Translation]

Restriction on Cooperative Banks

2650. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credit policy announced in 2001 imposes some restrictions on the cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some State Governments including Maharashtra have resorted the Union

Government to remove these restrictions to facilitate proper functioning of the cooperative banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the credit and monetary policy announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the year 2001-02, certain restrictions were imposed on the Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs). Accordingly, with effect from October, 2002, the scheduled UCBs were required to maintain the prescribed level of 25% Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) holdings in Government approved securities only. Further, UCBs were also permitted to grant loans to individuals against security of shares subject to certain parameters. In addition, UCBs were advised not to allow fresh proposals for lending directly or indirectly against security of shares either to individuals or any other entity. Borrowings by UCBs in the Call/notice money market on a daily basis should also not exceed 2 per cent of their aggregate deposits as at the end of March of the previous financial year.

(c) and (d) Representations were received from Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank and National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks against these restrictions. In the light of these representations, RBI had allowed relaxations in grant of loans and advances to individuals to the extent of Rs 5 lakhs per borrower against securities held in physical form and Rs. 10 lakh against securities held in demat form, extension of time for investment in Govt. and other approved securities and liquidation of the bank's deposits with other urban co-operative banks on a case to case basis.

[English]

State Bank of Indore

2651. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of State Bank of Indore in Gwalior revenue division;

(b) the number of such branches operating from rented buildings;

(c) the number of complaints filed with the principal office of the bank regarding the proprietary rights of these buildings; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) State Bank of Indore has reported that it has 17 branches in Gwalior and Datia District of which 15 branches are operating from rented buildings.

(c) and (d) The bank has received only one complaint which has been examined by the bank. The claim of the complaint was found to be baseless.

[Translation]

Indian Banks in Asia

2652. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Indian Banks which come under the category of apex banks of Asia;

(b) the countries in Asia where these banks have capital deposits alongwith the amount of such deposits; and

(c) the profit they earned during the last three years;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) There is no category of Apex Bank of Asia.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Export of Products of DWCRA

2653. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any initiative on the part of the Government of export the products of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) self-help groups with common brand name with assistance from UNO;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps the Government intends to take to make the self-help group movement more sustainable

and to supplement efforts of State like Andhra Pradesh where DWCRA is a success story;

(d) where there is any proposal to rope in MNCs to market the DWCRA products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to make the self help group more sustainable:

(i) Encouragement of women Self Help Groups under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) to play the role of both producers and sellers.

(ii) Promotions of buyer-seller meets and establishing DWCRA Bazaars.

(iii) Gruhamitra, a new concept for the sale of products through Public Distribution System outlets.

(iv) Involvement of marketing chains like APNA BAZAAR (a non-profit organization promoting consumer awareness) for retail sale of the products made by DWCRA groups.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Nutritional Support to Primary Schools

2654. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains supplied under the Centrally sponsored scheme for providing nutritional support to Primary Schools during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the total number of Students benefitted from the scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether some cases of misuse of the scheme has come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Statements-I & II showing allocation of foodgrains and number of students benefitted under Mid Day Meals scheme during 2001-02 & 2002-03 are enclosed.

(c) and (d) With a view to check the misuse of foodgrains allocated under the scheme, monitoring of the scheme is done at village, district and state levels by the Village Education Committee, Committee headed by the District Collector and the Department concerned at State level respectively. Besides, Chief Secretaries of States and Administrators of Union Territories have been directed to constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary/Additional Secretary/Development Commissioner to oversee the implementation of the scheme. This apart, surprise checking is undertaken by the officers of the rank of Under Secretary and above of the Department of Elementary Education & Literacy during their visits to States on the implementation of scheme.

Statement I

**Allocation of Foodgrains & Number of Students Benefitted
Under Mid Day Meals Schemes during 2001-02.**

(Fig. in tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Students Benefitted	Wheat	Rice	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7758454	0.00	232753.62	232753.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	143500	0.00	4305.00	4305.00
3.	Assam	3057221	0.00	91716.63	91716.63
4.	Bihar	725247	170653.32	46923.09	217576.41
5.	Chhattisgarh	2717758	0.00	81532.74	81532.74
6.	Goa	80284	0.00	2408.52	2408.52
7.	Gujarat	4856615	43709.54	43709.53	87419.07
8.	Haryana	1617412	24248.20	24248.19	48496.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	668604	0.00	20058.12	20058.12
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	716592	0.00	21497.76	21497.76
11.	Jharkhand	2085571	5431.47	57135.66	62567.13
12.	Karnataka	5585159	35669.85	120447.52	156147.37
13.	Kerala	2334680	0.00	46693.60	46693.60
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7482769	146257.12	44354.45	190611.57
15.	Maharashtra	10125032	0.00	293757.03	293757.03

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	279648	0.00	8389.44	8389.44
17.	Meghalaya	419112	0.00	12573.36	12573.36
18.	Mizoram	98239	0.00	2947.17	2947.17
19.	Nagaland	159664	0.00	4789.92	4789.92
20.	Orissa	4423250	0.00	99221.92	99221.92
21.	Punjab	1659750	49792.50	0.00	49792.50
22.	Rajasthan	6221663	186649.89	0.00	186649.89
23.	Sikkim	80670	0.00	2420.10	2420.10
24.	Tamil Nadu	5800543	0.00	116010.86	116010.86
25.	Tripura	474655	0.00	14239.65	14239.65
26.	Uttar Pradesh	15837747	313870.44	161261.97	475132.41
27.	Uttaranchal	763093	1724.10	19212.80	20936.90
28.	West Bengal	9581419	0.00	287442.57	287442.57
29.	A&N Islands	38461	0.00	1153.83	1153.83
30.	Chandigarh	18662	559.86	0.00	559.86
31.	D.N. Haveli	25807	0.00	763.91	763.91
32.	Daman & Diu	15124	0.00	452.46	452.46
33.	Delhi	1010533	20210.66	0.00	20210.66
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	62349	0.00	1246.98	1246.98
Total		103452587	998806.95	1863668.40	2862475.35

Statement II

*Allocation of Foodgrains & Number of Students Benefitted
Under Mid Day Meals Scheme during 2002-03.*

(Fig. in tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Students Benefitted	Wheat	Rice	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7,456,254	—	223,687.62	223,687.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	166,637	—	4999.11	4,999.11
3.	Assam	3,057,221	—	91716.63	91,716.63

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	8,095,780	185287.50	57582.90	242,873.40
5.	Chhattisgarh	2,889,116	—	74545.37	74,545.37
6.	Goa	68,878	—	2066.34	2,066.34
7.	Gujarat	3,259,341	32593.41	32593.41	65,186.92
8.	Haryana	1,538,006	23070.09	23070.09	46,140.18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	639,974	—	19199.22	19,199.22
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	821,890	—	24656.70	24,656.70
11.	Jharkhand	2,254,066	4360.73	47435.48	51,796.21
12.	Karnataka	5,621,960	10649.39	142916.24	153,564.63
13.	Kerala	2,355,686	—	47113.72	47,113.72
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7,579,750	162837.32	49312.27	212,149.59
15.	Maharashtra	9,930,938	—	297928.14	297,928.14
16.	Manipur	287,506	—	8,625.18	8,625.18
17.	Meghalaya	434,702	—	13041.06	13,041.06
18.	Mizoram	93,608	—	2808.24	2,808.24
19.	Nagaland	159,664	—	4789.92	4,789.92
20.	Orissa	4,621,934	—	123762.01	123,762.01
21.	Punjab	1,620,811	48624.33	—	48,624.33
22.	Rajasthan	7,177,718	157909.79	—	157,909.79
23.	Sikkim	77,03	—	2310.99	2,310.99
24.	Tamil Nadu	5,401,644	—	108032.88	108,032.88
25.	Tripura	459,981	—	13799.43	13,799.43
26.	Uttar Pradesh	821,507	3860.16	20785.05	24,645.21
27.	Uttaranchal	14,855,697	294566.07	151104.84	445,670.91
28.	West Bengal	9,764,181	—	292925.43	292,925.43
29.	A&N Islands	35,886	—	1076.58	1,076.58
30.	Chandigarh	41,720	1251.60	—	1,251.60
31.	D.N. Haveli	26,004	—	780.12	780.12
32.	Daman & Diu	15,214	—	304.28	304.28
33.	Delhi	1,010,919	20218.38	—	20,218.38
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	0
35.	Pondicherry	62,349	—	1246.98	1,247
Total		102,703,575	945,228.77	1,884,218.23	2,829,447.00

Third Party Motor Claims

2655. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been lot of corruption noticed in the third party motor claims by New India Assurance Company Ltd. in some of the offices in Delhi and Western U.P., particularly in Agra, Aligarh, Meerut and Gaziabad;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the company to exercise control over corruption; and

(c) the details of third party claims paid by the company in the above stations during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The New India Assurance

Company Limited (NIACL) has reported that few corruption cases in Third Party Motor claims have been noticed.

(b) The following steps have been taken by NIACL to exercise control over corruption:

- (1) Whenever company's employees are suspected to be involved, the matter is referred to the Vigilance Department for necessary investigation and appropriate action thereof.
- (2) Inter RO Inspection-cum-Audit of Third Party Claim files are carried out by deputing Officers from other Regional Offices.
- (3) Performance of advocates handling Third Party Claim cases are also reviewed.

(c) The details of third party claims paid by the insurance company during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Office	Year					
	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003	
	No. of TP Claim paid	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	No. of TP Claim paid	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	No. of TP Claim paid	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
Agra DO I	80	269.00	75	305.00	433	507.00
Agra Do II	164	264.00	152	83.8	286	518.00
Aligarh Do	64	275.00	136	284.00	206	405.00
Meerut DO I	171	192.00	113	125.00	37	166.00
Meerut DO II	92	348.00	180	343.00	236	495.00
Ghaziabad DO I	62	79.00	93	152.00	63	168.00
Ghaziabad DO II	—	—	25	2.00	15	19.00

[Translation]

Currency Printing Press and Mints

2656. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of currency note presses and the mints

where thefts have occurred during the last three years and the nature of such thefts;

(b) the total value of currency notes and coins stolen in such thefts; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to put an end to such thefts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Details of thefts in the Currency Note Presses and Mints during the last three years are as under:

3000 notes of Rs. 100/- denomination were stolen from the Currency Note Press (CNP), Nashik Road on 10th July, 2000. The total value of stolen notes was Rs. 30,000/-, of which 29,300/- were recovered by the police from an ex-employee of the Press.

In the second incident of theft, a total of 316 notes of Rs. 100/- denomination were found short in ten bundles in the Bank Note Press (BNP), Dewas during May-June, 2003. The total value of the stolen notes was Rs. 31,600/-.

(c) Besides registering FIRs and suspending the suspected employees in these cases, the entire gamut of security arrangements at Mints and Presses has been further reviewed and tightened in consultation with the intelligence and security agencies.

[English]

Life of Bank Notes

2657. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Expert Committee to find out solution on "increasing the life of Indian Bank Notes" in order to check the problem of soiled and short lived of Bank notes;

(b) if so, whether the Expert Committee has given some recommendation on the increasing the life of Indian Bank notes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The committee constituted by the Government to increase the life of Indian bank notes examined the aspects of printing of Indian bank notes on polymer substrate. After conducting printing trials and laboratory tests, it was determined that polymer substrate was not suitable for Indian Bank notes. Exploration of other alternatives to increase the life of

the Indian Bank notes are resorted to as a continuous process.

Meeting of Developing Countries on Agriculture Issues

2658. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether development countries including India are trying to seek a consensus on three areas of special importance in agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these issues were taken up at a meeting of developing countries held recently at Nyon near Geneva; and

(d) if so, the deliberations made there on these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) India has been continuously making efforts to build coalitions with other Members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) holding similar interests and concerns as India regarding protection of domestic farmers and landless agricultural labourers and for securing improvements in market access in products of export interest. India along with Cuba, Dominic Republic, Honduras, Indonesia, Korea, Nigeria, Turkey, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Venezuela have made a submission to the WTO Committee on Agriculture on various aspects of special and differential treatment for developing countries across all the three pillars in the negotiations, namely, market access, domestic support and export competition.

India, along with over 75 WTO Members which include the EC and Japan, have advocated using the Uruguay Round approach to further tariff reductions. Further, along with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India had co-sponsored a meeting at Nyon near Geneva on 25 June 2003, of like-minded developing countries to discuss issues of common interest, namely, the instruments of Special Products (SP products), and the new Special Safeguard Mechanism

(SSM), proposed for developing countries to enable them to address food security and rural development and/or livelihood concerns. This meeting also considered domestic support modalities for developed countries in order to better address the distortions in world agriculture markets, and sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures being used by some major trading partners to deny market access in products of export interest to developing countries.

The negotiations are scheduled to be concluded by 1 January 2005.

[Translation]

Schemes for Handloom Sector

2659. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to promote handloom industry in rural areas of Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a new textile industry in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the locations where new industries are to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) Government of India has been implementing the following schemes and programmes for promotion and development of handloom sector in the country, including those in the rural areas of Bihar:

1. Design Development and Training Programme.
2. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana.
3. Marketing Promotion Programme.
4. Mill Gate Price Scheme.
5. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme.
6. Weavers Welfare Scheme.
7. Handloom Export Scheme.
8. Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production), Act, 1985.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Income Tax Survey of Cable Operators

2660. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has conducted any survey in Delhi/New Delhi on the income of cable operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cable operators operating in Delhi/New Delhi;

(d) the details of service tax and income tax deposited by cable operators in Delhi/New Delhi;

(e) whether any case of cognizable offence has been registered against cable operators for not depositing the tax collected by them from the subscribers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

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

(c) The Income Tax Department does not maintain the statistics of cable operators. However, 927 cable operators have been registered with Service Tax in Delhi/New Delhi.

(d) An amount of Rs. 86.15 lakh has been deposited under Service Tax by the cable operators in Delhi/New Delhi. However, the Income-Tax Department does not separately maintain the statistics in respect of the Income Tax deposited by the cable operators.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise, in view of (e) above.

[English]

Integrated Tribal Development Projects

2661. SHRI SOHAN POTAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide funds for basic amenities in non-tribal villages in Tribal areas of Chhattisgarh under Tribal Sub-Plan under ITDP scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of such non-tribal villages and the works for which funds have been spent; and

(c) if not, the time by which action would be taken against the officials responsible for not complying with the rules with regard to such areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The Union Government provides funds under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution and under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP) for infrastructure development and for income generation activities.

While the income generation activities are limited to tribal beneficiaries, some of the infrastructure projects may also benefit the non-tribal villages located within the TSP area. The State Government decides on these projects.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Investigation wing of Income Tax

2662. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to downsize the investigation wing of the Income Tax Department;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government is considering to reduce the manpower at different levels presently deployed for search & seizure activities of the Income Tax Department. Extent of such downsizing is being worked out. The manpower so released will be utilised for other productive activities. The Government places highest emphasis on voluntary tax compliance so that the need for taking unpleasant action is reduced to the barest minimum.

Procedure for Importing Cars

2663. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the norms presently being set for importing cars;

(b) whether the present procedure of importing cars by individuals has been found to be cumbersome, delaying and wanting improvement, thereby causing hardships to individual concerned;

(c) if so, whether the Government have propose to ease the restrictions on import of cars by individuals; and

(d) if so, the time by which the new norms for import of cars by individuals are likely to be notified and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The import of motor vehicles is subject to conditions listed in Import Licensing Note under Chapter 87 of the ITC (HS) Classification of export and import items. These conditions relate to consumer protection, road safety and emission norms as per the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR) 1989. A number of representations have been received regarding difficulty in complying with these conditions. There are no quantitative restrictions on import of cars by individuals.

Development of Handloom Sector

2664. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken for the promotion and development of handloom and weaving in the North Eastern Region; and

(b) the promotional and developmental schemes under this sector for the region. State-wise and funds allocated during each of the last three years for each North Eastern States and Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the following schemes and programmes for Promotion and Development of Handloom Sector in the country, including North Eastern Region:

1. Design Development and Training Programme.
2. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana.
3. Marketing Promotion Programme.
4. Mill Gat Price Scheme.
5. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme.

6. Weavers Welfare Scheme.
7. Handloom Export Scheme.
8. Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles of Production), Act, 1985.

No State-wise allocation of funds is made. However, the financial assistance provided to the North Eastern States and Sikkim under various Schemes, during the last three years, is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	Years		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	237.44	498.67	66.92
2.	Assam	1170.15	950.85	1133.42
3.	Manipur	610.37	25.04	608.57
4.	Meghalaya	30.18	12.74	19.71
5.	Mizoram	1125	2.00	51.52
6.	Nagaland	470.84	377.20	163.88
7.	Sikkim	7.47	3.99	2.97
8.	Tripura	92.70	25.97	27.35

Starvation Death of Tribals

2665. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5176 dated April 25, 2003 regarding starvation death of tribals and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the information is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The requisite information sought in Unstarred Question No. 5176 dated April 25, 2003 regarding starvation death of tribals has not been received from a number of State/UT Governments. These State/

UT Governments have been reminded to expedite the information.

(d) As the information is to be collected from the State/UT Governments, a time limit for laying down the information on the Table of the House cannot be indicate.

Export of Measuring Tapes

2666. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the product measuring tapes covered under Custom Tariff No. 9017.90 is exported from India in huge quantities;

(b) if so, the detail of the quantities exported during each of the last six years alongwith FOB/CIF value;

(c) the companies recognized by the Government for manufacturing and exporting the measuring tapes;

(d) whether export benefits are also being given by the Government to these exporters; and

(e) if so, the types of benefits given alongwith their value during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The product measuring tapes covered under Custom Tariff No. 901790 is exported from India.

(b) The details of the quantities exported during each of the last six years along with values are contained in the publication "Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India, Volume-I (Exports)—Annual Number" published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the Parliament Library.

(c) There is no system of recognition by the Government for manufacture and export of any item.

(d) and (e) Normal export benefits under various Export Promotion Schemes such as Advance Licences, DFRC, DEPB under Duty Exemption Scheme (DES) and Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCG) are available under the Exim Policy on exports including this

item. It will not be possible to indicate the data on benefits given to these exporters unless the details of the parties are given.

Directorates of Powerloom

2667. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to announce a scheme for the powerloom sector and also to set up special directorates in the state having powerloom clusters;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) to (c) Government of India is implementing following schemes in the Xth Five Year Plan for the decentralised powerloom sector;

- (i) Modernisation and strengthening of Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) This scheme provides funds for equipping PSCs with modern looms, related weaving preparatory machinery and equipment; and increased staff, to improve the quality of services of PSCs.
- (ii) Support to Computer Aided Design (CAD) Centres: Under this Scheme, CAD Centres have been established in Powerloom Clusters to provide value addition through design inputs into powerloom production.
- (iii) Welfare of Workers: This scheme has following two components:
 - (a) Group Insurance Scheme: It provides cover against the death, accident and disability.
 - (b) Group Workshed Scheme: To create a better working environment and obtain higher productivity the scheme provides subsidy for setting up group worksheds.

2. Government of India no proposal to set up any special directorates in the states having powerloom clusters.

Externally Aided Projects

2668. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for release of funds under Externally Aided Projects;

(b) the funds released under EAP during the Ninth Plan period for different States, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for release of less funds for Tamil Nadu State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) Funds for externally aided projects are released to the States on reimbursement basis. The project implementing agencies have to incur the expenditure and apply for reimbursement thereafter.

(b) Funds released to the States as additional central assistance (ACA) for externally aided projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan period are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Substantial funds to the tune of Rs. 2580 crores were released as ACA to Tamil Nadu during the Ninth Five Year Plan. External assistance is released to the States in the form of additional central assistance. The quantum of such funds for a particular State depends upon the number of ongoing externally aided projects in that State, pace of implementation of the projects, submission of reimbursement claims to Government of India, and Budget provisions of the State Government for externally aided projects.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State	Additional Central Assistance released during Ninth Five Year Plan (Rs. Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8381.35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.32
3.	Assam	267.95
4.	Bihar	455.95

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.17
6.	Goa	17.00
7.	Gujarat	3495.45
8.	Haryana	1115.70
9.	Himachal Pradesh	110.12
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	97.53
11.	Jharkhand	0.00
12.	Karnataka	3308.91
13.	Kerala	295.28
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1871.53
15.	Maharashtra	2524.10
16.	Manipur	63.23
17.	Meghalaya	51.89
18.	Mizoram	9.06
19.	Nagaland	1.06
20.	Orissa	2169.77
21.	Punjab	824.10
22.	Rajasthan	990.91
23.	Sikkim	16.20
24.	Tamil Nadu	2580.42
25.	Tripura	3.70
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3921.93
27.	Uttaranchal	27.14
28.	West Bengal	9772.73

Credit Limit for Tea Plantation

2669. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any instructions to the banks to increase the credit limit and reduce the interest rate of loans sanctioned for tea plantation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has permitted banks, as a one time measure, to restructure the loans sanctioned to tea planters in accordance with the existing RBI guidelines in the matter. This was subject to the condition that in respect of re-schedulement of interest, the amount of sacrifice, if any, be either written off or provision made to the extent of sacrifice involved. The existing Term Loan extended to Small Tea Growers holding not more than 10 hectares, which were outstanding as on 30th June, 2002 and classified as Standard assets can be consolidated into a single Term Loan as a "Special Tea Term Loan, 2002". As regard the interest rate reduction and increase in credit limit the same is left to banks to decide based on their commercial judgement and loan policy.

Recovery of Debt from Iraq

2670. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has to pay a huge debt to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India alongwith interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details indicating principal amount as well as interest separately as on date and before attack on Iraq by US led forces to be recovered from Iraq; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to recover the amount from Iraq specially in prevailing situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) There is no amount due to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) of India Ltd. directly from entities in Iraq.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Iraq has to pay to the Govt. of India, a total sum of US\$ 831.59 Million as on 31st March, 2003 which includes a sum of US\$ 142.12 Million as interest and the remaining amount of US\$ 689.47 Million as principal.

(d) Government of India have been raising the issue of blocked funds with Iraqi authorities at every possible forum such as India-Iraq Joint Commission Meeting as well as by initiating dialogue at banker's level i.e. Exim Bank and Central Bank of Iraq. The Iraqi side has never denied that it owes debt to Government of India.

Unclaimed Money with HDFC

2671. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of Rs. 75.68 crore unclaimed money which is with Housing Development and Finance Corporation;

(b) whether according to the recent financial report, the Company has mentioned that 18,669 depositors have not claimed this money;

(c) the guidelines regarding unclaimed deposit and interest in various private and Government companies;

(d) whether this money would be transferred to Investors Protection and Education Fund;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the manner in which this money would be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information made available by National Housing Bank, the Housing Finance Development Corporation (HDFC) had unclaimed deposits of Rs. 75.86 crores as on March 31, 2003, out of which Rs. 52.46 crores to 10616 depositors have been repaid/renewed and the deposits of Rs. 23.40 crores to 8053 depositors are unclaimed as yet.

(c) and (d) Section 205 C of the Companies Act, 1956 provides that if the depositors do not claim their deposits including interest within 7 years from maturity date, such amounts shall be credited to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) being administered by the Central Government.

(e) The details of the unclaimed deposits credited to IEPF by HDFC are given below:

Year	No. of deposits	Amount in Rs.
2001-02	2138	22,10,247.89
2002-03	91	4,96,746.09
Total	2229	27,06,993.98

(f) Question does not arise.

Sugar Technology Mission

2672. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Sugar Technology Mission (STM) has deviating from its objective and are presently engaged in jobs outside its scope by recommending a certain project to install an equipment with huge project cost with loan from SDF at lower rate of interest;

(b) whether this has rendered injustice to the sugar factories who do not opt for projects recommended by the STM; and

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The Sugar Technology Mission of Technology Information, Forecasting & Assessment Council under Department of Science & Technology has not deviated from its objectives. It is assigned to broadly undertake the following task:

- (i) Induct new clean, cost effective technologies in the sugar industry after trial and evaluation with an aim to improve plant efficiency, product quality and reduce energy costs including value addition to by-products.
- (ii) Prepare detailed schemes for technology upgradation of sugar mills through use of modern proven technologies to replace existing obsolete equipment and systems.

The cost of implementing technology upgradation schemes prepared by STM are comparable to cost of conventional schemes.

(b) and (c) Any sugar mill in the country which is eligible to avail loan from SDF can approach STM for

preparation of suitable scheme for technological upgradation, if it so desires.

Loans to SSI

2673. SHRI PRASURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan sanctioned by State Bank of Hyderabad for the establishment of small scale units in various States during the last three years; and

(b) the norms prescribed for lending to small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The total amount of loans sanctioned by State Bank of Hyderabad (SBH) for the establishment of Small Scale Units in various states during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Amount of Loan
2001	852.98
2002	951.54
2003	982.70

(b) The norms prescribed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for lending to small-scale units are as under:

- (1) Banks to ensure that out of their total funds lent to SSI Sector, at least 40% should be made available to the units with investment in plant and machinery upto Rs. 5 lakh and 20% should be made available to units with investment in plant and machinery between Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs. Thus 60% of the funds earmarked for SSI Sector should go to small units in tiny sector.
- (2) Increase in the borrowal limit for collateral free loan to tiny sector from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh. In order to further improve the flow of credit to SSIs, RBI has announced that Banks may on the basis of good track record and the financial position of the units increase the limit of dispensation of collateral requirement for loans from the existing Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs.

- (3) Raising the borrowal limit to Rs 5 crores for computation of working capital on the basis of minimum 20% of the projected annual turn over.
- (4) Raising the limit of the projects to Rs. 50 lakhs for providing assistance under the National Equity Fund Scheme.
- (5) Earmarking of 30% of the Investment under NEF Scheme for the tiny Sector.
- (6) As per the announcement made by the Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2003-04, IBA has already advised the Banks to adopt the interest rate band of 2 percent above and below its prime lending rate (PLR) for secured advances.
- (7) Banks have been advised to accord SSI Units with a good track record the benefit of lower spreads over the PLR.
- (8) Banks to fix self set target for the year on year growth in advances to SSI and also to consider budgeting their growth in advances to SSI Sector keeping in view the trends in growth of net bank credit less food credit.

Assistance Under A.S.I.D.E. Scheme

2674. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have been providing assistance under ASIDE Scheme to State Governments based on export of goods only and the export of services has not been taken into account for the receipt of this assistance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to consider inclusion of export of services so that the State Government also receives the assistance under this Scheme;

(d) if so, the details of justification advanced by the State Government in this respect; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The guidelines of the Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) scheme provide that allocation to different states under ASIDE be based on the data of the export of the goods alone.

(c) and (d) Representation has been received from Karnatka to consider inclusion of exports of services on the ground that services play significant role in economic development.

(e) Due to difficulty in identifying source of various services including software services, it was not found practical by the Union Government to include services in the export data for allocation of funds under ASIDE scheme.

[Translation]

Import of Processed Food Items

2675. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

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

(a) whether processed food items are being imported; and

(b) if so, the value of the import made during each of the last three years and the names of the processed food items imported, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of processed food items imported during the last three years, country-wise and value-wise, are contained in the publication "Monthly Statistics of

Foreign Trade of India: Volume-II (Imports)-Annual Number" published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the library of the Parliament.

[English]

Trafficking of Arms

2676. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal gun/arms trafficking is being done in the Chinese borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Intelligence Agencies have reported that China has become the conduit route for illegal arms trade; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent it?

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

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

(c) No such report has been received by the Government.

(d) All field formations of the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to curb smuggling through China borders.

Exemption of Import Registration Fee

2677. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to free the importers of non-critical diagnostic kits into the country from payment of import registration fee;

(b) if so, the details of the products; and

(c) the time by which it is expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO

VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) In this regard the Drug Controller General of India has issued clarification regarding import of invitro diagnostic kits and reagents other than HIV 1/2, HBsAg, HCV and blood grouping sera exempting them from import registration fee. However, the import of non-critical invitro diagnostic kits/reagents, other than the products mentioned above require import license in Form 10. The application for Form 10 license for such products shall be accompanied with a treasury challan of Rs. 1000/- for a single item and Rs. 100/- for each additional item. The validity of the import license is 3 years from the date of issue.

Consumer Production

2678. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

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

(a) whether the Government have mooted a proposal to set up six working groups to study various issues related to consumer protection and suggest measures for dealing with them effectively; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) In the 23rd meeting of the Central Consumer Protection Council held on 16th July, 2003 at New Delhi, it has been decided to set up the following six working groups to study the consumer related issues in details and to make suggestions/recommendations to better protect the interest of consumers:

- (i) Working Group on Food Safety.
- (ii) Working Group on Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices/Equipments.
- (iii) Working Group on Counterfeit, Fake, Spurious, Contraband products.
- (iv) Working Group on Consumer Health & Safety concerning Tobacco & Tobacco Products.
- (v) Working Group on Misleading Advertisements.
- (vi) Working Group to suggest formulation of new legislations and to suggest proposals to amend the existing legislations relating to consumer protection.

Procurement and Export of Maize

2679. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of maize procured by the FCI in Karnataka during the last one year;

(b) the main reasons for low procurement;

(c) whether the Union Government have any proposal for allowing export of maize;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the exporters to export maize and to explore the possibilities of augmenting it further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The FCI has not procured maize in Karnataka during 2002-03. However, a State Government Agency, the Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation (KFCSC), has procured a quantity of 990 MT of maize during 2002-2003 under price support operations.

(b) The procurement may have been low due to drought conditions in the State and higher market prices of maize in the open market.

(c) to (e) There are no quantitative restrictions on the export of maize in the present existing Export-Import policy of the Government of India.

[Translation]

IFFCO In Banking Sector

2680. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) the largest fertilizers company of the cooperative sector to enter into banking sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether IFFCO propose to set up a major bank with all the modern facilities by merging the selected co-operative banks operating all over the country in the proposed bank; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) IFFCO have not made any such proposal so far.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Silk Mills in Tamil Nadu

2681. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of silk mills in public/private sector functioning at present in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of workers working in these mills, Sector-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more such mills in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) to (e) Silk sector is mainly a household based handloom industry and is in the unorganized sector. As per information available one spun silk mill namely, Duttatreya Textiles Pvt. Ltd. is functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu in Madurai District and about 750 workers are working in this mill.

Central Government does not propose to set up any silk mills.

[Translation]

Impact of Liberalisation

2682. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the process of liberalisation in the country is not producing the desired result in the industrial sector;

(b) whether the Government have identified the obstacles coming in the way of the industrial policies of the Central and State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action contemplated to be taken by the Government to remove these obstacles in order to facilitate the setting up of more and more industries in the country; and

(e) the details of progress made by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The process of industrial liberalization initiated since 1991 has been undertaken in a calibrated manner to foster competitive environment in Indian industry in which entrepreneurs are free to invest, expand and modernize in response to market conditions. The process of liberalization has had a favourable impact and is reflected in quantum jump in per capita income, gross domestic product (GDP) originating in the industrial sector and exports in particular. The per capita income at constant prices (1993-94 prices) increased from Rs. 7212 in 1991-92 to Rs. 11010 in 2002-03; over the same period GDP at constant prices (1993-94 prices) originating in industrial sector rose from Rs. 187560 crore to Rs 357783 crore. The improvement in competitiveness of the economy and manufacturing sector in particular is reflected in the rise in India's exports to US\$ 52234.40 million in 2002-03 from about US\$ 17865 million in 1991-92 showing close to three fold increase.

(b) to (e) Some of the factors which have constrained industrial performance in the past include infrastructure bottlenecks, high level and multiplicity of indirect taxes, product reservations for the small scale sector, high interest rate etc. The performance of the industrial sector is under constant review and appropriate measures are undertaken as and when necessary in the light of emerging trends and overall broad policy objectives. Over the years the Central Government has taken a number of initiatives to promote industrial growth, enhance the competitiveness and address the problems of the industrial sector. They include the following:

- Substantial reduction in peak and number of duty rates for both customs and central excise have

been effected. The peak customs tariff has been scaled down to 25 per cent and system of excise taxation drastically overhauled with the introduction of central value added tax (CENVAT).

- Successive cuts in the bank rate and in the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). In particular, the bank rate has been reduced from 11 per cent to 6 per cent in the last five years. These monetary policy measures will help to provide adequate liquidity to meet credit growth and support investment demand in the economy.
- Enhancement of investment limit from Rs. 1.0 crore to Rs. 5 crore in respect of 13 items of the stationary sector and 10 items of the drugs and pharmaceutical sector, which are reserved for manufacture in the small scale industries. Following the announcement in the Budget 2003-04, 75 more items reserved for production in the small-scale sector were de-reserved. This is expected to increase industrial efficiency and production.
- The Government has enacted several laws, which include enactment of the Competition Act and amendments to SEBI Act.
- Since the inception of economic reforms in 1991, more and more industries have been brought out of the purview of the license requirements for setting up industries. At present only 6 industries are under compulsory licensing and 3 industries reserved for the public sector undertakings.
- The Central Government has been supplementing the efforts of State Governments for accelerating the industrial development of backward areas and special category states through various policies and package of incentives. The scheme being currently implemented to promote industrial dispersal include Growth Centre and Transport Subsidy Scheme, besides North East Industrial Policy. During 2002-03 three packages of economic incentives were announced for promoting industrialization in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim and Uttaranchal & Himachal Pradesh.
- Recognizing the importance of power as a critical input for the industrial sector, the Government

has enacted the Electricity Act, 2003, which seeks to bring about a qualitative transformation of the electricity sector by creating liberal framework for development of the power sector.

- The Budget for 2003-04 in particular lays emphasis on infrastructure development and enhancing of manufacturing sector efficiency. To this end it provides a major thrust to infrastructure principally to roads, railways, airports and seaports through innovative funding mechanism.

[English]

Commodities Through the PDS

2683. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of commodities being distributed through PDS at present;
- (b) whether the Government propose to include some more commodities under PDS; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The Central Government presently makes available to the States wheat, rice, kerosene and sugar for distribution to the consumers through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) under the Public Distribution System. Some States also distribute additional items of mass consumption through the FPSs such as cloth, exercise books, pulses, salt, tea etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Excise Duty on Leather Products

2684. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have recently announced new rates reducing excise duty on leather and leather products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact on the leather industry as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Leather Export Council has requested the Government to consider its recommendations in order to check the decline in the export of leather products;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Council for Leather Exports has requested, from time to time, concessions & exemptions from duties on essential inputs and capital goods such as removal of central excise duty on footwear components & countervailing duty on vegetable tanning extracts, enhance the percentage of abatement of central excise on minimum retail price of footwear, etc. These proposals are given due consideration while formulating the Union Budget.

(f) Government of India in close association with Council for Leather Exports is monitoring exports of leather sector and is providing financial support to:—(i) exporters for participation in international fairs & buyer-seller meets; (ii) Potential Indian companies to strengthen their market network by establishing warehousing and showroom facilities in the focus countries like the USA and select European countries; (iii) Indian exporters to establish Design Studios in their Production Units to enhance their design development capabilities to boost export in the global markets; and (iv) organizing marketing programme in the Focus Market countries.

Subsidised Wheat to Flour Mill Owners

2685. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI is providing wheat at subsidised rates to the flour mill owners;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) Wheat is being Sold to Roller Flour Millers under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) (OMSS (D)) at prefixed prices. The prices of wheat under the OMSS (D) are fixed on the basis of the age of stock and the prevailing market prices. In recent years, these prices have been lower than the economic cost of wheat procured for the Central Pool. The difference is reimbursed to Food Corporation of India as subsidy.

[English]

Educational Loan

2686. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for sanctioning educational loan;

(b) the number of students given educational loan through public sector banks during last three years and current year till June, 2003, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any Government provision to sanction educational loan after taking 90 percent security deposit from borrower; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The criteria prescribed for sanctioning of educational loans by Scheduled Commercial Banks for the students pursuing education in Schools and Colleges in India & abroad are as under:

Student eligibility:

- Should be an Indian National.
- Secured admission to professional/technical courses through Entrance Test/Selection process.
- Secured admission to foreign University/Institutions.

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

(c) and (d) No security is insisted upon for loans up to Rs. 4 lakh. However, for loans above this amount, collateral security of suitable value or co-obligation of parents/guardians/third party along with the assignment of future income of the student for payment of installments may be obtained.

[Translation]

External Aided Projects

2687. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the external aided projects are being implemented in Bihar and Jharkhand;

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

(c) the amount of financial assistance provided by the FFIs during each of the last three years, project-wise and financial institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details of the projects being implemented in Bihar and Jharkhand with external assistance are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Project	Source organisation	Disbursement during (in Rs. crore)		
			2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Bihar plateau development	IDA	58.11	0.00	0.00
2.	Shrimp and fish culture	IDA	0.32	0.00	0.00
3.	Economic development project	IDA	0.56	0.43	0.00
4.	Reproductive & child health	IDA	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Economic development project- (Global environment facility)	IDA	0.50	0.34	0.00
6.	Third district primary education project	IDA	0.00	20.25	25.73

In addition, a project namely 'Energy services for rural industries, Angara' is being implemented with the assistance of UNDP. Disbursements under this project during 2000-2001, 2001-02 and 2002-03 were Rs. 13.59 lakh, Rs. 59.93 lakh and Rs. 27.92 lakh respectively.

[English]

On-Farm Investment in Coffee Sector

2688. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coffee Board has requested the Union Government for the need to revitalize on-farm investment in the sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government to the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to enhance farm productivity and quality of coffee produced specially in the small grower sector, the Coffee Board has formulated a plan scheme viz. Support to Small Grower Sector for implementation during the 10th Plan period. The scheme, costing Rs. 36.20 crores, envisages providing financial incentives/subsidy for replanting and water augmentation, quality up-gradation and development and implementation of pollution abatement measures. The main objectives of the scheme are:

- to augment arabica production through new planting and replanting robusta blocks with arabica in suitable areas;

- to enhance farm productivity in robusta farms through water augmentation;
- to improve processing standards at estate levels to ensure production of quality coffee;
- to set up pollution abatement infrastructure (bio-reactor model) in the coffee farms to mitigate coffee effluent pollutants.

(c) The Govt. of India has already approved the said plan scheme of the Coffee Board having an outlay of Rs. 36.20 crores for implementation during the 10th Plan period.

Ombudsman in Income Tax

2689. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to appoint an Ombudsman for income tax grievances;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the functions being assigned to him; and
- (d) the steps will be taken to sufficiently empower the institution of Ombudsman?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A proposal to create the institution of Income-tax Ombudsman for effective redressal of taxpayers grievances is under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) to (d) Detail of functions and powers of the Ombudsman are under examination of the Government.

[Translation]

Medi-Claim Policy

2690. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the four public sector General Insurance Companies have been given the responsibility of medical test under medical-claims to a personal company set up by some doctors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it takes months to get the medical-claim passed in this test procedure and false cases get passed immediately by the grace of these doctors;

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

(e) the total number of cases of medical-claim received and the number of cases passed out of them during the last six months?

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

[English]

Integrated Forestry Development Project

2691. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have sent the integrated Forestry Development Project-2 for including in the list of assistance from the Japan Bank for International Co-operation; and

(b) if so, the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project has been included in the list of projects for consideration of Government of Japan for Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan package for 2003-2004. The decision on selection of projects will be taken by the Government of Japan.

Funds Recommended by Finance Commissions

2692. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds recommended by the last three Finance Commissions to Maharashtra for the Panchayati Raj Institutions;
- (b) the funds released by the Union Government to Maharashtra for the purpose so far;

(c) whether the entire amount has not been released to Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government are likely to release the remaining amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (f) The Local Bodies Grants were recommended for the first time by the Tenth Finance Commission for States. The Commission had recommended an amount of Rs. 347.01 crore to the State of Maharashtra for Panchayati Raj Institutions for the period 1996-2000. During this period, an amount of Rs. 216.88 crore was released. The balance amount could not be released to the State Government due to non-fulfillment of the conditionalities prescribed in the guidelines. The entitlement to unutilized grants recommended by Finance Commission lapse after its award period gets over.

The Eleventh Finance Commission has recommended an amount of Rs. 656.73 crore as grant to the State of Maharashtra for Panchayati Raj Institutions for its award period 2000-05. So far Rs. 328.36 crore has been released to the State Government. The balance amount will be released according to the guidelines issued to State Governments in this regard.

Ban on Recruitment

2693. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Expenditure issued orders on August 5, 1999 imposing a ban on all recruitment with immediate effect as an austerity measure and the financial advisors of ministries were to ensure completion of a review of the vacant posts in a time bound manner in consultation with Department of Expenditure and to make available the details in this regard to that Department;

(b) whether the financial advisors of the ministries completed the desired review; and

(c) if so, how many vacant posts were not filled up except with the approval of the Expenditure Department and the amount of savings made in the expenditure on pay and allowances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. However, vide subsequent instructions issued on 24.9.2000, the Ministries/Departments were advised to abolish posts lying vacant for over a year. In exceptional cases, revival of such posts is considered based on merits.

(b) and (c) No such data has been centrally maintained.

Tea Accord with Pakistan

2694. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:

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

(a) whether the Indian Tea Association representing the Indian tea industry has entered into an agreement with the Pakistan Tea Association for facilitating tea trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the opening of trade channels with Pakistan would give a boost to the Indian tea industry;

(d) whether any order for Indian tea has been received;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to fulfil the said order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An Indian tea trade and industry delegation under the auspices of Indian Tea Association visited Pakistan in June-July, 2003 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pakistan Tea Association (PTA) providing for import of 10 million kgs of tea from India by PTA, if quality and prices are competitive. This will help in promoting trade and economic cooperation between India and Pakistan, which cannot be quantified further at this stage.

(d) to (f) According to the tea industry sources, some orders have been received from Pakistan. Exporters of tea from India to Pakistan would be eligible for all benefits and financial assistance under the various schemes of the Tea Board to promote exports of Indian tea.

Illegal Transaction of Foreign Exchange

2695. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have detected any cases of illegal transaction of foreign exchange in the country during the last six months;

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

(c) the amount of foreign exchange recovered during the above period, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal transaction of foreign exchange?

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

[Translation]

Credit Facilities to the Farmers

2696. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the general guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India in the year 1984 had been amended in the year 1989 with a view to expanding the scope of assistance by banks to those persons who are victims of flood, cyclone, lands-sliding and riots etc.;

(b) if so, the number of people who had been provided assistance till date in Orissa and Gujarat according to the aforesaid guidelines;

(c) whether any new instructions have been issued to financial institutions to provide more financial assistance to affected people of devastating earthquake in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Reserve Bank of India had issued standing guidelines in August 1984, further revised in 1998, to be followed by banks in providing immediate relief to the persons affected by natural calamities.

(b) According to the information furnished by the UCO Bank, Convenor, State Level Bankers' Committee for the State of Orissa and Dena Bank, Convenor, SLBC for the State of Gujarat, the details of assistance provided in the States of Orissa and Gujarat are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Type of Natural Calamities	Assistance Provided	
		No.	Amount
1999	Super Cyclone	754854	834.20
2001 (Kharif)	Flood	139606	157.18
2002 (Kharif)	Drought	401492	470.80
Assistance provided by banks in Gujarat			
1998	Cyclone in coastal areas of Saurashtra	170796	229.50
1999-2000	Flood in South Gujarat	1143	05.52
2001	Earth Quake		
	(i) Fresh loans	47638	280.00
	(ii) Reschedule-ment/Conversion	66,550	569.00
2002	Riots in Gujarat	5494	53.84

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In addition to the existing guidelines, a special relief package was advised to Dena Bank Convenor, State Level Bankers' Committee for the State of Gujarat on 12.02.2001 for implementation. The major relief measures are as under:

- Freezing of loan Classification status of affected borrowers on 'as-is where-is' basis till 31.03.2003.
- Special limits up to Rs. 1 lakh to be sanctioned for restoration/rehabilitation of businesses of small traders, small business, self-employed and small road transporters etc.
- Loans up to Rs. 2 lakh to be granted for repairs/reconstruction of houses/shops.
- Grant additional limits/rescheduling of existing limits to SSI, business, trade and industry with certain relaxations in interest rates.
- Loans up to Rs. 10 lakh to carry rate of interest@ PLR and for loans exceeding Rs. 10 lakh, to be determined at discretion of the financing bank.
- Credit extended for repairs/construction of houses/shops and to small traders, small business, self employed and small road transporters etc. under the relief package to be reckoned as part of priority sector lending.
- Settlement of claims to be completed within 48 hours and payment upto Rs 50,000/- to be released against Indemnity and Affidavit.
- In case of agricultural loans, no recovery of principal and interest for a period of two years and rescheduling of the amounts not collected during two years for a period upto 7 years.
- Consumption loans upto Rs. 2000/- per eligible beneficiary, even though the Gujarat State has not constituted a Risk fund as envisaged in our existing instructions on the subject.

[English]

Overseas Branches of Banks

2697. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profits of overseas branches of public sector banks are falling drastically as highlighted in the balance sheets of the banks for the year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the names of such banks;

(c) whether there is any proposal to shut down these overseas branches of public sector banks;

(d) whether some of these banks have been slapped with civil monetary penalty on account of certain deficiencies in their system and procedure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the role of the RBI so far as the rules and regulations of the host countries where the overseas branches operate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The bank-wise details of profits of overseas branches of eight public sector banks for the year ending March, 2001, 2002, 2003 are as under:

(Amount in US\$ Million)

Name of the Bank	Net Profit		
	31.03.01	31.03.02	31.03.03
State Bank of India	57.65	0.95	12.23
Bank of India	37.65	19.35	18.64
Bank of Baroda	32.34	23.40	31.95
Indian Overseas Bank	5.26	-2.70	-2.71
Indian Bank	0.53	0.31	-9.56
UCO Bank	1.64	-10.00	-5.79
Canara Bank	2.95	2.22	0.37
Syndicate Bank	140.33	34.30	45.68

The profits of these branches have fallen drastically in 2001-2002 as compared to 2000-2001. However, the net profit improved during 2002-2003. The decline has been mainly on account of settled large borrowal accounts slipping into NPA category.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. New York branch of State Bank of India was imposed a Civil Money Penalty of US\$ 7.5

million by US regulators on account of "perceived unsafe and unsound practices" though no actual violations were noticed. German Banking Supervisory Authorities (GBSA) had issued a notice of Administrative Fine of DM 1.8 million on August 21, 2001 to SBI, Frankfurt branch for the breaches committed by it in single/within own group exposure limits during the year 2000 and 2001. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised these banks to take all possible steps to ensure that their overseas branches comply with regulatory requirements of the host country regulators without leaving any scope for adverse observations.

Salaries to Employees of CPSU

2698. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as on March 4, 2003, Rs. 29,480 crores were credited to Consolidated Fund of India through disinvestments;

(b) the reasons for which the statutory dues and pending wages and salaries of 60 Central Public Sector Undertakings to the tune of Rs. 2,265 crores are still outstanding; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to implement directives of Group of Ministers in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) An amount of Rs. 29,487 crore has been realized as disinvestment proceeds upto March 31, 2003.

(b) Statutory dues, salary and wages are outstanding in sick and loss making Central Public Sector Undertakings for reasons such as resources constraints, legal issues and non-finalisation of restructuring/revival plans.

(c) The recommendations of the Group of Ministers will provide valuable inputs to the Government to arrive at appropriate decisions.

Urban Haats

2699. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'Urban Haats' set-up for providing direct marketing facilities to artisans and weavers as on March 31, 2003, State-wise;

(b) the total number of artisans and weavers benefited under the scheme;

(c) the total volume of products and its value marketed by the Urban Haats; and

(d) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) and (b) The number of Urban Haats set-up for providing direct marketing facilities to artisans and weavers as on March 31, 2003, State-wise is as under:

S.No.	Location	Name of the State
1.	Karnal	Haryana
2.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
4.	Bhubaneshwar	Orissa

These urban Haats shall benefit 3300 artisans/weavers annually.

(c) No details of total volume of products & its value marketed by Urban Haat is maintained. However it is estimated that inventory worth Rs. 10.50 crore are brought by artisans/weavers annually and around 60% of the total inventory is sold.

(d) The total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years is as under:

S.No.	Years	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	2000-01	Nil	Nil
2.	2001-02	Nil	Nil
3.	2002-03	Rs. 1,75,90,000/-	Rs. 1,75,90,009/-

Commission to Brokers

2700. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the fact that brokers are being paid huge amount of commission as compared to the self employed agents, for the same type of work and also treated as agents for all practical purpose rather than facilitator on behalf of the policy holders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to protect the interest of large number of self-employed agents in the insurance sector as well as to ensure equal pay for equal work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The Insurance Brokers and Agents play different roles in the insurance market. While the Agent represents an Insurer, the Insurance Broker represents the policyholders. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that Agents and Brokers are governed by separate Regulations issued by the Authority and the commission payable to them, as per the Regulations, are commensurate with their roles.

Directors of UCB

2701. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has mooted a proposal to curtail extending of loans to directors of that banks and their relatives by Primary Urban Cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when this guideline is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide its circular dated 29th April, 2003 prohibited Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) from extending any loans and advances (both secured and unsecured) to the directors, their relatives and firms/concerns/companies in which they are interested, with immediate effect. A number of USBs and their National and State level Federations have represented to the RBI for some more time before the full ban on granting of loan is imposed. Keeping in view the representation received, it was decided to provide some more time for UCBs to comply with the above instructions. Accordingly, UCBs were advised by RBI that the instructions issued on 29th April, 2003 would be effective from 1st October, 2003.

[Translation]

Investment by persons of Indian Origin

2702. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons of Indian Origin living abroad now-a-days hesitate to invest in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any proposals to provide some incentives to them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Under the existing provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 persons of Indian origin get the same facilities for investment in India as available to NRIs. They can invest in public/private Ltd. companies, proprietary and Partnership firms, company deposits and purchase immovable property (except agricultural property, plantation).

[English]

Loan for Self-Employment Scheme

2703. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI PRADIP YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed in regard for providing loans under the Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana;

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

(c) the State-wise amount of loans provided under these schemes during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 so far; and

(d) the State-wise number of youths benefited therefrom?

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

Voluntary Consumer Organisations

2704. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary consumer organizations functioning at present in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the funds provided to each of these organisation during the last three years; and

(c) the criteria adopted for allocation of funds to the voluntary organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) Information is being compiled and will be laid on the table of the House.

Indefinite Tenure for Certain Jobs in Banks/ Insurance Sector

2705. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to give indefinite tenure to certain jobs in the banking and insurance sector;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(c) the reasons for such a proposal?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shares to States

2706. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share of Central Assistance to states and UTs has been declined during 2001-02; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO

VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir. The Gross Budgetary Support for States' and UTs' Plans was enhanced from Rs. 36,824 crores in 2000-01 (BE) to Rs. 40,644 crores in 2001-02 (BE).

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Demand of Notes and Coins

2707. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand and supply of currency notes and coins during the last three years;

(b) whether the security presses and Government mints did not print currency notes and mint coins as per demand of Reserve Bank of India in order to meet the requirements of the currency notes and coins in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which the demand and supply of currency notes and coins are being met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The details of demand by the Reserve Bank of India and supply by Presses/Mints of currency notes and coins during the last three years are as follows:

Year	In Million Pieces			
	Currency notes		Coins	
	Demand by RBI	Supply	Demand by RBI	Supply
2000-01	12550	11404	3405	3018
2001-02	10500	9629	3700	3316
2002-03	11415	11371	3860	3256

(b) to (d) The supply of currency notes has been at the required level. The four India Government Mints have an aggregate annual capacity to supply about 3700 million pieces of coins. Efforts are made to augment the capacity of the existing mints through modernization/replacement of worn out machinery.

Coaching Centres

2708. SHRI PRADIP YADAV: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coaching centres are being run under centrally sponsored schemes for students of Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years, State-wise and Centre-wise; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to open new such centres in future?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme of Coaching & Allied is being implemented through the State Governments/UTs/Universities/NGOs. State Governments are provided 50% of the total grant required and UTs, Universities and NGOs are provided 100% grant. Under the scheme free coaching facilities are provided to ST students through Pre-examination training centres, to help them to compete in various competitive examinations having All-India recruitment character. The coaching centre-wise expenditure is not maintained by the Central Government. However the details of the amounts released during last three years, State-wise and Centre-wise is in the enclosed statement.

(c) State Government/UTs in various meetings are advised to send their proposals, for grant to new centres also as per the provisions of the scheme. The details of the scheme is also available on the website of the Ministry so that State Government/UTs/Universities/NGOs may avail of its benefit.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State/ UT/University/ NGOs.	Name of centre	Amount released		
			2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya, Port Blair	Nil	2.79	Nil
2	Andhra Pradesh	(i) PETC, Hyderabad	Nil	Nil	8.04
		(ii) RPETC, Paderu			
		(iii) RPETC, Bhadrachalam			
		(iv) RPETC, Utnoor			
		(v) RPETC, Eturunagaram,			
3.	Assam	Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati.	Nil	Nil	1.69
4.	Gujarat	(i) Varodara	Nil	Nil	8.64
		(ii) Pavi-Jetpur			
		(iii) Valsad			
		(iv) Dang-Ahwa.			
		(v) Bhiloda			
		(vi) Dahod			

1	2	3	4	5	6
		(vii) Mandvi			
		(viii) Surat			
5.	Karnataka	Name of the Centre has not been given by the State Govt.	Nil	2.15	1.76
6.	Orissa	Name of the Centre has not been given by the State Govt.	Nil	2.49	4.82
7.	Tamil Nadu	PETC Chennai.	Nil	Nil	1.95
8.	M.P. Bhoj University Madhya Pradesh.	PETC, M.P. Bhoj University	Nil	9.93	Nil
9.	H.N. Bhuguna University, Garhwal.	PETC, H.N. Bahuguna, University.	Nil	Nil	2.67
10.	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla	PETC, Himachal Pradesh University.	Nil	Nil	2.90
	Motilal Nehru Engg. College, Allahabad.	PETC, Motilal Nehru Engg. College.	Nil	Nil	.62
11.	Delhi Education Centre (NGO)	Delhi Education Centre, Jia Sarai, New Delhi.	Nil	7.14	7.60
12.	Chanakya Academy, (NGO)	Chanakya Academy, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.	Nil	Nil	1.19

Note: In the case of State Govts./UTs/Universities lump sum grant is released rather than centre-wise. However in the case NGOs centre-wise grant is released.

Loss Making Cafeterias

2709. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cafeterias of Coffee Board being run in the country at present;

(b) the number of cafeterias out of them incurring losses;

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Coffee Board in this regard;

(d) whether there is any programme to revive them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Coffee Board is presently running a total number of 10 India Coffee Houses in the country and out of these two Coffee Houses have incurred operational losses during the year 2002-03.

(c) to (e) The performance of the Coffee House cannot be assessed solely on commercial terms as they perform a larger role of promoting domestic consumption of coffee and also enhancing the image of Indian coffee in view of the stiff competition being faced from other beverages. However, the performance of these outlets, is periodically reviewed by the Coffee Board and wherever necessary prices of items sold are proposed for revision to reduce/avoid operational losses.

Further, the Board is also striving to cut costs on various items in the operation of Coffee Houses to

augment the profits and to improve the overall performance of these units.

[English]

FDI Proposals

2710. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared FDI proposals worth Rs. 70 crore recently;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) the time by which the proposals are likely to take off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) In the 15th Meeting of the re-constituted Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), the Government has approved 15 proposals of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) amounting to around Rs. 70.00 crore. The particulars of these FDI proposals are available in the Press Release dated 7.7.2003 which is also posted on the website of Department of Economic Affairs (DEA): i.e., <http://finmin.nic.in>

(c) The approval holders are expected to take steps for implementing the approvals normally within a period of 2 years.

Merger of DA

2711. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand for the conversion of 50 percent DA as Dearness Pay as per the 5th Central Pay Commission recommendation *vide* Para 105.11 of the report has been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government thereon;

(c) the criteria fixed by the Government for setting up of Pay Commission for the Central Government Employees;

(d) the dates when 1st to 5th Pay Commission were appointed and the time taken by each of them for submission of their report; and

(e) the steps initiated for appointment of next Pay Commission i.e. 6th Pay Commission for Central Government Employees and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Secretary, Staff Side in the meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Council, JCM held on 28.2.2002, had asked that a view be taken on this recommendation. This demand was subsequently rejected by the Government.

(c) No fixed criteria are specified.

(d) Desired details are as under;

	Date of Constitution	Time taken
1st Central Pay Commission	May, 1946	1 Year
2nd Central Pay Commission	August, 1957	2 Years
3rd Central Pay Commission	April, 1970	3 Years
4th Central Pay Commission	July, 1983	3 Years 11 months
5th Central Pay Commission	April, 1994	2 Years 10 months

(e) No steps have so far been initiated in this regard.

Mutual Funds Scheme

2712. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain schemes under different Mutual Funds have been found to be running against the SEBI's guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the Mutual Funds companies emphasis to bring investors from rural areas into their fold?

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

Vijaya Bank

2713. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total staff strength of Vijaya Bank as on March 31, 2003;

(b) the category-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the Vijaya Bank has also employed some part time staff;

(d) if so, since when and their strength as on date;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to regularise their services; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Category-wise staff strength of Vijaya Bank as on March 31, 2003 is as follows:

Category of staff	Number
Officers	3592
Clerical Cadre	5547
Sub Staff	1945
Part Time Sweepers	639
Total	11723

(c) and (d) Banks employ part time employees on regular basis from time to time as per their requirements. Vijaya Bank has reported that the number of such employees as on 31.7.2003 was 630.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Fake Consumer Protection Organisations

2714. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether recently fake consumer protection organisation have surfaced and are cheating the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The financial assistance from Consumer Welfare Fund is provided to those organisations who are duly verified/recommended by the State Government/District Magistrate. Therefore, there is very little scope for fake organizations to receive funds from the Consumer Welfare Fund.

Credit Deposit Ratio

2715. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the credit deposit ratio of public sector banks of each State during the last three years;

(b) whether the credit deposit ratio of public sector banks in poor States have deteriorated resulting in depriving of the much needed credit; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the banks to provide adequate credit to poor States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The State-wise credit deposit ratio of public sector banks during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement. The CD Ratio varies from State to State.

(c) With an objective of having uniform economic development, banks have been advised to achieve a CD Ratio of 60% in respect of their rural and semi urban branches on an all India basis. There has also been, regular discussion on improving the CD Ratio in the

various fora under the Lead Bank Scheme such as, SLBC, BLBC and DLRC meetings.

Statement

State-wise Credit-Deposit Ratio of Public Sector Banks as on March 31 of Last Three Years

State/Union Territory	March 2001	March 2002	March 2003
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar	18.6	18.6	21.0
Andhra Pradesh	65.4	64.1	65.0
Arunachal Pradesh	12.7	11.7	13.8
Assam	33.4	32.1	28.4
Bihar	21.3	21.4	23.4
Chandigarh	110.4	134.3	131.4
Chhattisgarh	41.8	49.1	41.3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	17.1	17.2	17.5
Daman & Diu	13.1	9.8	9.0
Delhi	83.9	72.8	69.3
Goa	23.6	24.9	22.9
Gujarat	46.5	43.2	42.7
Haryana	43.4	45.9	48.1
Himachal Pradesh	22.7	23.0	24.9
Jammu & Kashmir	21.4	20.9	21.1
Jharkhand	28.9	24.2	26.0
Karnataka	60.5	63.7	67.3
Kerala	41.7	42.2	43.7
Lakshadweep	9.7	8.4	5.1
Madhya Pradesh	49.2	47.7	48.4
Maharashtra	86.7	92.7	88.8
Manipur	38.8	24.5	26.9
Meghalaya	16.2	17.8	29.7
Mizoram	23.5	24.4	25.1
Nagaland	14.5	12.9	13.3

1	2	3	4
Orissa	40.9	41.7	45.9
Pondicherry	32.8	30.1	31.4
Punjab	42.1	43.3	42.8
Rajasthan	49.8	51.2	54.1
Sikkim	15.6	16.0	17.3
Tamil Nadu	84.5	77.7	80.4
Tripura	20.0	19.6	23.1
Uttar Pradesh	29.2	28.3	30.8
Uttaranchal	22.4	22.9	18.1
West Bengal	43.5	46.8	48.2
All India	57.0	56.1	56.4

Amendment to DRT Act

2716. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have advised financial institutions to take several steps for recovery of dues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in order to improve the recovery, the Government have amended Debt Recovery Tribunals Act making the provisions more effective;

(d) if so, whether any improvement has been shown in debt recovery after amending this Act; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government in consultation with State Governments for speedy debt recoveries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a), (b) and (e) Government have introduced several enabling measures for improving the situation arising out of growing incidence of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) through strengthening of Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs), introduction of Corporate Debt Restructuring (CDR) mechanism, enactment of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SRES) and the setting up of Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs).

RBI has also issued circulars to FIs and banks to enter into non-discretionary and non-discriminatory mechanism for recovery of NPAs in all sectors through compromise settlements under One Time Settlement Scheme (OTS)

(c) and (d) The Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 (DRT Act) was amended in the year 2000 to remove certain legal anomalies observed during the course of implementation of the Act, as also to strengthen the Debts Recovery Tribunals. Consequent upon these amendments, the DRT rules have also been amended and notified on 21.1.2003. The following steps further have been taken for speedy disposal of cases by DRTs:

- (i) constitution of 15 more DRTs since 1st April, 2000 thereby taking the total number of DRTs in the country to 29;
- (ii) Increasing the staff strength of DRTs;
- (iii) Further delegation of administrative and financial powers to Presiding Officers to improve their functioning;
- (iv) Arranging adequate infrastructure for DRTs; and
- (v) Office computerisation in DRTs.

As a result of various measures taken, disposal of cases has increased from 4637 in 2000-2001 to 8931 in 2001-02 and to 10233 during 2002-03. The number of cases disposed of during 2002-2003 exceeded the number of cases registered afresh. Similarly, recoveries made through DRTs has also gone up from Rs. 1185 crores in 2000-01 to Rs. 2153 crores during 2001-02 and to Rs. 3252 crores during 2002-03.

Committee on Mineral Water

2717. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a committee to go into the problems of companies manufacturing mineral drinking water in the SSI sectors particularly in view of recent introduction of modified terms and conditions by the Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(b) if so, the present status of the problem and recommendations of the Committee thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No such committee has been set up by the Department of Consumer Affairs.

(b) Does not arise.

RRBs Sponsored by SBI

2718. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Regional Rural Banks sponsored by State Bank of India in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the number of such banks proposed to be opened in the near future, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The names of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsored by State Bank of India (SBI) are as under:

Name of the State	Name of the RRB
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	(1) Sangameshwra Grameena Bank
	(2) Manjira Grameena Bank
	(3) Kakathiya Grameena Bank
	(4) Nagarjuna Grammena Bank
	(5) Sri Visakha Grameena Bank
Arunachal Pradesh	(6) Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank
Assam	(7) Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank

1

2

Bihar	(8)	Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank
Jharkhand	(9)	Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank
	(10)	Palamau Kshetriya Gramin Bank
Himachal Pradesh	(11)	Parvatiya Gramin Bank
Jammu & Kashmir	(12)	Ellaquai Dehati Bank
Karnataka	(13)	Krishna Gramin Bank
Chhattisgarh	(14)	Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(15)	Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(16)	Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank.
Madhya Pradesh	(17)	Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(18)	Shivpuri-Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(19)	Damoh-Panna Sagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank.
Meghalaya	(20)	Ka Bank Nongkyn Ri Khasi Jaintia
Mizoram	(21)	Mizoram Rural Bank
Nagaland	(22)	Nagaland Rural Bank
Orissa	(23)	Koraput Panchabati Gramya Bank
	(24)	Kalahandi Anchalik Gramya Bank
	(25)	Bolangir Anchalik Grameen Bank.
Uttar Pradesh	(26)	Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(27)	Basti Gramin Bank
Uttaranchal	(28)	Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank
	(29)	Ganga-Yamuna Gramin Bank
	(30)	Alaknanda Gramin Bank.

(b) Government has not received any proposal from SBI or any other Sponsor Bank for opening new RRBs.

Violation of Companies Act, 1956

2719. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had ordered prosecution against Jet Airways (India) Pvt. Ltd for alleged violation of various sections of the Companies Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the details of these violations;

(c) the progress made so far into the investigations against Jet Airways;

(d) the time by which a final action against Jet Airways is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Department of Company Affairs has conducted inspection of books of accounts of

M/s Jet Airways (India) Pvt. Ltd under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956. Prosecutions for violation of 205, 224 (8), 211 (8 case) and 292 of the Act have been ordered/launched against the company and its officers in default.

(c) and (d) The aforesaid offences have been compounded by Competent Authority, on company's applications filed u/s 621A of the Act, by levying total compounding fee of Rs. 2,20,000/- on company and its officers in default.

Fall in Prices of Cashew

2720. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the average realization of Indian cashew in the international market for the year 2002-03 in comparison to the realization in the first quarter of the year 2003-04;

(b) the reasons for fall in prices, if any;

(c) the details of the ongoing schemes to improve quality standards and packaging system; and

(d) the grants-in-aid assistance given to cashew processing units for modernization during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The average realization of Indian cashew in the International market during the year 2002-03 was Rs. 185.62 per kg. In the first quarter of 2003-04, it was Rs. 187.22 per kg. Thus there is no fall in price of cashew in international market during first quarter of this year as compared to last year.

(c) and (d) During the year 2000-01, the Cashew Export Promotion Council disbursed to cashew processing units an amount of Rs. 89,75,018/- for modernization, ISO 9000 and acquisition of latest packaging system. The amount disbursed for the above activities during the year 2001-02 was Rs. 1,72,90,701/-. During the Xth Plan a scheme titled "Integrated Scheme for the Cashew Quality" is under implementation. No amount has been released for the scheme as yet.

[Translation]

Electronic Voting Machines

2721. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that electronic voting machines are likely to be used at every polling station in the next Parliamentary elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that the Election Commission has decided to procure nearly three lakh voting machines in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Election Commission of India proposes to use Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in all polling stations of all the Parliamentary Constituencies in the next General Election to Lok Sabha.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of the budget provision of Rs. 303 crores during the current financial year 2003-2004 for the purchase of EVMs, the Election Commission has placed orders for manufacture and supply of 1,43,475 EVMs on each of the Central Government Undertakings, namely, Bharat Electronics Ltd., Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad.

[English]

NABARD Loan

2722. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals seeking loans from the Government of Tamil Nadu have been received by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development during the last three years; and

(b) the loan provided for those projects by NABARD, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) The purpose-wise details

of the loans sanctioned by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to the Government of Tamil Nadu under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

(RIDF) during the last three years are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Purpose-wise details of loan sanctioned by NABARD to Government of Tamil Nadu under RIDF during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03.

(Rs. in Crores)

Projects Covered	RIDF-VI (2000-01)		RIDF-VII (2001-02)		RIDF-VIII (2002-03)	
	No. of Projects	Amount	No. of Projects	Amount	No. of Projects	Amount
Minor Irrigation	20	37.20	7	6.31	1	13.96
Medium Irrigation	—	—	3	93.72	2	42.74
Rural Bridges	150	88.50	141	57.99	161	67.47
Rural Roads	539	127.51	345	141.62	224	118.12
Watershed Management	—	—	—	—	182	5.63
Primary Health	—	—	200	10.97	115	12.41
Systems Improvement	—	—	4	34.42	45	63.01
Secondary Schools	—	—	96	14.92	250	65.36
Total	709	253.21	796	359.95	980	388.70

Hike in Prices of Cement

2723. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of cement in the country has been affected due to hike in the prices;

(b) if so, the increase in the prices of cement registered during the last one year as compared to previous two years and the impact thereof on the construction industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The price of cement in the major consumption centres as shown in the statement enclosed indicates that it has not shown any upward trend in the last year as compared to the previous two years. Further, the capacity, production, domestic consumption and export of cement/clinker in the last three years in respect of large plants as shown in the statement below indicate that the production of cement is increasing every year and there is no shortage of cement.

(In Million Tonnes)

Year	Installed capacity	Capacity Utilization (%)	Production	Consumption (Domestic)	Exports	
					Cement	Clinker
2000-01	114.52	82	93.61	90.29	3.15	2.00
2001-02	129.90	79	102.40	99.01	3.38	1.76
2002-03	136.97	81	111.35	107.59	3.47	3.45

In addition, mini cement plants produce about 4 to 5 million tonnes of cement per annum, entire of which is consumed.

Statement

(Rs. per bag of 50 kg)

Region/Centre	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4

Northern Region

Delhi	136	133	130
Karnal	143	139	136
Chandigarh	143	150	142
Jaipur	127	130	118
Rohtak	135	131	126
Bhatinda	143	148	139
Ludhiana	146	155	144
Jammu	181	189	182
Simla	151	165	156

Eastern Region

Calcutta	144	131	151
Patna	134	130	136
Bhubaneshwar	141	128	141
Guwahati	171	174	172
Muzaffarpur	138	134	137

Western Region

Bombay	158	165	156
Ahmedabad	140	138	134
Nagpur	131	132	118
Pune	148	138	125
Rajkot	139	138	134
Baroda	139	139	134

1	2	3	4
Surat	140	139	134
Southern Region			
Madras	162	170	143
Trivandrum	174	180	151
Bangalore	153	159	140
Hyderabad	133	142	119
Calicut	173	181	152
Vishakapatnam	145	146	130
Goa	144	146	136
Central Region			
Lucknow	130	131	129
Meerut	133	134	131
Faizabad	124	124	125
Bareilly	133	129	131
Bhopal	125	121	117

Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd.

2724. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd. has failed to fulfill its priority sector obligations for the year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that Reliance General Insurance Company has fulfilled rural sector obligations but could not fulfill social sector obligations for the year 2001-02 under IRDA (Obligation of Insurers to Rural or Social Sectors) Regulations, 2002.

(c) As the company started its operation only on 23rd March, 2001, IRDA decided that the shortfall in

fulfillment of social sector obligations during 2001-02 should be made up by them in the subsequent year.

NTC Showrooms

2725. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of showrooms of National Textile Corporation, location-wise and State-wise as on date;

(b) the profit/loss earned by each of them during the last three years and in the current financial year so far;

(c) whether recently the Government have ordered to close even those showrooms which have earned more than the fixed sale targets; and

(d) if so, the reasons for closing of such showrooms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) Details of NTC showrooms along with their profit/loss in the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government decided to close all loss-making showrooms after giving VRS to the employees therein.

Statement

State-wise/Location-wise list of Showrooms as on 30.06.03.

(Rs. in lacs)

			P/L 2000-01	P/L 2001-02	P/L 2002-03	P/L 2003-04 Apr-June.
			1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh						
1.	Hyderabad	Old Super Bazar Bldg., BHEL Town Ship.	1.57	-3.48	-3.90	-1.35
2.	Hyderabad	Shop No. 1-1-212, Chikkadpally.	-1.10	-2.23	-4.40	-1.58
3.	Hyderabad	Gunfoundry Road.	0.03	3.04	-4.96	-1.88
4.	Anantapur	Shop No. 24, Anantapur Muni Shopping Complex.	-2.16	-2.97	-3.63	-1.23
5.	Cuddapah	19/1-A/1, Madras Road.	-4.66	-4.98	-5.28	-1.64
6.	Eluru	12, Municipal Comp. Main Road.	-2.01	-3.83	-4.48	-1.14
7.	Guntur	Station Road., Guntur-22.	-1.27	-4.20	-4.21	-1.34
8.	Hanumakonda	Shop No. 6 & 7, Sh. Venkatakrishna Complex M. Road.	-2.81	-4.17	-5.16	-1.60
9.	Vishakhapatnam	S.No. 30-46-26, Main Road. Kancharapalam.	-0.10	-2.28	-3.26	-0.45
10.	Kakinada	Gold Mkt. Centre, Main Road.	-0.93	-1.79	-3.20	-1.05
11.	Karimnagr.	4-1-364, Karimnagar-1.	-4.77	-4.51	-5.33	-1.55
12.	Kurnul	Park Rd., Opp. Zila Parishad.	-1.1	-3.63	-4.74	-1.35
13.	Machilipatnam	Shop No. 25/525, Fort Road.	-0.29	-2.22	-2.73	-0.82

			1	2	3	4
14.	Nellore	16, JVR Municipal BAI Brunk Road.	-1.39	-2.15	-4.42	-1.70
15.	Tirupathi	224, Bazar Street.	-1.19	-3.07	-4.42	-1.70
16.	Vijayawada	27-23-146/147, Gopal Reddy Road.	-1.76	-2.31	-3.82	-1.22
17.	Vishakhapatnam	Jagdamba Centre, Prakash Raopet.	1.13	-3.03	-3.50	-1.06
18.	Hyderabad	Avd Rd. Hyderabad	2.58	1.65	-1.28	-0.78
Assam						
1.	Guwahati	GNB Rd., Guwahati.	-4.19	-4.87	-4.32	-1.31
2.	Shilong	Police Bazar, IOB Bldg.	-2.33	-2.76	-2.58	-0.79
3.	Dibrugarh	Habib Mkt., Dibrugarh.	-3.01	-2.05	-1.87	-0.61
4.	Pandu	Main Rd., Pandu Distt. Kamrup.	-5.34	-5.51	-2.87	-0.86
Bihar						
1.	Patna	Uday Bhawan, Gandhi Maidan, Patna.	3.94	4.05	3.87	1.2
2.	Patna City.	Jhawganj, Patna City.	-4.49	-4.57	-4.32	-1.2
3.	Danapur	Bus-stand, Danapur Cantt.	-4.36	-4.05	-4.23	-1.23
4.	Muzzaffarpur	Shalidandi Mkt., Moti Jheel.	-0.06	-0.37	-0.76	-0.24
5.	Purnia	R.N. Shaw Chowk, Purnia.	-3.97	-4.07	-4.18	-1.23
6.	Chapra	Hathua Mkt., Chapra,	-1.92	-1.98	-2.05	-0.6
7.	Darbhanga	H. Tower Chowk, Darbhanga.	-3.11	-2.87	-2.91	-0.86
8.	Sasaram	GT Rd. Sasaram.	-2.16	-2.05	-2.23	-0.66
9.	Madhubani	Nariyal Bazar, Madhubani.	-4.07	-4.15	-4.03	-1.30
10.	Jehanabad	Viney Mkt. Jehanabad.	-2.64	-2.72	-2.81	-0.81
11.	Gaya	Gaya Town.	-1.20	-1.37	-1.58	-0.50
Delhi State						
1.	Arya Samaj Rd.	P.N.B. Bldg., Arya Samaj Road, New Delhi.	0.09	1.15	0.88	0.14
2.	N.D.S.E.	E-25, NDSE, Pt-II. New Delhi.	2.33	3.06	3.75	0.65
3.	Shanker Rd.	128, Shankar Rd., New Delhi.	-0.74	-0.41	0.21	0.07
4.	Tagore Garden.	E-7, Shopping Centre, Tagore Garden, Delhi.	0.54	2.24	0.25	-0.10
5.	Greater Kailash.	S-61, Greater Kailash Pt-I, New Delhi.	0.41	0.11	-0.28	0.01
6.	Tilak Nagar.	24, Old Market, Tilak Nagar, Delhi.	0.58	0.36	-0.01	-0.01
7.	Khan Mkt.	64, Khan Market, New Delhi.	0.54	1.15	-0.81	0.95

			1	2	3	4
8.	Pahar Ganj.	23-51-52, Rajguru Road., Chuna Mandi. New Delhi.	-0.97	-0.75	-0.34	0
9.	Delhi Cantt.	3/2, Gopi Nath Bazar, Delhi Cantt., Delhi.	-0.58	-0.44	-0.20	-0.15
10.	East of Kailash.	Community Centre, East of Kailash New Delhi.	0.47	1.27	-0.98	0.22
11.	A.T.M.	ATM, Compound, Azadpur, Delhi	-0.48	-0.20	-0.26	-0.03
12.	Laxmi Ngr.	B-33/2, Vikas Marg, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi.	-0.52	0.05	0.01	0.08
13.	Moti Ngr.	Super Bazar Bldg., Moti Ngr. Delhi.	0.09	0.57	0.55	0.07
Gujarat						
1.	Ahmedabad	Usmanpura, Ashram Road.	-0.55	-1.44	3.10	0.52
2.	Ahmedabad	Zhaweri, Bus Stop. Relief Road.	0.25	-0.56	0.30	0.06
3.	Baroda	34/35, Padmawati Devi Shopping Complex.	1.19	0.69	2.83	0.35
4.	Godhra	Sathria Bazar, Godhra.	-0.62	-0.80	0.33	0.03
5.	Junagarh	Lodhia Mkt., Mandvi Chowk.	-0.43	-0.62	0.74	0.14
6.	Jamnagar	Bedi Gate, Station Road.	-0.44	-0.83	0.84	0.10
7.	Rajkot	Sugar House, Dhevar Chowk.	0.36	-0.11	2.53	0.39
8.	Surat	Chowk Bazar, Surat.	-0.65	-1.22	1.46	0.41
9.	Ahmedabad	Finlay Showroom	0	0	0	1.10
Haryana State						
1.	Panipat	13, G.T. Road., Panipat.	-0.47	-0.44	-0.37	-0.06
2.	Faridabad	1-E-22-B, NIT, Faridabad.	0.09	0.23	0.17	0.09
3.	Karnal	C-146, G.T. Road, Karnal	-1.31	-1.10	-1.48	-0.38
4.	Ambala	4164/65-A, DC Road, Ambala Cantt.	-0.70	-0.19	-0.37	-0.70
Himachal Pradesh						
1.	Shimla		0	0	0	-0.24
J&K State						
1.	Jammu	Amar Mkt., Raghunath Bazar.	0.07	1.04	0.24	-0.43
2.	Srinagar.	Polo View, Srinagar.	0.20	0.61	0.13	0.09
Jharkhand						
1.	Ranchi	Welfare Bldg., Main Rd., Ranchi.	1.55	-1.68	-1.43	-0.44
2.	Jamshedpur	Kamani Centre, Bistupur.	-0.56	-0.48	-0.58	-0.16

			1	2	3	4
Karnataka						
1.	Bangalore	33, P-U-Bldg., MG Road.	-3.31	-3.60	-6.85	-3.05
2.	Bangalore	125/2, Dispensary Rd.	-4.20	-5.67	-7.12	-2.60
3.	Bangalore	40/1, Geeta Mension, KG Rd.	-4.06	-4.39	-4.63	0
4.	Bangalore	Eastern Block, Copn. Shopp. Comp Jayanagar.	-1.62	-1.69	-1.80	-0.63
5.	Bangalore	No. 7, 8th Cross Malleswaram.	-0.80	-1.86	-3.37	-1.41
6.	Bangalore	1-B, Main Rd., 2nd Stage, Rajaji Nagar.	-1.75	-1.83	-2.05	-0.61
7.	Bangalore	498, 54th Cross, 12th Main, 3rd Block Rajaji Nagar.	-1.89	-1.97	2.21	-0.74
8.	Mysore	Mysore Mill Compound,	-3.54	-3.93	-5.31	-1.73
9.	Belgaum	3108, Khade Bazar.	-1.76	-2.59	-3.54	-0.72
10.	Chikmagalur	4892, M.G. Rd.	-1.96	-2.32	-3.24	-0.95
11.	Davangere	Chigateri Merc. Bldg. Binny Co. Rd.	-2.26	-2.85	-3.2	-0.73
12.	Dharwar	L.EA Shopp. Comp. Belgaum.	-1.63	-2.15	-2.46	-0.7
13.	Hassan	B.H. Rd. Opp. Bus Stand.	-1.88	-2.23	-2.66	-0.67
14.	Mandya	1042, Jain Street.	-2.29	-2.34	-3.22	-0.98
15.	Mangalore	K.S. Rao Rd., Ganpati Temple.	-3.1	-4.25	-5	-1.91
16.	Tumkur	Opp. Jai Dev Hostel, Bangalore Road.	-1.68	-2.09	-2.97	-0.87
17.	Bidar	Municipal Comp. Dr. Ambedkar Circle.	-2.17	-2.23	-2.41	-0.68
18.	Gulbarga	5, Super Mkt.	-2.11	-2.66	-3.2	-1.12
19.	Raichur	15, Beroon Quila, Raichur.	-1.74	-2.33	-2.93	-1.07
20.	Bangalore	Extn. Sales Counter.	-2.51	-2.85	0	0
21.	Mysore	Mysore II Kuvempunagar.	-2.45	-3.14	-3.84	-1.15
Kerala						
1.	Alwaye	Pareth Pallai Bldg. Rly. Station Road.	-0.23	-2.48	-3.05	-1.07
2.	Quilon	Parvathi Mills Compound.	-1.95	-3.65	-5.07	-2.24
3.	Cannanore	Municipal Shopp. Comp. Nr. KSRTC Bus Stand.	-3.01	-3.16	-4.59	-1.39
4.	Calicut	Jayanthi Building, Paiayam.	-3.43	-5.09	-6.19	-1.70
5.	Changana Cherry	Municipal Bldg., MC Road.	-1.94	-2.93	-2.85	-0.92
6.	Ernakulam	Banerjee Road., Arnakulam, Cochin.	-3.42	-4.40	-5.19	0

			1	2	3	4
7.	Ernakulam	MG Road., Armakulam, Cochin.	-2.69	-2.80	-4.67	0
8.	Kasargod	Vendichan Bldg., Main Road.	-1.83	-1.94	-2.50	-0.82
9.	Kunnamkulam	Vadakkan Cherry Rd., Distt. Trichur.	-2.58	-2.44	-2.53	-0.70
10.	Palai	Municipal Town Hall Bldg. Palai-686575.	-2.03	-2.75	-3.39	-0.97
11.	Palghat	T.B. Road., Palghat.	-3.12	-3.92	-4.27	-1.40
12.	Trichur	26, Shakthan Tamburam Nagar Municipal Complex.	-5.48	-4.57	-6.98	-1.40
13.	Tellicherry	Narangapuram Road., Tellicherry.	-2.75	-0.05	-2.5	-0.91
14.	Trivandrum	Elankath Complex Nagar Over Bridge Junction.	-5.27	-6.64	-7.22	-2.33

Madhya Pradesh

1.	Indore	41, Jangampura, Maiganj Chowraha.	1.34	0.14	-0.12	-0.09
2.	Dewas	Alankar Mkt.	-0.12	0.71	-0.53	-0.17
3.	Ujjain	Freeganj Chowraha, Near Ghantaghar	-0.34	-0.49	-0.83	-0.33
4.	Bhopal	3, Balvihar, Hamidia Rd.	1.78	1.49	0.95	0.17
5.	Burhanpur	BT Mills, Lal Bagh, Burhanpur.	-0.17	-0.17	-0.18	-0.1
6.	Ratlam	115, Dhan Mandi Bazar Khana, Ratlam-1.	-0.15	-0.29	-0.14	-0.21

Maharashtra

1.	Mumbai	India United Mills No. 1,	1.74	2.48	1.09	0.33
2.	Mumbai	India United Mills No. 2,	0.53	0.51	0.54	0.08
3.	Mumbai	India United Mills. No. 6,	0.58	0.87	0.59	0.09
4.	Mumbai	Fort Cloth Shop.	0.55	0.93	0.39	0.03
5.	Mumbai	RSRG Mills, Mumbai.	2.24	0.80	0.78	0.30
6.	Mumbai	Tata Mills, Dadar.	1.70	1.90	0.83	0.55
7.	Mumbai	Kohinoor, Shivaji Park.	4.25	5.73	3.93	0.55
8.	Mumbai	Kohinoor, Opera House.,	1.47	2.88	2.2	0.52
9.	Mumbai	Jam Mills, Lal Bagh, Parel.	0.73	1.17	0.95	0.15
10.	Nagpur	Model Mills, Nagpur.	3.11	3.96	5.56	0.89
11.	Nagpur	Dharampat.	0.12	0.27	0.35	0.11
12.	Hinganghat	RBBA Mills.	0.88	1.58	1.18	0.21
13.	Achalpur	Vidharbha Mills, Berar.	0.40	-0.02	0.51	0.08
14.	Mumbai	Pherer Road.,	1.70	2.6	0.87	0.14

			1	2	3	4
15.	Mumbai	Chinchpokli, 382, NM Joshi Marg, Appollo Mills.	7.35	2.48	4.12	0.12
16.	Mumbai	Digvijay Mill Complex, Lal Bagh, Mumbai.	2.30	1.85	-0.04	-0.53
17.	Pune	577, Sadashiv Peth, Laxmi Rd., Pune-30.	0.56	1.16	-0.16	-0.42
18.	Bharat	GK Marg, Lowerparel, Mumbai.	0.16	0.27	-0.03	-0.04
19.	Parel, (Jupiter Mills)	Balaseth Budhkar Marg, Parel, Mumbai.	-1.06	-0.4	-0.77	-0.25
20.	Parel (MTM)	Senapati Babat Marg, Parel.	0.21	-1.32	-0.59	0.14
21.	Parel (Finlay Mills)	Dr. S.S. Rao Road., Parel, Mumbai.	-0.25	0.1	0.1	0.04
22.	Chowpati	Marina Mension, SP Patel Road., Mumbai.	2.58	1.84	0.92	3.4
23.	Nanded	Nanded Tex. Mills, Nanded.	1.01	0.39	1.45	0.99
24.	Chalisgaon	Retail Cloth Shop, Chalisgaon.	0.13	0.14	-0.18	-0.04
Orissa						
1.	Angul	Laxmi Bazar, Central Lodge.	-0.85	0.89	-0.97	-0.31
2.	Bhubaneshwar	Shahid Ngr., Mkt. Complex.	-1.02	-1.13	-1.07	-0.33
3.	Balasore	Kachari Rd., Balasore.	-1.01	-0.06	-1.08	-0.34
4.	Cuttack	BK Rd., Vrindavan Talkies	-0.95	-1.32	-1.05	-0.33
5.	Joypore	Bolepore.	-1.22	-1.38	-1.31	-0.38
6.	Behrampur	Big Bazar, Distt. Ganjam.	-0.48	-0.48	-0.51	-0.16
Punjab						
1.	Amritsar	5&6, Dharamsingh Market.	-0.72	-1.11	-1.50	-0.30
2.	Ludhiana	13, Dr. Zail Singh Marg.	-1.45	-0.93	3.66	-0.29
3.	Patiala	15/8, Lahori Gate, Patiala.	-1.03	-0.87	-1.79	-0.36
4.	Kharar	PWM, Gate Shop, Kharar.	-0.38	-0.56	-0.24	0.02
Rajasthan State						
1.	Ajmer	Apna Bazar, Ajmer.	0.18	0.38	-0.11	-0.15
2.	Bhilwara	58, Patch Area, Bhilwara.	0.03	0.07	0	-0.35
3.	Bharatpur	Ganga Mandir, Bharatpur.	-0.87	-0.91	-0.69	-0.35
4.	Beawar	Edward Mill Gate, Beawar.	-0.05	0.07	-0.11	-0.11
5.	Jaipur	33, Bapu Bazar, Jaipur.	0.41	-0.43	-0.66	-0.3
6.	Jodhpur	46, Pankaj Bhavan, New Sarak.	1.35	1.67	1.31	-0.24

			1	2	3	4
7.	Kota	179, Shopping Centre, Chawani Market.	-0.40	-0.66	-0.76	-0.3
8.	Sikar	Kotwali Road.	-0.16	-0.23	-0.25	-0.26
9.	Ganganagar.	Gole Mkt. Public Park.	-0.81	-0.93	-0.75	-0.37
10.	Udaipur	13, Darshanpura, Udaipur.	0.40	-0.11	-0.01	0
Tamil Nadu						
1.	Attur	CSI Complex, Railway Station Road.	-0.84	-1.80	-0.81	-0.92
2.	Bhavani	222, Main Rd., Bhavani, Erode.	-1.75	-2.21	0.86	0.83
3.	Coimbatore	269, Karpagavilas, Cross Road,	-1.84	-0.55	-1.35	-1.36
4.	Coimbatore	Somasundaram Mills Road,	-1.76	-1.88	-2.14	-1.98
5.	Coimbatore	Sri Rangavilas Mills Campus, Peelamedu,	-0.92	-1.29	-0.49	-0.40
6.	Coimbatore	Sri Sarda Mills Campus, Sundarapuram.	-2.94	-2.59	-2.12	-2.30
7.	Coimbatore	D.B. Road, R S Puram.	-3.43	-2.14	-1.26	-1.33
8.	Coimbatore	495, Cross Cut Road, Saravanabhavanam.	-4.63	-6.75	-2.2	-2.28
9.	Coonoor	Coonoor-Mount Road, Coonoore, Dist. Nilgiri.	-2.61	-2.72	-0.92	-0.02
10.	Gobichettipalayam	Kutcherry Road, Gobhichettipalayam	-3.84	-2.84	-1.28	-1.01
11.	Nammakal	33, Ranger Sannidhi Street.	-2.38	-1.84	-1.24	-1.35
12.	Ootacamund	Charing Cross.	-4.04	-1.85	-1.51	-1.62
13.	Salem	342, Trichy Main Road.	-4.13	-2.48	0.06	0.29
14.	Mettupalayam	6, Corner, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore Distt.	-3.49	-1.91	-1.07	-1.13
15.	Chennai	Adyar 5, Padmanabha Nagar, Adyar, Chennai.	-5.65	-7.42	-2.23	-2.23
16.	Chennai	Alandur-410, CMKN Road., Alundyr, Chennai.	6.25	-2.33	-2.52	-2.74
17.	Chennai	Purasavalkam 58, Purasavalkam High Road.	-5.83	-3.09	-2.52	-2.44
18.	Chengam	74, Main Road., Chengam.	-4.26	-2.15	-1.70	-1.79
19.	Cuddalore	2-B, Bharati Street Pudu Palayam.	-5.89	-2.07	-0.49	0.41
20.	Kalpakkalam	5, Mini Shopping Comp. Dae Town Ship	-3.44	-1.97	-1.22	-1.27

			1	2	3	4
21.	Kanchipuram	43-A, Gandhi Road.	-3.99	-3.83	-1.68	-1.85
22.	Tirupathur	46, Krishnagiri Road.	-2.81	-2.37	-1.08	-1.09
23.	Trichy	Clives House, Nandhi Kohli Street	-5.09	-2.15	-1.47	-1.43
24.	Kumbakonam	1-2, Municipal Building, Near Gandhi Park.	-4.80	-2.79	-0.5	-0.64
25.	Maduri	NI-1, West Chitral Steet.	-2.52	-11.48	-0.62	-0.77
26.	Nagerkoll	Kamraj Building, Cape Road.	-6.70	-3.71	-1.70	-1.47
27.	Pattukottai	146, Big Street Pattukottai.	-4.67	-3.30	-2.11	-2.25
28.	Paramakudi	B/433, Peramakudi Street.	-4.83	-2.57	-1.09	-1.15
29.	Mayiladuthurai	7, Mahatma Gandhi Road.	-3.73	-3.94	-4.54	-4.73
30.	Shivganga	75, Gandhi Road.	-2.49	-1.40	-0.59	-0.44
31.	Thiruthurapoondi	No. 1-3, North Street.	-4.88	-3.2	-2.30	-2.39
32.	Thirumangaim	No. 7, Usilampatti,	-4.31	-2.89	-2.33	-2.54
33.	Tirunelveli	JN, Raja Bldg., By Pass Road.	-4.88	-3.45	-2.09	-2.27
34.	Tenkasi	18, Kanni Mariamman Koil Street.	-4.32	-2.35	0.44	0.65
35.	Tirukoilur	45, Bazar Street.	-4.23	-2.36	0.98	1.77
36.	Neyveli	1/3, Main Bazar, 12th Block,	-5.29	3.34	-1.90	-0.02
37.	Chennai	Chennai	-0.66	-0.38	-1.30	-0.42
Uttaranchal State						
1.	Dehradun	8, Chakrata Road.	-3.55	-3.79	-3.00	0.81
Uttar Pradesh						
1.	Kanpur	LIC Bldg., The Mall.	-3.03	-2.38	-2.78	-0.60
2.	Lucknow	Sri Ram Rd., Aminabad.	-2.31	-2.92	-3.37	-0.75
3.	Lucknow	LIC Bldg., Hazrat Ganj.	-5.13	-5.61	5.86	-0.96
4.	Allahabad	5-A, Albert Rd., Civil Line.	-3.3	-3.13	-3.48	-0.71
5.	Allahabad	NTC SR Chowk	-0	0	0	-0.36
6.	Jhansi	492, Sadar Bazar, Jhansi.	-4.87	-5.51	-5.81	-1.08
7.	Bareilly.	85-A, Raghuvanshi Complex, Civil Line.	-3.42	-3.73	-4.27	-0.74
8.	Rai Bareli	16-17, Super Mkt.	-2.96	-3.63	-4.35	-0.57
9.	Shakti Ngr.	Shop No. 72, NTPC Shopping Comp.	-0.36	-1.03	-1.28	-0.19

			1	2	3	4
10.	Roorkee	35/14, Civil Line.	-6.27	-6.47	-2.48	-0.67
11.	Agra	29/9, Raja Ki Mandi, Agra	-5.1	-5.27	-3.93	-1.09
12.	Ghaziabad	17, Navyug Mkt. Ghaziabad.	-9.08	-9.06	-5.65	-1.55
13.	Modi Nagar	Uppar Bazar, Sharma Bldg.	-7.64	-7.78	-5.72	-1.30
14.	Maunathbhajan	Shahdatpura, Mau.	-5.25	-5.99	-5.93	-1.05
West Bengal						
1.	Asansole	1, Hattan Rd., Post Office, Asansole.	-1.27	-1.75	-1.87	-0.59
2.	Bella Ghat	P-259, CIT Rd., Kolkata.	-2.87	-3.35	-3.58	-0.11
3.	Bihala	Bihala Comm. Comp. Bihala Chowhrasta.	-1.20	-1.81	-2.07	-0.65
4.	Bankura	Machantala, Bankura.	-1.25	-1.45	-1.82	-0.56
5.	Chandan Nagar	Bagh Bazar, Laldighi Chandan Ngr. Hooghly.	-2.33	-1.50	-1.62	-0.50
6.	Park Street.	Park Street, Kolkata.	0.99	0.12	-0.76	-0.23
7.	Dimand Harbar	Jetty Ghat P.O.D. Harbar 24, Parganas.	-3.07	-2.81	-2.67	-0.84
8.	Gariahat	14/10, Gariahat Road., Kolkata.	-5.12	-4.93	-5.35	-1.67
9.	Koo Nagar	Haren Ch. Banerjee Road. Koonagar, Hooghly.	-2.02	-2.63	-2.72	-0.85
10.	Callege St.	86, College St. Calcutta.	-0.98	-2.50	-2.87	-0.91
11.	Durgapur	Benachity Mkt. Durgapur, Bardwan.	-1.74	-1.39	-1.45	-0.45
12.	Kadamtola	48, DS Rd., Kadamtoia, Howrah.	-2.03	-3.32	-0.57	-1.12
13.	Lake town	Govt. Mkt. Kolkata.	-2.02	-0.19	-2.01	-0.62
14.	Midnapur	Gole Kuna Chowk, Midnapur.	-1.93	-2.57	-2.38	-0.73
15.	Nagar Bazar	319, Jessore Road, Kolkata.	-3.07	-2.97	-2.98	-0.93
16.	Palta	SMCM Gate, Palta. 24, Parganas (N)	-2.63	-1.59	-1.67	-0.52
17.	Rasbihari	138, Rasbihari Avenue, Kolkata.	-2.94	-4.15	-4.05	-1.26
18.	Siliguri	6/1, Vidhan Road Siliguri Darjeeling	-2.79	-2.16	-2.38	-0.73
19.	Shyambazar	3-A, Bhupen Bose Avenue, Kolkata.	-1.66	-1.97	-2.05	-0.64
20.	Tollyganj	47 Deshparan Sasmal Road, Kolkata.	-2.96	-4.70	-5.12	-1.60

			1	2	3	4
Union Territory (UT)						
Chandigarh						
1.	Chandigarh	Sec. 17, Jagat Cinema	2.26	1.33	0.27	0
2.	Chandigarh	14, Madhya Marg	1.83	-0.10	-0.76	0.73
Daman						
1.	Daman	10, Biblos Market Vapi, Daman.	9.70	7.31	0.61	0.09
Pondicherry						
1.	Pondicherry	65-B, Mission Street	-6.03	-1.62	-1.46	-1.54

Opening of Services for Foreign Investment

2726. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has freed seven lucrative services including IT for foreign investment;

(b) if so, the details of these services;

(c) whether the Government have requested for reciprocal action from its key trading partners;

(d) if so, the details of the trading partners and the reciprocal action taken by them; and

(e) the manner in which this has helped to promote India's interest in liberalization of movement of IT professionals across borders and helping Indian companies to sell their services abroad electronically and increasing Indian commercial presence abroad by opening more branches and subsidiaries abroad, especially in respect of US, EU and South East Asian countries?

on Trade in Services (GATS) are only the ones undertaken at the end of the Uruguay Round of negotiations in 1995. These commitments include foreign investment in certain Service sub-sectors, including Computer related Services, at a level lesser than the autonomously liberalised FDI levels.

(c) to (e) India is actively participating in the ongoing negotiations for liberalisation of Trade in Services in the WTO with the objective of enhancing access for our Service Providers and Professionals in markets abroad, particularly through Mode 1 (Cross Border Supply) and Mode 4 (Movement of Natural Persons). India has also submitted Initial Requests to our key trading partners in some Service sectors of interest, limitations and barriers experienced by the respective Service sector in their markets in order to get meaningful access to our Service providers and Professionals. In addition, India is engaged in active discussions for reaching a broad consensus among the member countries towards working out a common approach to be followed for liberalisation of Movement of Natural Persons, which is an area of utmost importance to us. Commitments taken by WTO member countries under GATS have generated enabling conditions facilitating continued high rate of growth of India's computer software exports, which has setting up of branches/subsidiaries overseas, including in US, EU and South East Asian countries. Under the mandated negotiations, though some countries have tabled their initial Officers, it is difficult to gauge the initial Officers and negotiations between countries on that basis is continuing as an ongoing process in the WTO. As such, the actual impact of these Officers and negotiations on the export of Indian services cannot be judged at this juncture.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. India has not made any commitments in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on Trade in Services after the Doha Ministerial Conference. The commitments made by India at the WTO under the General Agreement

Bhuria Committee on Tribals Commission

2727. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have appointed the Bhuria Committee for scheduled areas and scheduled tribes;

(b) if so, the details of terms and references of the Committee;

(c) whether Bhuria Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made; and

(e) the steps taken to implement the same till date?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission under Article 339 (1) of the Constitution has been appointed on 18.7.2002 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Dileep Singh Bhuria.

(b) The terms of references of the Commission given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

The following shall be the terms of reference of the Commission, namely:

(1) Keeping in view the various provisions of the Constitution and taking an overview of the tribal scenario in the country, the Commission shall adumbrate a perspective and a vision for the future and formulate an outline of a viable comprehensive tribal policy.

(2) It shall examine the constitutional provisions in so far as they relate to the Scheduled Tribes, with a view to constitutional, legal, financial and administrative devices for promotion of tribal interests and recommend measures for adequate and appropriate operation of the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

(3) The Commission shall review the functioning of policies, programmes and schemes being followed as per the recommendations of the Dhebar Commission and/or being implemented otherwise and suggest formulations in this regard as may be called for.

(4) It shall examine the development strategies followed so far and in particular, it shall scrutinize the tribal sub-plan integrated approach covering facets like—

(a) plan and non-plan sectors e.g. agriculture and allied sectors, forest, education, health, employment, role of financial and cooperative institutions, displacement of tribals,

(b) protective measures of a legal and administrative nature as in the fields of land alienation, money-lending, excise etc.,

(c) financial and budgetary arrangements and make such suggestions for modifications and innovations as it may consider necessary.

(5) It shall examine the socio-political and administrative set-up particularly with reference to Part IX of the Constitution relating to Panchayats and the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996, and suggest measures to make it effective for self-governance and socio-economic advancement of the tribal people.

(6) Any other matter connected with the administration of the Scheduled Areas and/or the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States and Union territories.

Export of Sandal Products

2728. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sandal soaps, sandalwood oil and sandal agarbattis exported during the last three years;

(b) whether there is decrease in the demand in international market for these commodities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Centre has taken/propose to take measure to boost export of sandalwood items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Export data in respect of Sandal soaps and sandal agarbattis are not available as there is no separate ITC (HS) classification for these items. However, the details of export of sandalwood oil and total exports of agarbattis during the last three years are as follows:

ITC (HS) Code	Name of Product	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03 (April-Feb)	
		Qty. (Kg)	Value Rs. lakhs	Qty. (Kg)	Value Rs. lakhs	Qty. (Kg)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
33074100	"Agarbatti" & other Odoriferous Preparation	13264835	16685.44	15536409	20198.14	16695148	19354.50
33012927	Sandalwood Oil	10308	1291.37	3972	520.07	5791	1049.50

Source DGCIS, Kolkata

(b) and (c) Due to non-availability of export data of Sandal soaps and Sandal Agarbattis as explained in (a) above, it is not possible to say if there is any decrease in the demand for these products. As regards sandalwood oil, because of the high prices of Natural Essential Oils (including sandalwood oil) and absolute and resin oil, they are slowly being replaced by Aroma Chemical which are stronger, uniform in quality, comparatively cheaper, and which can be produced in larger quantities.

(d) and (e) Under EXIM Policy, Finished Handicraft products of sandalwood, machine finished sandalwood products are freely exportable without any licensing requirement. Export of sandalwood oil is also freely allowed but subject to ceiling released by Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) from time to time on the advice of Ministry of Environment & Forest (MOEF). To facilitate export of sandalwood in the form of chips/flakes etc., of specified size and varieties, sandalwood powder and sandalwood dust, the ceiling is also released by DGFT on the advice of MOEF from time to time and applications are invited from the exporters who are in possession of legal procurement certificate inter-alia issued by the State Forest Department. The applications for export of sandalwood de-oiled spent dust are also considered on merits for issue of export license.

Normal incentives applicable to all exporters are also available for exporters of sandalwood oil and sandalwood

products. Moreover, through Chemexcil an autonomous Export Promotion Council setup under the Department of Commerce, financial assistance is being extended through Marketing Development Assistance, to exporters, for competing in foreign markets through participation in overseas fairs, exhibitions and for mounting trade delegations.

Tariff Concessions to China

2729. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have offered fresh tariff concessions to China on a number of items as part of a strategy to boost the economic ties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which this step would give a boost to the trade between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY

AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) China's accession to the Bangkok agreement was approved by consensus by all participating member States during the 16th Session of the Standing Committee under the Bangkok Agreement in April, 2000. As part of China's accession procedures, negotiations have been concluded between India and China to finalize the items on which concessions can be exchanged.

(b) it has been decided that India will extend concessions on 106 items corresponding to 188 tariff lines at (6 digit HS), on which tariff concessions are already given to other Bangkok Agreement member countries i.e. Bangladesh, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, in return to China extending tariff concessions on 217 tariff lines as per International Trade Classification Harmonised System (ITC HS) 2003. The concessions under the Bangkok Agreement is multilateralised and China has also finalised bilateral agreements with Bangladesh, Korea and Sri Lanka. In effect India will be eligible for concessions on 722 items (at the 8 digit HS level) on multilateralisation of concessions.

(c) It is estimated that on implementation of the exchange of concessions with China on China's accession to Bangkok Agreement 25-30% of our total exports to China and 2.2% of our imports from China in value terms will be covered under the concessional trade. This exchange is therefore expected to boost bilateral trade between India and China.

[Translation]

Kisan Credit Cards

2730. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set to issue Kisan Credit Cards during the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the number of the Kisan Credit Cards issued till date; and

(c) the benefits provided to these card holders by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) State-wise target for issue of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) during the year 2003-04, is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) A total of 3,13,44,289 KCCs have been issued by the Public Sector, Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks, as on March, 2003.

(c) The KCC Scheme enables easy access to short term credit to farmers from banks and enables them to benefit from timely and hassle-free credit availability. The KCCs are issued based on the farmers' land holdings so that these can be used to purchase agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides and also draw cash for the production need of the farmers. It also benefits in reduction of work load for the bank branches by avoiding repeat appraisal and processing of loan papers, simplification of documentation, reduction in transaction cost to banks, etc. personal insurance packages are also provided by banks to KCC holders to cover them against accidental death or permanent disability upto a maximum of Rs. 50,000/-.

Statement

State-wise targets of Kisan Credit Cards set by banks for the year 2003-04

S.No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Target
1	2	3
1.	A&N Islands	1000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	537400
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4100
4.	Assam	48335
5.	Bihar	961020
6.	Chandigarh	48350
7.	Chhattisgarh	117150
8.	D&N Haveli	—
9.	Daman & Diu	—
10.	Goa	1295
11.	Gujarat	231965
12.	Haryana	151597
13.	Himachal Pradesh	24655
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	126525
15.	Jharkhand	52350
16.	Karnataka	281700

1	2	3
17.	Kerala	318950
18.	Madhya Pradesh	974110
19.	Maharashtra	331080
20.	Manipur	2130
21.	Meghalaya	935
22.	Mizoram	2700
23.	Nagaland	930
24.	NCT of Delhi	34546
25.	Orissa	474150
26.	Pondicherry	1700
27.	Punjab	147907
28.	Rajasthan	174450
29.	Sikkim	700
30.	Tamil Nadu	477750
31.	Tripura	5010
32.	Uttar Pradesh	738750
33.	Uttaranchal	50850
34.	West Bengal	466580

[English]

Adoni Cotton Mills

2731. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government for cancellation of earlier auction and calling fresh tenders inclusive of both buildings and machinery of the National Textiles Corporation Spinning Mills located at Adoni, Kurnool District;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken on the request;

(c) whether the Government have explored the possibility to revive the Adoni Mills with the help of private participation as proposed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) On the request of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, the tenders were cancelled and fresh offers were invited for revival of the mill with private participation. However, there were no suitable responses. Accordingly, surplus Plant & Machinery, were the bids were above the Reserve price, have been sold.

Funds Collected by Levying 5 Per cent Surcharge

2732. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds collected in the year 2002-2003 by levying a 5 per cent surcharge;

(b) whether collected funds meant for national security has been spent for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have also set a target of raising Rs. 2800 crore by levying 10 per cent surcharge for the same purpose in the current year i.e. 2003-04; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) An amount of Rs. 4,253 Crores is budgeted as receipts under Surcharge for Financial Year 2002-03. The amount of actual collections is not ascertainable as the final accounts of the Union Government have not yet been drawn.

(b) to (d) The amount collected under the Head 'Surcharge' forms part of the Consolidated Fund of India and is spent as per the Demands for Grant of various Ministries with the approval of the Parliament. The funds allocated for Defence through Demand for Grants are more than the amount budgeted through levy of 5 per cent Surcharge.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) An amount of Rs. 1700 Crores under Corporation Tax and Rs. 1000 crores under Income Tax is budgeted under the Head Surcharge for Financial year 2003-04. The Surcharge is leviable at the rate of 2.5% in the case of companies, firms, co-operatives and local authorities and at the rate of 10% in the case of individuals earning an income of more than Rs. 8,50,000 per annum.

Holdings of UTI in ITCF

2733. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unit Trust of India proposed to divest its equity holdings in ITC;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that UTI is given a free hand to manage the deal purely on business considerations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Stock specific information of price sensitive nature cannot be disclosed in advance.

Import of Bound Items

2734. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of bound items of imported goods alongwith the current tariff rate with highest bound limit for each of the items;

(b) whether the imported bound items are adversely affecting the indigenous products in internal market during the past few years;

(c) if so, the extent to which the import of such goods has affected the indigenous items;

(d) the steps taken to protect the indigenous producers against such cheaper imported items;

(e) whether there is any proposal to amend Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 to incorporate the provisions regarding imposition of quantitative restrictions on safeguard grounds; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) India's tariff commitment to the WTO appears in the Schedule XII of the GATT 1994. This Schedule containing the list of bound items is available in the Parliament Library and is also available on the website of the Ministry of Commerce (<http://commerce.nic.in/indshed.htm>). The current applied tariffs are available on the website of the Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC) (<http://www.cbec.gov.in/cae/customs/cs-abc.html>).

(b) to (d) In the wake of removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs), Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items and is 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.

(e) Yes Sir.

(f) The proposed amendments relate to incorporating of provisions for imposing Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) on imports as a "Safeguard measure" as per the "Agreement on Safeguards" of the WTO.

Industrial Growth

2735. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial growth in the country has increased to 5% in the first two months of this financial year against 4.1% growth rate for the corresponding period last year;

(b) whether this 5% growth rate is largely due to growth in consumer sector;

(c) if so, whether there has not been any growth in the durable goods sector; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to adopt policies which will spur growth in the durable and machinery sector of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 5% growth in the first two months of the current financial year is largely due to consumer and capital goods sectors.

(c) The consumer durables posted a growth of 2.7 percent in April-May 2003-04 compared to 1.7 percent in April-May 2002-03.

(d) The Government has taken the following initiatives which will spur growth in the durable and machinery sector of the economy:

- The Union budget 2003-04 has announced excise and custom duty reductions on several consumer and machinery items, which will bring down cost of production of these items and will improve their competitiveness. Significant excise cuts have been announced on passenger cars, ACs, colour TVs, capital goods for IT and telecom, textile machinery and power driven pumps. Custom duty on textile machinery, optical fibres and on capital goods for IT and telecom has also been reduced.
- Under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCG) following incentives for capital goods have been announced:
 - The EPCG scheme allows import of capital goods for pre-production and post-production facilities;
 - The scheme allows import of spares to facilitate upgradation of existing plant and machinery; dispensing with the existing condition of imposing an additional export obligation of 50% for products in the higher value chain;
 - The scheme allows import of capital goods up to 10 years old.
- The consumer durables and machinery sectors will also benefit from the measures taken by the Government to improve operating environment and boost competitiveness of the industry. These measures primarily include measures to strengthen infrastructure, pursuance of soft interest rate policy by the Reserve Bank of India, rationalisation and reduction in duty rates in the area of indirect taxes to bring down cost of production and enhancing export competitiveness.

Urban Cooperative Banks

2736. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered a proposal to set up a fund to help urban cooperative banks to obtain short-term credit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by what date this fund is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) There is no proposal, at present, under consideration of the Government to set up a fund to help Urban Co-operative Banks.

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

[Translation]

Export Quota

2737. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether quota for exporting textile to European countries, America and Canada had been fixed by the Government;

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

(c) whether the Government have decided to stop textile export at the end 2004;

(d) if so, the action taken to save thousands of women working in this sector from being unemployed as a result of stoppage of the exports;

(e) whether the Government propose to impart training to women in fashion technology available in international market;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) to (d) Till December 31, 1994, the exports of textiles to certain developed countries (e.g. U.S.; member countries of EU; Canada) had been governed by bilateral textile agreements entered into between India and these countries under the aegis of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), outside the rules of the General Agreement on

Tariffs and Trade (GATT). With effect from January 1, 1995, the quantitative restrictions (import quotas) in the bilateral agreements under the MFA, are being governed by the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT. India currently has import quota restrictions in the U.S., the European Union (comprising 15 Member States) and Canada. Exports of textiles and clothing (including knitwear), which are subject to quantitative restrictions by the importing countries, are regulated by means of the Export Entitlements and Distribution Policies (for garments and textiles respectively formulated by the Government from time to time under the provisions of the EXIM Policy.

As per ATC, the import quotas would be phased out by 1st January 2005. The market access for our products is expected to increase with dismantling of quotas and, to that extent, the textile industry will have more opportunities to export and consequently create more employment opportunities, including employment opportunities for women.

(e) to (g) National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi, and its six branches at Mumbai, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai and Gandhinagar, is imparting international level training to Fashion Designers and Fashion Technologists, including women, with a view to nurturing and creating bright generations of professionals in different areas of fashion technology. Its high level of interaction and collaboration with the leading fashion institutions of the world has enhanced the stature and scope for the fashion industry in India.

World Bank Aid for Poverty Alleviation in Bihar

2738. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has requested the Union Government for seeking loans from the World Bank for implementing various poverty alleviation programmes in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned by the World Bank during the last two years; and

(d) the number of poverty alleviation programmes implemented/being implemented with these funds?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No funds have been sanctioned by the World Bank for Bihar for specific poverty alleviation programme during the last two years.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Powerloom Parks

2739. SHRI C.N. SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are contemplating to setup powerloom parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the powerloom sector would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]:

(a) and (b) Government of India has approved a Group Workshed Scheme with a view to create a better working environment and obtain higher productivity. In order to improve other infrastructure facilities the scheme envisages a link with the Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) which provides central assistance for improving critical infrastructure in existing or emerging textile centers. The Group Work-shed Scheme provides subsidy for construction of worksheds limited to 25% of the unit cost of construction subject to a maximum of Rs. 80/- per. sq. ft.

(c) The Scheme has a budgeted outlay of Rs. 19.27 crores for the X Plan.

Visit of FICCI Delegation to Germany

2740. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether a business delegation sponsored by FICCI and CII visited Germany alongwith the Minister of

Commerce and Industry during the visit of Prime Minister of Germany in May, 2003;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with the German business community;

(c) whether the matter in regard to renewal of Green Land Scheme and VAT were also discussed; and

(d) if so, the response of Germany thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The business communities of both sides discussed various matters pertaining to bilateral commercial and economic cooperation between India and Germany. These included renewal of the German Green Card Scheme and denial of refund of VAT to Indian companies doing business in Germany.

(d) Both sides have welcomed early convening of the meeting of the Indo-German Joint Commission, which would appropriately address the issues pertaining to Indo-German cooperation.

New Basel Capital Accord

2741. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has undertaken a study covering all banks in the country to finalise a policy approach for the proposed New Basel Capital Accord;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent New Basel Capital Accord system is going to improve banking image in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has undertaken a study to finalise policy

approach to the proposed New Basel Capital Accord. RBI is collecting information from other banks and a detailed study of the data would be undertaken before finalizing the policy approach.

(c) The main objective of New Basel Capital Accord is expected to collectively contribute to the safety and soundness in the financial systems across the world. These would improve the comfort level of banks across the world to deal with those banks which have implemented the New Accord.

Challenges before Rice/Wheat Exporters

2742. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exporters have expressed grave apprehension in regard to the potential of rice and wheat exporters to face the new challenges as a result of the agreement signed with the WTO; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fully equip the rice and wheat exporters to face the challenges of the WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) WTO's Agreement on Agriculture concluded in the Uruguay Round inter alia permits developing countries facilities for reimbursing certain costs such as for marketing, upgradation, internal and external freight for agri-exports. This window has been and is being used by India to facilitate exports of rice and wheat.

Diamond Processing Sector

2743. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of country's diamond processing sector;

(b) whether USA has proposed this sector as a potential sector for outsourcing their production of diamond studded jewellery;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which this sector is going to benefit by the proposed US move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) India is the largest cutting and polishing center in the world. India's share in world net imports of cut & polished diamond is approximately 60% in terms of value, 85% in terms of volume, 92% in terms of prices. It employs a workforce of early one million. The Indian polished diamonds are exported directly to USA. Roughly 11 out of 12 diamonds set in Jewellery worldwide are cut & polished in India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Collection of Statutory Dues by Banks

2744. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector banks are being roped in to undertake collection of statutory dues prescribed under the company law;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have included ICICI bank and HDFC bank as two other banks to do the job, other than the only designated public sector bank i.e. Punjab National Bank;

(d) whether Central Board of Excise and Customs is adopting a multiple banking approach; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration of the Government and no final view on the issue has yet been taken.

(d) and (e) Central Board of Excise and Customs has adopted a multibanking approach for collection of

Central Excise Duties and Service Tax. The arrangements have been put in place in Delhi and Mumbai Commissionerates so far

Export of Onion

2745. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rose onion and other variety of onions exported during the last three years;

(b) whether there is increase in demand for rose onion from Europe and Asian countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the rose onion export keeping in view the increasing demand; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The total quantity and value of onion exported during the last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity (in Lakh Tonne)	Value (in Rs. crores)
2000-01	3.43	276.21
2001-02	4.42	332. 42
2002-03 (Apr. 02-Feb. 03)	5.07	321.62

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata.

The total quantity and value of Bangalore Rose onion as reported by Karnataka State Agricultural Produce Processing & Export Corporation Limited (KAPPEC), a canalising agency for export of Bangalore Rose Onion, exported during the last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity (in Lakh Tonne)	Value (in Rs. crores)
2000-01 (July 00-March 01)	0.22	38.61
2001-02	0.26	48.34
2002-03	0.23	39.37

Bangalore Rose Onion has not found any market in Europe since it has no demand there. However there is an increase in demand from Asian countries for this variety of onion.

(d) and (e) An Agri Export Zone for Bangalore Rose onion, to provide boost to exports, has been approved. A Memorandum of understanding in this regard was signed on July 1, 2002.

Excise Relief to New Units in Sikkim

2746. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to have a 10-year excise relief for new units in Sikkim;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has declared the State a virtual excise haven similar to Uttranchal and Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, whether all the new units engaged in 13 specified industrial activities and commencing production on or after December 23, 2002 in Sikkim will be entitled to a 10-year excise exemption; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the other facilities to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. The exemption from excise duty will be subject to certain conditions.

(b) The Government has provided exemption from central excise duty goods manufactured by 13 specified industries or activities in the State of Sikkim.

(c) Yes, Sir. The exemption will be available to new industrial units set up or after 23rd December, 2002 and to units undertaking substantial expansion on or after this date.

(d) The exemption operates on refund mechanism as in the case of North East exemption, where a manufacturer first pays normal duty at the time of clearance of goods and subsequently claims refund of that portion of duty which is paid by him in cash. The details of other facilities would be as per the New Industrial Policy and Other concessions for the State of Sikkim as announced by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

Procurement of Rice

2747. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the actual stock of rice procured so far from each State by FCI from January 1, 2003;

(b) the payments made to rice mills and farmers of each State during the above period;

(c) the outstanding dues as on date payable to farmers and rice mills in each State; and

(d) the steps taken by the FCI to pay these outstanding amount to farmers and rice mills at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) The actual stock of rice procured by the FCI from each State under the statutory levy system from January 1, 2003, the payments made to rice mills, the outstanding dues to millers and the reasons therefor are detailed in the statement enclosed. The FCI does not procure rice from farmers.

Statement

Name of the State	Actual stock of rice lifted/procured so far from State Government by FCI from January 1, 2003	Payment made to Rice Mills during the above period	The outstanding dues as on date payable to Rice Mills	Steps taken by FCI to pay these outstanding amount to Rice Mills at the earliest.
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	5.83 Lakh MT	Rs. 56,133 Lakh	Nil	N.A.
Haryana	78373 MT	Rs. 88.60 Crores	Nil	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	12256 MT	Rs. 1164.95 Lakhs	Nil	N.A.
H.P.	4723 MT	(Payment of 4623 MT stands released. For 100 MT amounting to Rs. 710795 held up for want of Sales Tax Certificate from the Millers).	—	Millers have been advised to submit Sales Tax Certificate at the earliest.
Uttaranchal	10436 MT	Rs. 25,59,30,211.35	Nil	N.A.
Maharashtra	44185 MT	Rs. 18,11,59,339.70	1,49,31,469	Stocks procured during July, 2003 and bill received recently are under process for payment.
Andhra Pradesh	1876376 MT	Rs. 18,57,85,46,460.00	Nil	Nil
West Bengal	108253 MT	Rs. 89,50,69,767.31	Rs. 3,58,48,586.45	Bills submitted recently are being processed for payment.
Chhattisgarh	25368 MT	Rs. 19,56,00,282	Nil	N.A.
M.P.	78480 MT	Rs. 71,54,36,383.00	Nil	N.A.
Orissa	7.01 Lakh MT	(Entire cost of levy rice delivered to FCI has already been paid to rice mills).	Nil	N.A.

RBI Repo Facilities to SBI

2748. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India is unable to find resources to meet the cost of purchase of dollars from RBI;

(b) if so, whether RBI has agreed to extend regular reverse repo facilities to SBI to meet the shortage of funds;

(c) whether the increased rate of the dollar has landed the SBI into this financial crunch due to RBIs; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to disband such scheme which cause heavy losses due to foreign exchange rate fluctuations?

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

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Sale of Land by NTC

2749. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation propose to sell any of its land in 2003-04;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether rigid sales conditions have made it difficult for entrepreneurs to come forward to buy the land of NTC;

(d) if so, whether NTC will review its selling practices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES [SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)]: (a) and (b) Out of the total salable land of NTC admeasuring 2195 acres, 108 acres land have been sold so far and the balance lands are proposed to be sold in year 2003-04.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. A transparent procedure for sale of properties has been prescribed by BIFR. The system provides for fixing a reserve price based on the prevailing market value and finalisation of the bids, which are above the reserve price, by an Asset Sale Committee. Since this is in the best interests of NTC, there is no proposal to review this selling practice. However with a view to expedite the sale of lands, large chunks of lands are being sub-divided in to smaller plots and help of professional property consultant Firms is being taken for better marketing of the lands.

Opening of New Bank Branches

2750. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of branches set up by the public sector banks as on date;

(b) whether these banks have any proposal to set up more such branches during 2003-2004; and

(c) if so, the bank-wise and State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The State-wise number of branches of public sector banks as on 31.7.2003 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) As per the extant branch licensing policy of RBI, Board of Directors of banks can decide the policy and strategy for setting up new branches taking into account the business potential of the proposed branches. As on 31.3.2003 there are 392 authorizations issued by RBI to public sector banks for opening new branches after completing various formalities, including, finalization of infrastructure facilities and selection of suitable premises etc. required at the proposed centres. Accordingly, at this stage, it is not possible to indicate as to how many branches shall be opened by each public sector bank in each State during the year 2003-2004.

Statement

State-wise No. of Public Sector Banks as on 31st July 2003

Sl.No.	State	No. of Brs.
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	31
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3672
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	49
4.	Assam	808
5.	Bihar	2066
6.	Chandigarh	157
7.	Chhattisgarh	587
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9
9.	Daman & Diu	14
10.	Delhi	1273
11.	Goa	277
12.	Gujarat	3099
13.	Haryana	1220
14.	Himachal Pradesh	648

1	2	3
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	260
16.	Jharkhand	1059
17.	Karnataka	3093
18.	Kerala	1863
19.	Lakshadweep	9
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2318
21.	Maharashtra	4888
22.	Manipur	48
23.	Meghalaya	128
24.	Mizoram	26
25.	Nagaland	61
26.	Orissa	1374
27.	Pondicherry	65
28.	Punjab	2282
29.	Rajasthan	2022
30.	Sikkim	47
31.	Tamil Nadu	3423
32.	Tripura	92
33.	Uttar Pradesh	5146
34.	Uttaranchal	640
35.	West Bengal	3431
Total		46185

[Translation]

Demand of Edible Oil

2751. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of edible oils released during the last year, State-wise;

(b) whether the entire demand was met through Public Distribution System during the said period; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No quota of Edible Oil has been released to any State during the last year and till date this year under Public Distribution System (PDS).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The import of edible oils is under open general licence (OGL). Further, one lakh MTs of Vanaspati can be imported free of customs duty from Nepal.

[English]

TDS Collected by Indian Institute of Management

2752. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad has come under the gaze of Income Tax Department for not complying with the provisions of tax deduction at source;

(b) if so, the outcome of findings; and

(c) the action taken against the governing authorities of the Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir. A survey was conducted in the case of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad on 21.7.2003 for examining compliance of provisions of Tax Deduction at Source (T.D.S.)

(b) No apparent discrepancy or violation of the provisions of T.D.S. has been noticed so far.

(c) In view of reply to para (b) above, no action against the governing authorities of the Institute is warranted.

Property Laws Relating to Women

2753. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

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

(a) whether the Government have emphasized the need to create awareness and implement the property laws relating to women;

(b) if so, whether necessary amendments in the laws is likely to be made to strengthen the powers of women in properties; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Sir, the property rights of women belonging to various communities are governed by their respective personal laws e.g. rights of Hindus women are governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 and of Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925. As far as the property rights of Hindus women are concerned, the Government had received 174th report of Law Commission of India on "Property Rights of Hindus Women—proposed Reforms". To consider the said Report, the views of all State Governments and Union territory Administrations were invited by the Government as the subject-matter is in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. So far, 14 State Government and 4 Union territory Administrations have responded. The State of Jammu and Kashmir has informed that the said proposal is not applicable to them. The response from remaining States/Union territory Administrations is still awaited. As and when the responses are received from the remaining States and Union territory Administrations, a final view will be taken in this matter.

Tea Growers in Karnataka

2754. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of small tea growers in Karnataka and total land legally under their possession;

(b) the share of Karnataka in total tea production of the country;

(c) whether there is any scheme to encourage the small growers of tea;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the per hectare incentive given to the tea growers in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The growers holding upto 10.12 hectares are considered as small tea growers. The number of small tea growers from Karnataka registered with the Tea Board is 16 and the total area owned by them is about 83 hectares.

(b) The share of Karnataka in the total tea production of the country is about 0.64%.

(c) and (d) The 10th Plan schemes of the Tea Board give special emphasis on the development of small growers sector for enhancing the productivity and quality of tea produced by them. Assistance is provided to small tea growers both by way of subsidy and also through formation of "Self Help Groups" through which these groups can collectively organise plucking at regular intervals, procure inputs and supply leaf to the tea factories.

(e) The scale of financial assistance provided by the Tea Board to the tea growers, including those in Karnataka, w.e.f. 01-04-2002 is as under:

S. No.	Activity	Nature of Assistance	Rate
1	2	3	4
1.	Replanting/Replacement planting in traditional area (Plains)	Subsidy	Rs. 52,000/-per hectare
2.	Replanting/Replacement planting in traditional area (Hills)	-do-	Rs. 62,000/-per hectare
3.	Setting up of tea nursery in Government Sector	Grant-in-Aid	Rs. 2,000 per plant
4.	Upgradation of existing tea factory in Bought Leaf Factory/Co-operative Sector	Subsidy	25% of total cost of machinery subject to a ceiling limit of Rs. 25.00 lakhs

1	2	3	4
5.	Setting up of tea factory in Co-operative/Government Sector.	Loan	50% of cost of plant & machinery as a soft loan.

During the 10th Plan, assistance from the Tea Board would be limited to development of the existing area only and there is no provision for encouraging new planting other than in the North-Eastern region and in the State of Uttaranchal.

Electoral Reforms

2755. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite various recommendations of the Election Commission of India, Dinesh Goswami Committee and Indrajit Gupta Committee and Law Commission of India, Government have failed to bring forward and implement electoral reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of times the Government interacted this process with the political parties during the last three years;

(d) whether any consensus has been arrived on these interactions and if so, the details of the issues; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government for speedy implementation of the electoral reforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. Several electoral reforms have already been made during the last three years, a gist of which is given in Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) During the last three years, the Government has convened all-party meetings on 13.5.2000, 13.9.2001, 8.7.2002, 2.8.2002, 7.3.2003 and 13.3.2003, seeking to evolve consensus on various items of electoral reforms. The details of agenda items and the items on which there was consensus, are given in Statement-II enclosed.

(e) The Government has been continuously engaged in the process of electoral reforms as is evident from the enactments made in the recent past and the various legislations on the subject which are pending in Parliament. These legislations include the Constitution (Eighty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1999 [Women's Reservation Bill], the Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003 [seeking to bring transparency in the funding of political parties-passed by the Parliament], the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2003 [seeking to waive residential requirement of a particular State or Union territory for contesting the Rajya Sabha elections and to introduce open ballot system in place of the existing secret ballot system in elections to the Rajya Sabha-passed by the Rajya Sabha and pending for consideration and passing by the Lok Sabha] and the Constitution (Ninety-seventh Amendment), Bill, 2003 [seeking to restrict the size of the Council of Ministers, amend the Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) and prevent a defector from holding a remunerative political post-pending for consideration and passing in Lok Sabha-pending before the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs]. Further, the Government has circulated a paper amongst all recognized political parties inviting their comments/views on a series of proposals on electoral reforms.

Statement I

List of enactments made during the last three years:

- (1) **Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act, 2001**—Enabling delimitation of electoral constituencies, while putting a bar on increasing the number of seats allotted to the States in the Lok Sabha and their Legislative Assemblies till the year 2026.
- (2) **Delimitation Act, 2002**—A consequential enactment in pursuance of the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Act, 2001, enabling constitution of a Delimitation Commission.
- (3) **Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2002**—For strengthening section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, bringing

sub-sections (1) of section 8 relating to the commencement of disqualification period at par with sub-section (2) and (3) thereof as also bringing the offences under the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 under the purview of the said section.

- (4) **Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Act, 2002**—enabling conduct of elections to the Legislative Council in the State of Bihar from local authorities' constituencies.
- (5) **Representation of the People (Third Amendment) Act, 2002**—Requiring the candidates to give information about specified offences and convictions in criminal cases.
- (6) **Elections Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003**—Providing an additional option to the members of the Armed Forces and the forces to which the provisions of the Army Act, 1950 is made applicable, with or without modifications, to vote through the system of proxy at elections to the Lok Sabha and State's Legislative Assemblies.
- (7) **Constitution (Eighty-seventh Amendment) Act, 2003**—Enabling delimitation of electoral constituencies on the basis of 2001 population census.

Statement-II

Details of meetings on electoral reforms convened by the Government during the last three years:

I. Meeting of Political Parties Held on 13.5.2000

Agenda Items

1. Amendment of the Constitution to further extend the embargo on undertaking fresh delimitation upto the year 2026AD or until the figures of the census to be conducted thereafter become available.
2. Delimitation of constituencies contained within a State, without altering the number of seats in legislatures presently allotted, so as to remove the imbalances caused due to uneven growth of population/electorate in different constituencies.
3. To Allow rotation of reserved constituencies; and

4. To entrust the job of delimitation along with all associated issues to the Election Commission of India on permanent basis.

Consensus

Consensus was achieved on the proposal that the then existing constitutional embargo on undertaking delimitation of constituencies may be extended upto year 2026 AD as far as the number of the seats in Lok Sabha and their distribution among States and the number of seats in States' Legislative Assemblies are concerned.

II. Meeting of Political Parties Held on 13.9.2001

Agenda Items

1. Strengthening of provisions of disqualification to check corrupt and criminal elements from entering into electoral politics;
2. Declaration of assets, etc. by candidates at the time of filling of nomination papers for election;
3. Restriction on contesting election from more than one constituency;
4. Provision of an additional facility to vote by the system of proxy for members of the armed forces, etc.—the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999—recommendations of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs;
5. Regulation of finances of the political parties and State Funding of Elections.

Consensus

In the meeting, it was decided that the sub-section (1) of section 8 of Representation of the People Act, 1951 may be brought at par with the sub-sections (2) and (3) of same section. Sub-section (1) of section 8 in its then existing form provided that a person convicted of offences mentioned in sub-section (1) shall be disqualified for six years irrespective of term of his conviction. This resulted in an anomalous situation whereby a rapist convicted for 10 years was disqualified for only six years and was able to contest election while still in prison. The sub-sections (2) and (3) of the same section, however, provided disqualification for six years in addition to period of conviction.

III. Meetings of Political Parties Held on 8.7.2002 and 2.8.2002.

The Government held a meeting of all the recognized political parties on the 8th July, 2002 with a view to evolving consensus regarding amendments required in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 as well as nomination forms appended to the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 so as to consider some of the concerns expressed in the directions given by the Supreme Court to the Election Commission of India on 2.5.2002 on the subject of criminalisation of politics. The representatives of the various political parties unanimously expressed the view that there was need to curb criminalisation of political parties. Accordingly, a draft bill was circulated amongst the political parties which besides seeking information about the criminal backgrounds of the contesting candidate also sought to disqualify those candidates against whom two cases of heinous offences had been filed in which charges had been framed. Another meetings of the political parties was held on the 2nd August, 2002 with view to finalizing the Bill, namely the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2002, later promulgated as the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2002 on 24.8.2002, which was replaced with Representation of the People (Third Amendment) Act, 2002.

IV. Meeting of Political Parties Held on 7.3.2003

An all-party meeting was convened on 7.3.2003 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on the provisions of the Constitution (Eighty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1999 which seeks to provide that not less than one-third seats shall be reserved for women in the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies of States. The said bill is pending for consideration and passing in Lok Sabha due to want of consensus on the provisions of the Bill. The said meeting failed to evolve the necessary consensus in this regard.

V. Meeting of Political Parties Held on 13.3.2003

An all-party meeting was held on 13.3.2003 to discuss the functioning of the Delimitation Commission constituted under the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002. It was decided to request the Delimitation Commission to revise its guidelines for consultation with Associate Members. It was also decided to provide for delimitation on the basis of 2001 census.

SBI Branches in China

2756. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the agreement with China, the State bank of India has approached the Chinese Government to issue licence for setting up a branch in China;

(b) whether the RBI has already given the go-ahead to the proposal of the State Bank of India;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Chinese Government;

(d) the number of branches the State Bank of India are likely to be opened in China; and

(e) the time by which they are going to open such branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) State Bank of India (SBI) will be filing documents with the Chinese Banking Regulatory Commission for upgrading its Representative Office at Shanghai to a branch within 12 to 18 months. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the proposal. A positive response by the Govt. of China is expected.

Transfer Pricing Regulations

2757. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBDT has issued guidelines with regard to the new Transfer Pricing Regulations (TPR) concerning income from international transactions between Associated companies;

(b) if so, the details of these guidelines;

(c) whether these guidelines were developed by the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);

(d) if so, whether the OECD model is compatible with Indian conditions; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed rules have been notified vide S.O. No. 808 (E) dated 21.08.01 laying down the guidelines for the methods to be adopted for determining the arms length price of international transactions, the factors to be considered in selecting the most appropriate method, the documents to be maintained by the taxpayer and the information required to be furnished to the Department.

(c) No, Sir. These guidelines were developed by the Government. The OECD guidelines have been referred to and applied to the extent necessary after adapting the same to the Indian conditions.

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

Common Platform on Singapore Issues

2758. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has joined several other countries to form an informal group to arrive at a common platform on the Singapore issues;

(b) if so, the details of those issues and India's view point in that matter; and

(c) the extent to which the joint efforts on those issues would be helpful for these countries including India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Doha Ministerial Declaration stated that negotiation on each of the four Singapore Issues, viz. (i) Relationship between Trade and Investment; (ii) Interaction between Trade and Competition Policy; (iii) Transparency in Government Procurement; and (iv) Trade Facilitation, will take place after the Fifth Session of the Ministerial Conference on the basis of a decision to be taken, by explicit consensus, at that Conference on modalities of negotiations. In pursuance of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, a clarificatory process has been going on in WTO on all the four Singapore Issues.

India has expressed its concerns about the launch of negotiations based on simple modalities, which do not give an idea of the nature and direction of obligations under any proposed agreement. Some developing countries, including India, have argued that at this stage, there is divergence of views and lack of clarity even among proponents regarding the structure of any possible multilateral framework or its components. Hence, they want the clarification process on all the four Singapore issues to be continued. This position has been reiterated by a group of twelve developing countries consisting of Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe in their joint communication before the WTO General Council.

A similar position has been taken by developing countries at some of the recent meetings held in connection with preparation for the Cancun Ministerial Conference. These include a meeting of the Ministers of Trade from the Eastern and Southern Africa held in Nairobi on 28 May 2003; the Second LDC Trade Ministers' meeting in Dhaka held from 31 May—2 June 2003; the Trade Ministers' meeting of the African Union in Mauritius from 19-20 June 2003; and the sixth meeting of ACP Trade Ministers held in Brussels from 31 July-1 August 2003.

In addition, a group of twenty six developing countries consisting of India, Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Guatemala, Honduras, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe, submitted a paper to the Trade Negotiations Committee (TN/C/W/13) on 6 June 2003 in which on Singapore Issues, they reiterated the position that in spite of intensive discussions, a large number of differences still exist on many of the subjects identified for clarification and there is a need for further analysis and that any modalities to be decided in Cancun by explicit consensus need to provide certainly on the structure and precise content of negotiations.

An informal grouping on Singapore issues consisting of 13 developing countries, namely, Bangladesh, Botswana, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Philippines and Zambia, has also been formed, which will attempt to take a common stance on issues relating to negotiations on Singapore issues.

Multi National Accounting Firms*[English]*

2759. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems posed to Indian accounting firms due to WTO rules insisting on the entry of multi-national accounting firms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the issue with the WTO;

(c) if so, the result of such an action; and

(d) the full details of the commitment of the Government to open up the accounting sector for MNCs?

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

11.18 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (NINETY-FOURTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 2002

(Amendment to article 338 and insertion of new article 338A)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

“that the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration”

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a simple amendment. Article 338 relates to the Commission for the SC's the ST's. Now, there will be separate Commissions for the SC's, the ST's. It necessitates an amendment to the Constitution. You had referred it to the Standing Committee. There is consensus on this amendment. Therefore, the Bill be passed quickly. I propose passage of the Bill without any discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration.”

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the tribal population of this country, I would like to thank you for even suspending the Question Hour today. It is a red letter day for the tribal population of this country.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): I propose in the beginning that if the Government agrees, we are prepared to pass these Constitution (Amendment) Bills without any debate and are for smooth passage of both the Bills. Only the Minister can give his comments, but it will be possible if other Parties also agree.

MR. SPEAKER: Let there be a very short discussion. There is nothing wrong in having a short discussion. We will finish everything by 12.30 p.m., as I said.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will permit one Member to speak from every major Party.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that the Union Minister, who is a member of the Cabinet and a Lok Sabha Member, might be busy in other House, but I would persuade the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to see if it is possible. We have no objection to debate.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good gesture.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It could be passed smoothly, without any interruptions, disruptions or shouting from that side or this side.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): We can pass it without any debate, Sir. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have no objections to it but since you had scheduled the time at 12.30 P.M., the members who were sitting here have also left and our Minister is

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

in the Rajya Sabha for the 'Question Hour'. His presence is also essential here. For passing Constitution Amendment Bill, two third of the present Members and fifty percent of the total number of members are required to support it. It will be passed unanimously but the presence of a fifty per cent of the total Members is required. As you have scheduled it for 12.30 P.M., therefore, a discussion of 45 minutes each may be held on both the Bills and the voting can take place at 12.30 P.M. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN (Hazipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are confronted with confusion. We were told that the Constitution Amendment Bill will straightaway be passed having question hour suspended and a motion regarding Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe will be taken at half past twelve hours. If you go on continuing this discussion till 12.30 hrs. to be followed by voting, then all this exercise will involve time and it will take 2.30 hrs. Then it will be useless. The matter under Rule 193 was first fixed to be discussed at 11.00 hrs. and it was said that no adjournment motion will be allowed and thus it will begin at 12.00 hrs. However, as per circumstantial variables of yesterday it was 12.30 hrs. Please let the voting exercise get over by 12.30 hrs. The plea that our Members have moved outside to have tea, betel etc. won't be entertained. If it's to be done, do it or else extend it.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, UP): Sir, my point pertains to point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, nobody has said that their Members have gone out to have tea, betel etc., The Minister is sitting in the Rajya Sabha for Question Hour. He is carrying out his Parliamentary duties. Nobody has moved outside for tea or betel nor anyone has asked time for the same. You conduct the voting at 12.30 hrs. ...*(Interruptions)* Why is it that the voting stated to be conducted at 12.30 hrs. will be allowed to be prolonged till 2.30 hrs. The voting exercise will hardly involve ten minutes time, if the voting begins at 12.30 hrs, it will be over at 12.40 hrs. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Right now Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has expressed her opinion that discussion on both the Bills

may be held for 45 minutes each If it is agreed to, it will take one and a half hours. It's 11.23. How can there be voting at 12.30 hours. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You need not worry. Please take your seat. You have no reason to be concerned about everything.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Why does Sushmaji get furious. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: As Sushmaji is not so wise as you are. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is constitution Amendment Bill. You will pass it after holding debate for 45 minutes, per bill then I disagree with you at this point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sir, Sangtam jee, you please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Since the independence of this country, a lot of emphasis has been given to bring about a lot of changes and reforms to uplift the downtrodden people, particularly the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Various Governments in the past-right from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister, to Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi—have tried to bring about a lot of changes in order to uplift the lives of the people, who are living in remote places and hilly areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence in the House.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes came into being consequent upon the Constitution (Sixty-fifth Amendment in 1990. The Commission was constituted on 12th March, 1992 replacing the earlier Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constituted under the Resolution of 1987.

Under article 338 of the Constitution, the National Commission of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was established with the objective of monitoring the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution, and other laws. However,

in due course of time, since the Commission could not pay attention to both the minorities in this country, it was decided to bifurcate it to ensure that the Scheduled Tribes are also given proper attention.

Sir, the House does not seem to be very keen on this. There is a lot of disturbance going on.

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence in the House.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: The setting up of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is a welcome step for the tribal population in the country because till today many of the important issues relating to the tribal population have not been addressed properly.

I would like to make certain proposals in regard to the constitution of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. The Chairman and Members of the proposed National Commission for Scheduled Tribes should be eminent tribals having vast knowledge and information about the tribals of the country and the way they live. India is a vast country. India is a multilingual, multiracial, multiethnic and multireligious country. The population of tribals in India is about 8.08 per cent of the total population of the country. About 50 per cent of them are living in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat. There are other small tribal populations living in different parts of the country.

The North-Eastern States of Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim have more than 80 per cent tribal population. Most of the tribal communities live in various ecological and geographical conditions ranging from plains to forests, hills and other inaccessible areas. The tribal groups are at different states of social, economic and educational development. While some communities have adopted the mainstream way of life at one end of the spectrum, there are 75 per cent primitive tribal groups at the other, who are characterised by (a) pre-agriculture level of technology, (b) declining population, (c) extremely low literacy, and (d) subsistence level economy.

More emphasis needs to be given to the matter of religious and social practices of these tribals, their customary laws and procedures, administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to the tribal customary laws, and ownership and transfer of tribal land, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to complete now. We are left with very short time.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: I will complete shortly, Sir.

Sir, I would again say that literacy rates are very low in most of the tribal populations and they need to be brought up. The proposed National Commission for Scheduled Tribes should lay more emphasis on removing the drawbacks and improving the lot of the tribal population living in many parts of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have introduced constitution Amendment Bill. Indeed this kind of amendment was needed. It is commonly known that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people differ from others in their life-styles and so are their problems.

Given this fact, the Government also formed two separate ministries. Over many years need was being felt that the Commission for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes should function as separate entities. At present, the tenure of the Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in three years. In this way, a person belonging to the Scheduled Caste Community would assume the office of the Chairman for a period of three years, then subsequently this post used to be held by a person belonging to the Scheduled Tribe Community for the years. Given the area, geographical features and its huge spread, the interests of both the Communities and their rights and duties were not being properly safeguarded. Thus this amendment Bill has been introduced by the Government, under Article 338. In the wake of this Amendment Commission for Schedule caste and Commission for Scheduled Tribes shall function as two separate Commission in the country and these two commissions will be successful in protecting the interests of both these communities.

I want to make an appeal to the Government to strengthen these Commissions more and more. Its existing form has turned out to be like an Advisory Committee. I would like that more and more should be conferred upon it. With this I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East): Sir, I support this Bill but I want to know from the Government why we

[Shri Bajju Ban Riyan]

are creating a new Commission for this. Before this, we had a joint Commission, namely, National Commission for SC & ST. I want to know why are they not creating one SC Commission. We can create one SC Commission, keeping the ST Commission intact. I agree that this SC & ST Commission should be bifurcated but why are we creating one ST Commission. Keeping ST Commission intact, we can create SC Commission. We will require new infrastructure to create one more new Commission.

In these two communities, SC and ST, STs are more miserable and SCs are poorer in the country. As per 1993 census and as per the estimates of the Planning Commission, more than 50 per cent Tribals are still living below poverty line. Whereas the national percentage of people living the poverty line is 39. In this way, it is clear that to develop the poorer sections of the country and the Tribals, these types of Commissions are essential.

Now, what are we amending here in the Constitution? We are deleting the ST, whereas the ST wants it to be there. I may propose that we can delete SC, keeping ST intact.

This type of Commission was first created in 1961, during Nehru era, under the Chairmanship of Shri U.N. Dhebar. It was established with extensive Terms of Reference. But I am in doubt whether the Government, functioning at the Centre, has implemented the recommendations made by Shri U.N. Dhebar and by the successive Commissions thereafter.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: I am just concluding Sir.

In this way, many Commissions were formed but the fate of the Tribals and their economic conditions have not changed yet. They are still among the poorest in the country and all sorts of atrocities are being committed on them. It is still going on here.

Regarding employment, we have seen that for STs, there is reservation in the public sector and in the Government sector at the Centre and in the States. But, as per their local and Central-level percentage, nowhere in any Government—either Central or State—there is any fulfilment. Everywhere there is a backlog.

With these words, I thank you and I support this Bill.

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): I will not take much time of the House, and I will take only two

minutes. I welcome this Constitution (Ninety-fourth Amendment) Bill to create a separate National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. But, there are three issues that I would like to bring to the kind notice of the hon. Minister.

Firstly, regarding the Commission for Scheduled Castes, it has been decided that it would have a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and three Members. In this case, they have decided to have one Chairman, and two Members. How much will it cost if the Commission for the Scheduled Tribes also have five Members? There are tribal areas situated everywhere in the country, including in the most remote areas. More Members will naturally go around those areas, and, at least, they will talk to the tribal people. How much money will the Government save by reducing the number to three Members in the Commission for Scheduled Tribes rather than five Members? I would request the hon. Minister to respond to this.

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI (Tiruchirappalli): The Minister should respond to this. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI: I want him to correct this because it will not cost much. That is my first point.

Secondly, I would like to bring to his notice that more teeth should be given to this Commission. It is stated that they can have a trial court, but it will be like an ombudsman or like across the board settlements that will have to be done. So, I feel that more teeth have to be given to the Commission.

Thirdly, I would like to state that, in the States, the funds that have been allotted for the tribal welfare are being mixed with other funds. There is no separate account for this purpose. Hence, these funds are naturally not available to them as and when they are required. So, it should be made mandatory in all the States that the funds allotted by the Central Government for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes should be kept and maintained in a separate account. If the money is not being spent, it should be kept separate in that account, and that account should not be touched.

If they take care of these three points that I have just placed before you, then I welcome this amendment. This amendment is long overdue. I feel that this should be done at the earliest so that the tribal people who are living in very-very remote corners of the country; in hilly areas who have no education, and who are still reeling under the poverty, at least they will come to the mainstream.

Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was constituted under Article 338 and is mainly aimed at ensuring the welfare of the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Subsequently 65th Constitutional Amendment Bill was introduced and today we are bi-furcating the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from the National Commission for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. The geographical conditions of the Scheduled Castes differ from those of the Scheduled Tribes. They are distinctly different. As per 1951 census, the population of the people belonging to the Scheduled Tribe cover 1.5 percent of the total population. Though we are bifurcating the Commission yet the main issue pertains to the powers and rights conferred upon them. No constitutional rights are vested in these commissions/these commissions do not have any legal power so that effective action may be taken against the people found guilty. Hence these do not bear any significance. I would like to submit that, Shri Urkhao Gwara Brahma asked a question No. 2770 on 21.7.2002 in the Rajya Sabha which reads as follows:

Whether it's a fact that the state governments have diverted the funds allocated for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the Budget to some other Heads. Whether, the funds allocated for the Scheduled tribes are put to appropriate use. In its reply, it has been stated that as per the audit report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, submitted in March 1998, the State Govts. have spent the amount of Rs. 85.58 crore allocated for the tribal affairs in other schemes under special Central aid.

Sir, the key issue is that the funds allocated to the State Governments by the Government of India for the welfare of the Dalits, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is quite often spent in other Heads. Unless we develop a monitory mechanism and ensure that the amount is actually utilized in the development of those classes for which it's allocated, I do not think it will be of any use. The most unfortunate aspect is that whatsoever amount is allocated to the State Governments, by the Government of India, a certificate of the utilization of the same (Part-B) is not forwarded to the Government of India. the real issue is that, as of now no discussion is held on the recommendations of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission nor any action is taken

on these recommendations. In this very context, I would like to present a precedence in the House. There is a doctor working with All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) namely Dr. P.N. Dogra, has not been appointed professor despite being a suitable candidate for the same. The recommendations made by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission have been ignored and no action has been taken. With your permission I would like to read out a few lines of the order issued by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission. They have said:

[English]

"The Commission has found from the examination of the case that gross injustice has been done to Dr. P.N. Dogra. This fact has also been pointed out by Prof. Rajashekaran in his letter dated 12th April 2000, addressed to Director AIIMS. This act of Director AIIMS is a clear manifestation of his anti-SC/ST bias. The Commission, therefore, recommends to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to look into the whole matter and cancel the appointment of Dr. A.K. Hemal to the post of professor of urology, and take stern action against the authorities of AIIMS, and do justice to Dr. P.N. Dogra immediately."

[Translation]

Sir, no action was taken after the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission issued the order. There are various instances that I can quote. Injustice is meted out to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people. Out of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission a separate Scheduled Tribe Commission is going to be carved out. But it is my submission to you that until the Commission is given sufficient powers, their recommendations will not be implemented and till that time these Commissions will remain meaningless. It appears that these commissions have become is placed for accommodating politicians who have got no other appointment. So these Commissions have got no utility. These Commissions are meaningless if they are unable to do the welfare of the weaker sections.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, I support the Constitution (Ninety Fourth Amendment) Bill, but at the same time I expect that the Government would provide constitutional and legal powers to these Commissions to make them effective and meaningful. Otherwise, these Commissions would have no utility whether they remain one or bifurcated. I support this bill.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome and support the Constitution (Ninety Fourth

[Shri Anant Gudhe]

Amendment) Bill. The Bill is urgently required in today's circumstances. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are dispersed all over the country. In my Vidarbha area there are people belonging to a number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The people belonging to these tribes leave their own area to go to other places for the sake of their upliftment and profession seeking job opportunities.

Sir, there is a security committee related with them in the state of Maharashtra. The job of the committee is to scrutinise the people with regard to their cases i.e. the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe. The Committee provides Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe certificate after looking into the family history of these castes. Castes like Halba, Halbi etc. are existing there. But meetings being held to delist Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribe are suspended without paying any attention towards them. A big problem has arisen in Maharashtra due to that report. The Government is going to constitute separate commissions for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I am making a submission to the hon'ble Minister that full benefit of reservation and other facilities should be provided to the people belonging to the Scheduled Tribes who have married the persons belonging to other castes such as the Halba, Halbi caste. Taking into account all these things this matter may please be considered. On behalf of the Shiv Sena I want to make this request to the Government.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, by the 65th amendment of the constitution in 1990 the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was constituted. It appeared to the Government that both the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes will be benefitted more if separate commissions are set up. I would like to know from the Government as to what action that Government have taken on the report of that commission? When Shri Karia Munda was the Chairman of the Committee for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, what action did the Government take on the recommendations made by the Committee? The Government are saying only for the sake of stunt that they are going to do welfare of the community through this step. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were united when they were placed under a joint commission. Now efforts are being made to bifurcate the two. How can we accept the policy of divide and rule? How can we be made to understand that the Government intends to provide priority to the classes which are more backward? The country will remain backward among the comity of nations of the world till

the dalits, tribals and the backward and until they are given socio-economic and political equality and respect. Even today crores of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are downtrodden in India and they are exploited from every point of view. They are discriminated on the basis of caste. Untouchability is practised against them. There is the policy of reservation and there are laws for its implementation but these are not complied with. It was decided that for them reservation will not remain below seven and a half per cent but their quota in reservation is continuing at 6 per cent only. The report of the commission is not being honoured and no importance is being given to it.

Even today atrocities are being committed against the people of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in many parts of the country. Today, on this subject a discussion is also to be held in the House. The atrocities are continually being perpetrated against them. Efforts should be made for their development. Check the exploitation of those classes of the society which have been exploited for thousands of years. This constitutional amendment bill brought by the Government is in piecemeal. The Government have the contention that they will not be properly benefited if the two were jointly placed in a single commission. Now there will be separate commissions for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is appearing to the Government that this arrangement will benefit both the communities. The Government are very keen to carry out the constitutional amendment, so they are trying to get it passed in haste.

A lot of discussion takes place on the subject as to what report the Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has submitted, what are the difficulties of the Commission, in which departments of the State Governments and the Central Government people belonging to these categories are not being properly treated. It is enshrined in the constitution that social justice should be provided to the people of these classes. Social justice means that a status of equality should be provided to the classes which have remained backward due to the social reasons and who are discriminated on the basis of untouchability. Due to this discrimination our country is lagging behind. Until crores of such people are brought into the mainstream of the country, India can not become strong and the dream of Mahatma Gandhiji, Lohiaji and Jai Prakashji will remain unrealised. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, now start your speech. Only your speech will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The Government should tell us why they have made such a provision? A time will come when their number will come down, why such an action has been undertaken? The strength of the two should be made equal. Lastly, I would submit that we have no faith in the Government because people will not be benefitted by the constitution of the two commission we see that the people of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being exploited for thousands of years. They are not getting their share of posts among the Ministers or among the officers. Shri Karia Munda has been given such a portfolio as has got no significance. Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government should provide justice to these people.

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore, I told you that you were a right man.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Constitution Amendment Bill. As Raghuvansh Babu has said it should be taken seriously. When Welfare Ministry was created people were saying that a separate Ministry would be put in place for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes which will work towards their welfare. It was our opinion that the issue of SC, ST should be within the purview of the Prime Minister himself since it would ensure proper monitoring but it could not be done. A separate Tribal Affairs Ministry was created. Neither this Ministry nor the commission on Scheduled Castes has any powers. In 1990 when I was Welfare Minister, I had endowed this commission a constitutional status and I had given it many powers. But the point to be noted is that though acts are put in place but facts tell a different story because even an inspector has more powers than the commission.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may kindly notice that it has been said in the report of 1998-99 that cases are registered with the commission and it agrees that those who are guilty of committing atrocities should be punished yet the inspector files the FIR in such a way that the guilty go scotfree, that is why this separate commission for ST's is to be created. No one would object to the bill as it would send wrong signals. My suggestion is that instead of creating a separate commission, the monitoring system should implement the recommendations fully.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention this formula of exchange. A new system has evolved in which when the post of SC's are not filled then the posts are left for ST's and when the same posts can not be filled with ST's then they are converted into general category. If there is no candidate from SC community then it is left for ST candidates and in case of there not being any ST candidates, the posts are left for OBC's and if there are no OBC candidates either, then it is left for general candidates. This should be stopped. When two separate Commissions will be there then the posts belonging to SC category might be converted into general category instead of going to ST category.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request the hon'ble Minister to reply sincerely keeping in view all these things.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Arun Kumar ji, please express your views in two minutes since 12.30 is fixed for voting.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have said that there is paucity of time, I would like to place before you one or two of my suggestions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand up to support the Constitution Amendment Bill which provides for a separate commission for the ST's. It is a little late in the day but a welcome step. There is a lot of difference between the life styles and customs of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Raghuvansh Babu has said about the Constitution Amendment Bill that it is a conspiracy. I believe that he has got a very negative attitude. Everybody knows their intention and their tendency from the way dalits are being exploited in Bihar and then scholarships are misused. We will raise the issue with the Union Government ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Most of the incidents of atrocities being committed on dalities take place in Jahanabad. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN KUMAR: It used to happen in your time and we have stopped this. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Because of that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has come to this side. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Not a single dalit has won election from their side. This shows their concern about the dalits ...*(Interruptions)*. I would like to say that this step of the Government will be very fruitful and it will have far reaching impact. A commission will be constituted for protecting forests and protecting tribals residing in such areas. There are many tribes which are on the verge of extinction there is a provision in this bill for their protection.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since it is a very simple amendment., ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me just one minute. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no time right now. I have to go through two amendments.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a big chunk of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Worli-Kolipada but they do not have a single representative in the Municipality. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I understand that you are supporting this bill through this subject.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I understand that you are supporting this bill through this subject.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

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

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please give your suggestions if any.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Some of the Members have expressed their apprehension. ...(Interruptions) that there will be five members in the Commission on Scheduled Castes then why are there only three members in the Commission on Scheduled Tribes. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you have 2-3 minutes more.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: I want to thank you that you referred it to the Standing Committee and the Standing Committee has recommended for five members in the Commission and the Government has agreed to this and now we are bringing in this amendment. The Commission will comprise of five members. SC, ST's are different issues. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI (Tiruchirappalli): Sir, kindly permit our Party leader to speak. ...(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Si, I want to speak on this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, You can ask the hon. Minister only one or two questions and conclude.

...(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, I will ask only one or two questions. ...(Interruptions) Mr. Minister, please yield. ...(Interruptions) Hon. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask only questions. I can permit you to put only one or two questions and then conclude. There is no time with us. In the next twenty minutes, we have to complete the discussion on the next Constitution (Amendment) Bill also.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow us to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall give you time to put questions, put only questions.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: So, I shall permit you to put questions.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: What is all this? What is going on there?

MR. SPEAKER: Mahale ji, I shall permit you to put questions.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: It is not so. What is all this going on. You are not giving opportunity to a tribal to speak. What is this? It is in your hand.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, there will be no discussion on the next amendment.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: It is a very important matter for the tribals. We are tribals, that is why we are elected.

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to permit you also, just now take your seat. Mahaleji I have given you opportunity to speak so many times.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: You are not aware of the problems being faced by the tribals. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have stated that I am going to permit you. Do you understand Hindi, I have stated that I am going to permit you. Mahaleji, I am going to permit you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay; quickly put your questions one after another.

Now, Dr. V. Saroja.

12.00 hrs.

DR. V. SAROJA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. On behalf of my party, I support this Bill. I would only like to ask two pointed questions from the hon. Minister.

Is the Scheduled Tribes Commission going to give the constitutional protection to social, economic, political and other very important schemes that the Government has enumerated recently. I would like to quote an interview in this regard published in *The India Times*:

"270 new communities have been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes (Of course, it is an achievement).

Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission has been appointed after a gap of 52 years (We do not deny that. We are now discussing about a Bill in this regard.)

All welfare schemes are either modified or in the process of modification. (Of course, we have modified it but on paper only. It has not reached the grassroot level.)

During 1999-2000, the Budget allocation was Rs. 692 crores but now it is Rs. 1877 crores, that is 57 per cent increase in the Budget allocation.

614 NGOs will be funded in 900 projects."

I would like to know about the NGOs who will be executing all these schemes.

My second question is about the Commission. The Government has set up a Commission. A list has also been given. An Ordinance has also been passed. I have critically gone into that. Has the Government ever thought of taking the help of the Ministry of Forest and Environment, which has a major share in this as it is the part and parcel of the tribal people. They will be in a position to help us to modify and implement these schemes. I would like the Minister to give a categorical reply to these two questions. The Commission *per se* has to include most of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. The officials of the Tribal Welfare Ministry know better than any other department. The Government should also taken the help of the Department of Revenue and the Ministry of Agriculture in all these matters.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you as well as I extend my special thanks to the Government of India and the hon'ble Minister also but would like to say that the Commission which has been set up for the SC's and the ST's has not been given much powers. My submission is that though you are constituting the two commissions but they should be given more powers and the problems they face should be addressed.

I would like to add further that there are many people who unlawfully obtain the ST Certificates by paying bribes and get jobs on the basis thereof. This bribery needs to be checked and the Commission should be given more powers to deal with it through you. I once again thank the Government of India.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am highly thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the 9th Constitution Amendment Bill. I rise to support it. I congratulate the hon. Minister as well as the Government for setting up a separate Commission for the Scheduled Tribes but they have made the provisions for only one post of a Chairman in the Commission while in the Commission for SC's there are two posts—one chairman and the another is Deputy Chairman. The post of the Deputy Chairman should be created in the Commission for the ST's also and the number of its members should also be increased.

[Shri Manikrao Hodliya Gavit]

Now, the population of the ST's has increased to 67 millions which constitutes 8.1% of the country according to the 1991 census. My submission is that the Government of India should enhance that keeping it in view.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entry of the non tribals should be checked who intend to enter into it in the name of tribals. It should not happen. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI: Sir, this is a very important piece of legislation. It is regarding the indigenous people. The Scheduled Tribe people as well as the Scheduled Caste people are the indigenous people. A bifurcation is taking place and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission is being divided into two. Now, there will be a separate Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

Our hon. friend Shri Murthi has asked one question and I also want to ask that question. He wanted to know if the Scheduled Tribes Commission comes into existence whether it will have the same stature, and status and would also have the Chairman and members as that of Scheduled Castes Commission. The hon. Minister is here. Therefore, he should reply to it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdasji, you can speak. Only what you say will go on record.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the 94th Constitution Amendment Bill, 2002 (Seeking to amend article 338 and insert a new article 338A).

Earlier, there was a single Commission for the Dalits and the tribals. The bifurcation of it was not necessitated. The people from the BJP are trying to divide the country but I fail to understand what benefit will they have by separating the Dalits and the Tribals. If still you want to constitute a separate commission, my submission is that the Commission needs to be given more powers. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nawal Kishore Rai ji, please put questions.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have rose to support the 94th Constitution Amendment Bill, 2002 seeking to a amend article 338 and insert a new article 338A. I have just heard the

speeches of Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Shri Arun Kumar. I would like to submit through you sir that the Commissions which has been set up separately for the SC's and the ST's they are given constitutional powers, still they do not get the protection. What are the reasons therefore? Just now, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has mentioned it elaborately in his speech. The Deputy Prime Minister is also sitting here. I would like to draw his attention towards an incident at Nayatur village under Nanpura Police Station in my constituency district of Sitamarhi which constitutes the population predominantly of SC and ST and wherein the Dalit people had been allocated 250 Bighas of land but a Minister of the Government of Bihar has constructed his house there on the Commission for the SC's and the ST's had directed that his house be demolished and the possession of the land should be given to the persons belonging to the SC's and the ST's but no progress has so far been made in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Only what the hon'ble Minister says will go on record. You please sit down.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon'ble Members that the number of Members in both the Commissions will remain equal. But, as far as the bifurcation of the Commission is concerned, I would like to say that there are many reasons for doing so. The Commission is flooded with so many cases that it is not possible to go into the details of the cases with respect to both communities. The problem being faced by the two are district. Hence, the Commission is being bifurcated. I would like to request the House to pass this Bill.

12.09 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (NINETY-NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of article 332), 2003

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 11.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit regarding the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Bill (Amendment of article 332), 2003 that this amendment bill was introduced in the House on 9 May, 2003. This Bill was also circulated in the standing committee of the House. Sir, therefore, through you, I would like to urge upon the House that there is no need to have discussion on it. Therefore, if the House think proper, then it could be passed without discussion.

[English]

I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, I support the Bill. The provisions in this Bill are made to protect the interests of the weaker sections of our society. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. This is not good. It does not behave you. I have given you an opportunity to speak, you made a speech and even then you repeat the same thing, I do not understand its meaning.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I would appeal to the Government that the question of adequate and due representation of the minorities, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. ...*(Interruptions)* in the Legislatures and in the Parliament should also be considered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting the hon. Minister to replay to your queries in writing.

[Translation]

I am giving order to the hon. Minister to reply to your queries in writing. Please take your seat. Even after cooperating with you, you disturb the proceedings of the House, it is not good.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, there is a Bill to amend the Constitution of India in order to set up a National Commission for the Tribals also separately. But in addition to the creation of such Commissions, there is a necessity, a pressing necessity, to give adequate and sufficient powers to such Commissions, otherwise, they are not taken seriously. Such Commissions, in the matter of individual complaints, should have the powers of the Civil Court. Even the Minorities' Commission has been asking for wider and sufficient powers and giving such powers to them must be considered seriously and approvingly by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not understand what are you doing? Will you do it again and again? Please take your seat. The discussion is started just now and you should cooperate during the discussion. The entire House had decided to have a discussion on it at one time.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, the present Bill seeks to maintain the representation and the reservation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes as far as the Assam Assembly is concerned. Such provisions, as I said, are for the weaker sections and we welcome that. But I take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Government to the urgent and pressing needs to give adequate representation and reservation to each of the minorities throughout the country in all the Legislatures and in this Parliament.

Sir, the situation is serious. The representation gets very much diluted and has suffered a decline. If all the sections are to be properly and adequately represented in the various Houses, it is necessary that the claim and the need for adequate representation of the minorities must also be considered and considered fairly by the Government. Let our Houses be such that each and every section of our people are in a position to reach here conveniently and place their matters before none others but the State Assemblies the highest elected body of the country. I hope that the matter will receive serious, adequate and an approving consideration of the Government.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we support this particular amending Bill. But I will take this opportunity to draw the attention of

[Shri Santosh Mohan Dev]

the hon. Home Minister to various articles appearing in the newspapers which says that with the help of the underground elements, there is game-plan by the Central Government to destabilise the various Governments run by the Congress party in the North-Eastern region. Not only that, on 6th of August, there was a conclave of the BJP in Shillong where Shri Hokiye Sema, a Minister of Nagaland told that the BJP has helped them to destabilise the Government at Arunachal Pradesh and such a tendency is spreading to other parts of the North-Eastern region. This is a report published in *The India Times*.

Sir, it is not a question of whether we believe it or not but I expected that the BJP spokesperson would contradict this news but no such statements contradicting this news have come from the BJP. Further damaging news is that Chamling and Teeraj are two districts in Arunachal Pradesh that are greatly disturbed by the activities of the NSCN.

Now there is news in the Assam Press that there is an understanding between the present Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister and the Home Minister that these two places will be declared as union territories and these will be ultimately given to NSCN as Langanese State and Nagaim State. If this is true, this also is dangerous. So, I would humbly make a request. Our late lamented leaders Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi had brought the whole of northeast into the mainstream and they had been able to keep them in the mainstream. If such a game plan is hatched, the northeastern people will not accept it. If this news item is true, it will be very dangerous for the people of the northeast.

Today's newspapers have carried a news item that all these terrorist groups have been combined in saying that they will not be celebrating the Independence Day. Such a situation was not there in Assam for the last ten years. How did they dare now to come forward and say all this? Not only that, they have also said that all the Hindi films will be restrained in the northeastern States. This is a new trend coming up.

Therefore, I would humbly request you to kindly explain to us while giving your reply what is your feed back and what is your opinion about all this.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to express a particular point on this Bill. At Varli Koli Vadi in my constituency. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Discussion has already been held on this bill. Please take your seat.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I would like to add something about reservation in it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody intervened in it. Rawale ji, how is it possible?

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Today on a befitting occasion, a day before 9th August, we are passing the 99th Constitution Amendment Bill to pay our rich tributes to Gopinath Bordoloi whose untiring efforts spoiled the conspiracy of the British to keep Assam and some other parts out of India. Therefore, while we are passing this important amendment to the Constitution, I thought of referring to it and also to the untiring efforts of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who brought all the ethnic groups of the northeast into the mainstream.

In spite of these, efforts are being made to create division in the society. Each political party which believes in the national mainstream did contribute largely to bring peace in the northeast. The developments in Mizoram when Shri Laldenga came to the mainstream during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's regime merit special mention Development of northeastern States, specially of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, took place due to the untiring efforts of Smt. Indira Gandhi.

I am thankful to the Assam Government and the Union Government for the recent episode of the BTC Accord to bring peace in Assam. While I say so, I would like to place on record certain developments and make an appeal to the Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister. A new tendency has developed in the name of reaching a longstanding peace accord with the NSCN groups, specially the IM Group. In site of the cease-fire, efforts have been made to terrorise national political parties which are in power in those States and also to destabilise the Governments, the constitutional machinery and the social forces. This is not a good game plan in politics. If we continue to patronage such designs at the behest of the Union Government, I am afraid, the whole northeast will be destabilised and balkanisation will start. The dream of Gopinath Bordoli and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to keep them in the mainstream will be totally spoiled and the accountability will lie with the Union Government. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Bill, the Government have claimed that the Government of India, the Government of Assam and the Bodo Liberation Tigers have signed a tripartite agreement recently. Bodo Territorial Council was constituted after these three amendments.

It says that *status quo* would be maintained in terms of the representation of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes in the constituencies falling in Bodoland Territorial Council Area District, that was notified in such manner and already existed before the constitution of Bodoland Territorial Council Area District.

The amendment is that *status quo* would be maintained in terms of the Scheduled Tribe and Non-Scheduled Tribe Area already notified. Thereafter, Delimitation Commission was constituted. On the basis of census, Delimitation Commission is constituted in every state. Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is decided on the basis of their population as well as it is also kept in mind that in which area their population is increased or decreased. Will this Constitution Amendment Bill not curtail jurisdiction of the Delimitation commission?

Not a single constituency was reserved for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe in Bihar, but on the basis of their population the Delimitation Commission decided to reserve two assembly Constituencies for Scheduled Tribes. I apprehend that the Government have entered into an agreement with Bodoland Liberation Tigers hurriedly and the Government have introduced this Bill without a considered view. It is constitution Amendment issue. I would like to get clarification regarding the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Bill. Will the Government consider on the issue of Delimitation Commission, which has been empowered to reserve the constituencies for the Scheduled Tribes on the basis of their population?
...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, I would be very precise. Normally, I would not consume much time.

I welcome the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Bill, 2003. I congratulate our Deputy Prime Minister for reaching an Accord to find out a solution for the Bodoland

problem which is persistent for the past one decade. We were not able to find a solution so far. To make it easy, a separate BTC is to be formed. With the formation of this council rapid economic development will take place. Alongwith this, a majority of the problems will be solved. This economic solution is the main solution for the Bodoland development.

I heartily congratulate our hon. Deputy Prime Minister for taking such an initiative which is a right step at the right time to solve the problem.

At the same time, they are also making a request. They want the Bodo language to be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. I think this also will be taken care of in due course of time.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa) : Sir, I would like to say a few words on this Bill. We are also supporting this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill but I would like to bring one thing to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister's knowledge. You know that earlier there was Assam State in the North East. It was divided repeatedly into Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura in the North-east and all these become separate States. We do not deny the fact that some development would have taken place there but the proposed Constitution Amendment is no solution to this problem. I had made many efforts in this regard when I was the Union Minister of Welfare. The main problem of Bodoland is that their land has been usurped and it is injustice with them. Therefore, the youth of the area are agitated and they are demanding a separate State Bodoland. Mosquitos breed only in the severage. Until we clean the severage, mosquitos will continue to breed. Atrocities are being committed on them. At that time we had talked with the respective State Government, the Government said that Paswan ji, we know their land have been usurped but we have no right to return their land to them. I would urge upon the Government to continue doing whatever they are doing. Until you stop exploitation and atrocities being committed on the tribals the problem will remain the same. Now seven States have come into existence later on their number will rise to eight and further their number will also increase. The problem will continue as such. It is my insistence to you.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the House for unanimously supporting this important Bill. A few concerns have been expressed which I can understand. Ram Vilas Paswanji was saying a short while ago that he does not feel that every problem can be solved by amending the Constitution, no one is under this illusion. But this is also true that the consensus which has evolved on this Bill is difficult to come across. I take this opportunity to thank the Government of Assam, representatives of Bodo society particularly society of the Bodo Liberation Tigers with the Government of India signed this agreement on 10 February. 21 rounds of discussions were held and though the Government of the region changed after elections but the sincere efforts which both the Government put in showed that we could not sort out all the problems of Bodo community but the earlier efforts had certain shortcomings which will redressed to a large extent by the amendment is the constitution. That is why we evolved this consensus.

I share the feelings which Shri Priya Ranjanji has expressed about Gopinath Bordoloi. I believe that his memory will have a special place in the hearts of the people of Assam for what he has done for the State when it was undivided. I would like to say one more thing since charges have been levelled against Arunachal Pradesh. The government of the State was headed by the person who has become Chief Minister now. Then the Government changed. I do not want to go into how it all happened and then situation reverted back. It is not right to blame the Union Government or our party for this. We have a proposal in this regard, atleast it is there with the Standing Committee and the Cabinet has accepted that it is not right that in a legislative assembly of 60 members, out of 35-36 Members of ruling party, one becomes the Speaker, another becomes Deputy speaker and the rest of them become Members. I think everybody agrees that it is not right. I have met a number of persons from North Eastern State who told me that this matter should be looked into. When Parliament did not give the status of State to Delhi and Pondicherry, it gave them a Legislative Assembly and prescribed the number of Ministers. I believe that limiting the number of Ministers has brought about a political stability in these two regions and we can use this provision in the smaller States also. A few days ago, the cabinet has given its approval to the proposal of prescribing the limit of cabinet.

Secondly, in our earlier anti-defection law, a person defecting from the party disqualified but if 1/3rd Members

of a party defect then that is not considered defection. Recently the Cabinet considered this issue and decided that defection be it done individually or en bloc is a crime. We propose to incorporate this provision in the law and it is under consideration of the parliamentary standing committee. When it is passed by the Committee then we would enact it. I believe that it will facilitate in establishing political stability in the north eastern States and the rest of the country and it will prove beneficial. These things might prove to be effective.

We will keep in mind the issues that have been raised about North East. This Government established a separate Ministry for the development of north East. One of the reasons for this is that their distance from New Delhi should not make them feel alienated. Everybody is aware that we have been making efforts for the development of these States. I believe that we have got certain assurances also.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, in the name of cease-fire, the NSCN (IM) people may be terrorising the civilised population who are not believing in the them. How do you protect them? How do you protect our party workers and our leaders?....(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I do not want to name such organisation. There are organisations of all kinds. It is true that our dialogue at the present moment is going on with the NSCN (IM). But this is also true that what is known as cease-fire, that cease-fire obtains in case of both the NSCN (IM) as well as the NSCN(K). This is not an occasion when we should be trading allegations of this kind. I have heard them in the past. Today, I can say that so far as the Central Government is concerned, the Central Government is very clear that violence or extortion or all these things should not be there....(interruptions)

[Translation]

Somebody has expressed concern over here that there is a proposal to carve a Union territory out of a part of Arunachal Pradesh. There is no such proposal. We have assured all the States that the Government is not going to harm the integrity of these States unless the States themselves desire so. Many people have pressurised us to carve a certain part and annex it to Nagaland but we have not agreed to this. We replied that unless the States themselves present such a proposal and approve of it. We will neither interfere nor pressurize them to do so.

On this occasion I would like to say that Assam has shown the right path of non violence. Bodo Liberation Tigers have come forward to surrender and adopt the method of putting up their legitimate grievances and hold dialogues with the Union and State Governments. This has been Possible due to the 24 rounds of talks between them.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The officers of Assam Government or the MLAs of Assam, the MLAs of Meghalaya or the entire North-eastern Congress MLAs are under the threat of the gun power backed by money power. The hon. Minister should investigate this aspect.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Whenever there are any allegations of this kind, the Central Government would always be within its legitimate rights. It will take whatever action is necessary. But I can assure you that so far as the Central Government is concerned, the Central Government—not in Arunachal Pradesh, not in any other place—has not, at any time, tried to destabilise the State Government....(Interruptions) This is an occasion on which the whole House is unanimous. I would beg of you to appreciate is.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): I want a clarification from the home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to go to the voting process. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Since Shri Advani is directly talking about my State, I would like to have a clarification.

My clarification is regarding the cease-fire with NSCN (IM) and the NSCN (K). The point is that you have started the dialogue with the NSCN (IM). Are you going to start it with the NSCN(K) and the Federal Government also?...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: That is a separate matter. All that I can say is that we would like both NSCN (IM) as well as NSCN (K) to participate in it so as to ensure that there is peace in Nagaland and all kinds of crimes are eliminated.

12.36. hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

Re: Cancellation of sitting of the House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, before I proceed further, I would like to inform that as per the decision taken in the Business Advisory Committee meeting held on 7th August, 2003, the sitting of the House fixed on 11th August, 2003 may be cancelled. Also in view of an important discussion listed at item no. 12 of today's List of Business, we may skip Lunch Hour.

12.37 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (NINETY-FOURTH) AMENDMENT BILL—Contd.

(Amendment of article 338 and insertion of article 338A), 2002

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now I go for voting. Before I put the motion for consideration of the Constitution (Ninety-fourth Amendment) Bill, 2002 to the vote of the House, I may inform the House that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

12.38 hrs.

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

12.40 hrs.

Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 1

AYES

12.44 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Aditya Nath, Yogi
 Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba
 Advani, Shri L.K.
 Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
 Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.
 Alva, Shrimati Margaret
 Alvi, Shri Rashid
 *Ananth Kumar, Shri
 Argal, Shri Ashok
 Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita
 Athawale, Shri Ramdas
 Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.
 Azad, Shri Kirti Jha
 Baalu, Shri T.R.
 *Babbar, Shri Raj
 'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat
 Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh
 Baimda, Shri Ramchander
 Bais, Shri Ramesh
 Baitha, Shri Mahendra
 Banatwalla, Shri G.M.
 Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
 Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree
 Bangarappa, Shri S.
 Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh
 Basavanagoud, Shri Kolar
 Begum Noor Bano
 Behera, Shri Padmanava
 Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
 Bhagat, Prof. Dukha
 Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
 Bind, Shri Ram Rati
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
 Brahmanaiah, Shri A.
 Brar, Shri J.S.
 Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
 Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 *Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram
 Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Shri Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru

*Voted through slip.

*Voted through slip.

Deepak Kumar, Shri
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 *Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh

Kumar, Shri Arun
 *Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik
 M. Master Mathan, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
 *Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mollah, Shri Hannan
 Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lall, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.

Murmu, Shri Rupchand
 Murmu, Shri Salkhan
 Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
 Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
 Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
 Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
 Naik, Shri Ram
 Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
 Nayak, Shri Ananta
 Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
 Nitish Kumar, Shri
 Oram, Shri Jual
 Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
 Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
 Pal, Shri Rupchand
 Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
 Panda, Shri Prabodh
 Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
 Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
 Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
 Pasi, Shri Suresh
 Passi, Shri Raj Narain
 Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
 Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
 Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
 Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
 Patel, Dr. Ashok
 Patel, Shri Chandresh
 Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbhai
 Patel, Shri Deepak
 Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
 Patel, Shri Dinsha
 Patel, Shri Mansinh
 Pathak, Shri Harin
 Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.

Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
 Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
 Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
 Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
 Patil, Shri R.S.
 Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
 Patil, Shri Uttamrao
 Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
 Pilot, Shrimati Rama
 Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
 Potai, Shri Sohan
 Prabhu, Shri Suresh
 Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
 Pradhan, Shri Ashok
 Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
 Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
 Premajam, Prof. A.K.
 Puglia, Shri Naresh
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
 Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
 Raja, Shri A.
 Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
 Rajendran, Shri P.
 Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
 Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
 Ram Sajivan, Shri
 Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
 Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
 Ramshakal, Shri
 Rana, Shri Kashiram
 Rana, Shri Raju
 Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
 Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
 Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
 Rau, Shrimati Prabha

Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
 Rawale, Shri Mohan
 Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
 Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
 Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
 Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
 Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
 Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
 Renu Kumari, Shrimati
 Riyan, Shri Bajju Ban
 Roy, Shri Subodh
 Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar
 Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
 Sahu, Shri Anadi
 Sahu, Shri Tarachand
 Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
 Saiduzzama, Shri
 Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
 Sangtam, Shri K.A.
 Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
 Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
 Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
 Saroj, Shri Tufani
 Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
 Saroja, Dr. V.
 Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
 Sayeed, Shri P.M.
 Sen, Shrimati Minati
 Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
 Seth, Shri Lakshman
 Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
 Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.

Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 *Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhattrapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 *Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar

Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 *Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateswarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
 Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha
 Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

*Voted through slip.

*Voted through slip.

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh
 *Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
 Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan
 Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
 Yadav, Shri Pradip
 Yadav, Shri Sharad
 Zahedi, Shri Mahboob
 Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction@,* the result of the division is:

Ayes: 353

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Shri Bwismuthiary has given a notice to move his amendment. But Shri Bwismuthiary is not present.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 2 AYES 12.47 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri
 Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
 Aditya Nath, Yogi

*Voted through slip.

@ AYES 353+11 (S/Shri Ananth Kumar, Raj Babbar, Somnath Chatterjee, G. Putta Swamy Gowda, V. Dhananjaya Kumar, Subodh Mohite, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, Tilakdhari Prasad Singh, Ramji Lal Suman, P.C. Thomas and Dinesh Chndra Yadav also recorded their votes through slips) 364-1 (Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh also wrongly voted from seat No. 140 of Shri Manoj Sinha) 363.

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba
 Advani, Shri L.K.
 Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
 Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.
 Alva, Shrimati Margaret
 Alvi, Shri Rashid
 Ananth Kumar, Shri
 Argal, Shri Ashok
 Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita
 Athawale, Shri Ramdas
 Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.
 Azad, Shri Kirti Jha
 Baalu, Shri T.R.
 Babbar, Shri Raj
 'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat
 Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh
 Baidna, Shri Ramchander
 Bais, Shri Ramesh
 Baitha, Shri Mahendra
 Banatwalla, Shri G.M.
 Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
 Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree
 Bangarappa, Shri S.
 Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh
 Basavanagoud, Shri Kolor
 Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya
 Begum Noor Bano
 Behera, Shri Padmanava
 Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
 Bhagat, Prof. Dukha
 Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
 Bind, Shri Ram Rati
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna
 Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
 Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.
 Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
 Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 *Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 *Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram
 Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Deepak Kumar, Shri
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 *Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
 Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda

*Voted through slip.

*Voted through slip.

Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbbhai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh
 Kumar, Shri Arun
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik

M. Master Mathan, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 *Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
 *Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mollah, Shri Hannan
 Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lal, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
 Murmu, Shri Rupchand
 Murmu, Shri Salkhan
 Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
 Mutterwar, Shri Vilas

*Voted through slip.

Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
Naik, Shri Ram
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Nayak, Shri Ananta
Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
Nitish Kumar, Shri
Oram, Shri Jual
Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
Pal, Shri Rupchand
Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
Panda, Shri Prabodh
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
Pasi, Shri Suresh
Passi, Shri Raj Narain
Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Dr. Ashok
Patel, Shri Chandresh
Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbbhai
Patel, Shri Deepak
Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
Patel, Shri Dinsha
*Patel, Shri Mansinh
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad

Patil, Shri R.S.
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
Patil, Shri Uttamrao
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
Pilot, Shrimati Rama
Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Pradhan, Shri Ashok
Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Puglia, Shri Naresh
Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
Raja, Shri A.
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
Rajendran, Shri P.
Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ram Sajivan, Shri
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
Ramshakal, Shri
Rana, Shri Kashiram
Rana, Shri Raju
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
Rau, Shrimati Prabha
Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
Rawale, Shri Mohan
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
 Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
 Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
 Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
 Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
 Renu Kumari, Shrimati
 Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
 Roy, Shri Subodh
 Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar
 Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
 Sahu, Shri Anadi
 Sahu, Shri Tarachand
 Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
 Saiduzzama, Shri
 Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
 Sangtam, Shri K.A.
 Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
 Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
 Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
 Saroj, Shri Tufani
 Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
 Saroja, Dr. V.
 Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
 Sayeed, Shri P.M.
 Sen, Shrimati Minati
 Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
 Seth, Shri Lakshman
 Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
 Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
 Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan

Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhattrapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 *Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikanthappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 *Suman, Shri Ramji Lal

*Voted through slip.

Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
 Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha
 *Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh
 Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
 Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
 Yadav, Shri Pradip
 Yadav, Shri Sharad
 Zahedi, Shri Mahboob
 Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction*, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 352

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

Insertion of new article

338A

Amendment made:

Page 2, for lines 12 to 17,—

substitute "(2) Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the commission shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other Members and the conditions of service and tenure of office of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other members so appointed shall be such as the President may by rule determine.

(3) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal." (3)

(Shri Jual Oram)

*AYES 352+10 (S/Shri Ajay Singh Chautala, G. Putta Swamy Gowda, Ram Tahal Chaudhary, Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Subodh Mohite, Mansinh Patel, Tilakdhari Prasad Singh, Ramji Lal Suman, P.C. Thomas and Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav also recorded their votes through slips) 362.

*Voted through slip.

MR. SPEAKER: There are three more amendments to Clause 3. Since, Shri Bwismuthiary is not present in the House, his amendments are not moved.

The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 3 AYES 12.51 hrs.

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Aditya Nath, Yogi

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alva, Shrimati Margaret

Alvi, Shri Rashid

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

Baalu, Shri T.R.

Babbar, Shri Raj

'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Banatwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

Bangarappa, Shri S.

Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolar

Begum Noor Bano

Behera, Shri Padmanava

Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh

Bind, Shri Ram Rati

Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Bctcha, Shri Satyanarayana

Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.

Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy

Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh

Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya

Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh

Chandel, Shri Suresh

Chatterjee, Shri Somnath

Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat

Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni

Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal

Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna

Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh

Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai

Chinnasamy, Shri M.

Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram

Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar

Choudhary, Shrimati Reena

Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen

Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh

Chowdhary, Shri Adhir

Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh

Chowdhury, Shri Bikash

D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Deepak Kumar, Shri
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul

Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 Hussain, Shri Syed Shah Nawaz
 Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murl Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh
 Kumar, Shri Arun
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik
 M. Master Mathan, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
 *Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mollah, Shri Hannan

Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lall, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
 Murmu, Shri Rupchand
 Murmu, Shri Salkhan
 Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
 Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
 Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
 Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
 Naik, Shri Ram
 Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
 Nayak, Shri Ananta
 Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
 Nitish Kumar, Shri
 Oram, Shri Jual
 Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
 Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
 Pal, Shri Rupchand
 Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
 Panda, Shri Prabodh
 Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
 Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
 Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
 Pasi, Shri Suresh
 Passi, Shri Raj Narain
 Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
 Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
 Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
 Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
 Patel, Dr. Ashok
 Patel, Shri Chandresh
 Patel, Shri Deepak
 Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh

Patel, Shri Dinsha
 Patel, Shri Mansinh
 Pathak, Shri Harin
 Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
 Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
 Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
 Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
 Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
 Patil, Shri R.S.
 Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
 Patil, Shri Uttamrao
 Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
 Pilot, Shrimati Rama
 Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
 Potai, Shri Sohan
 Prabhu, Shri Suresh
 Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
 Pradhan, Shri Ashok
 Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
 Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
 Premajam, Prof. A.K.
 Puglia, Shri Naresh
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
 Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
 Raja, Shri A.
 Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
 Rajendran, Shri P.
 Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
 Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
 Ram Sajivan, Shri
 Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
 Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
 Ramshakal, Shri
 Rana, Shri Kashiram
 Rana, Shri Raju

Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
 Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
 Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
 Rau, Shrimati Prabha
 Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
 Rawale, Shri Mohan
 Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
 Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
 Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
 Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
 Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
 Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
 Renu Kumari, Shrimati
 Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
 Roy, Shri Subodh
 Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar
 Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
 Sahu, Shri Anadi
 Sahu, Shri Tarachand
 Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
 Saiduzzama, Shri
 Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
 Sangtam, Shri K.A.
 Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
 Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
 Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
 Saroj, Shri Tufani
 Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
 Saroja, Dr. V.
 Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
 Sayeed, Shri P.M.
 Sen, Shrimati Minati
 Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
 Seth, Shri Lakshman
 Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan

Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
 Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhatrapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.

Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman

*Voted through slip.

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Pradip

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob

Zawma, Shri Vanlal.

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction,* the result of the division is:

Ayes: 358

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Short title and commencement

MR. SPEAKER: There is an amendment to Clause 1. Now, Mr. Minister to move the amendment no. 2.

Amendment made:

Page 1,

for line 2,—

substitute "1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Eighty-ninth Amendment) Act, 2003." (2)

(Shri Jual Oram)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 4 AYES 12.52 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Aditya Nath, Yogi

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alva, Shrimati Margaret

Alvi, Shri Rashid

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

Babbar, Shri Raj

'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Banatwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

Bangarappa, Shri S.

Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolor

Begum Noor Bano

*Behera, Shri Padmanava

Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

*AYES 358+2 (S/Shri Subodh Mohite and P.C. Thomas also recorded their votes through slips) 360.

*Voted through slip.

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
 Bind, Shri Ram Rati
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna
 Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
 Brahmanaiah, Shri A.
 *Brar, Shri J.S.
 Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
 Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaaben Devrajibhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri

Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Deepak Kumar, Shri
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib

Hussain, Shri Syed Shah Nawaz
 *Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabh bhai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.

Kulaste, Shri Fagga Singh
 Kumar, Shri Arun
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik
 M. Master Mathan, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
 *Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mollah, Shri Hannan
 Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lal, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
 Murmu, Shri Rupchand

Murmu, Shri Salkhan
Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
Naik, Shri Ram
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Nayak, Shri Ananta
Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
Nitish Kumar, Shri
Oram, Shri Jual
Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
Pal, Shri Rupchand
Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
Panda, Shri Prabodh
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
Pasi, Shri Suresh
Passi, Shri Raj Narain
Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Dr. Ashok
Patel, Shri Chandresh
Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbbhai
Patel, Shri Deepak
Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Mansinh
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao

Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
Patil, Shri R.S.
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
Patil, Shri Uttamrao
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
Pilot, Shrimati Rama
Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Pradhan, Shri Ashok
Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Puglia, Shri Naresh
Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
Raja, Shri A.
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
Rajendran, Shri P.
Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ram Sajivan, Shri
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
Ramshakal, Shri
Rana, Shri Kashiram
Rana, Shri Raju
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
Rau, Shrimati Prabha
Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
Rawale, Shri Mohan

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
Renu Kumari, Shrimati
Riyan, Shri Bajju Ban
Roy, Shri Subodh
Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar
Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
Sahu, Shri Anadi
Sahu, Shri Tarachand
Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
Saiduzzama, Shri
Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
Sangtam, Shri K.A.
Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Saroja, Dr. V.
Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Sen, Shrimati Minati
Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
Seth, Shri Lakshman
Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
Shanta Kumar, Shri

Sharma, Capt. Satish
Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
Sikdar, Shri Tapan
Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
Singh, Ch. Tejveer
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
Singh, Shri Bahadur
Singh, Shri Balbir
Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
Singh, Shri Charanjit
Singh, Shri Chhatrapal
Singh, Shri Khel Sai
Singh, Shri Lakshman
Singh, Shri Maheshwar
Singh, Shri Prabhunath
Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
Singh, Shri Ramanand
Singh, Shri Ramjivan
Singh, Shri Rampal
Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
Singh, Shrimati Kanti
Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Shrimati Shyama
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
Somaiya, Shri Kirit
Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
Subba, Shri M.K.

Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
 Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha
 Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh
 Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan
 Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
 Yadav, Shri Pradip
 Yadav, Shri Sharad
 Zahedi, Shri Mahboob
 Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction*, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 353

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

MR. SPEAKER: There is an amendment to Enacting Formula. Now, Mr. Minister to move the amendment no. 1.

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fifty-third"

substitute "Fifty-fourth" (1)

(Shri Jual Oram)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

*AYES 353+5 (S/Shri Padmanava Behera, J.S. Brar, Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora, Subodh Mohite and P.C. Thomas also recorded their votes through slips) 358.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Minister may move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 5 AYES 12.55 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri
Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba
Advani, Shri L.K.
Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.
Alva, Shrimati Margaret
Alvi, Shri Rashid
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Argal, Shri Ashok
Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita
Athawale, Shri Ramdas
Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.
Azad, Shri Kiriti Jha
Baal, Shri T.R.
Babbar, Shri Raj
'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat
Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh
Bainda, Shri Ramchander
Bais, Shri Ramesh
Baitha, Shri Mahendra
Banatwalla, Shri G.M.
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree
Bangarappa, Shri S.

Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh
Basavanagoud, Shri Kolur
Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya
Begum Noor Bano
Behera, Shri Padmanava
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhagat, Prof. Dukha
Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
Bind, Shri Ram Rati
Bose, Shrimati Krishna
Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
Brahmanaiah, Shri A.
Brar, Shri J.S.
Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
Chandel, Shri Suresh
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
Chikhaliya, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai
Chinnasamy, Shri M.
Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
Choudhry, Shrimati Reena
Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh

Chowdhary, Shri Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Deepak Kumar, Shri
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy

Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
 Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabbhai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil

Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh
 Kumar, Shri Arun
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik
 M. Master Mathan, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal

*Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mollah, Shri Hannan
 Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lal, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
 Murmu, Shri Rupchand
 Murmu, Shri Salkhan
 Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
 Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
 Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
 Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
 Naik, Shri Ram
 Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
 Nayak, Shri Ananta
 Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
 Nitish Kumar, Shri
 Oram, Shri Jual
 Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
 Pal, Shri Rupchand
 Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
 Panda, Shri Prabodh
 Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
 Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
 Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
 Pasi, Shri Suresh
 Passi, Shri Raj Narain
 Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
 Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
 Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
 Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
 Patel, Dr. Ashok
 Patel, Shri Chandresh
 Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbai
 Patel, Shri Deepak

*Voted through slip.

Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Mansinh
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
Patil, Shri R.S.
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
Patil, Shri Uttamrao
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
Pilot, Shrimati Rama
Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Pradhan, Shri Ashok
Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Puglia, Shri Naresh
Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
Raja, Shri A.
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
Rajendran, Shri P.
Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
Rajukhed, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ram Sajivan, Shri
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
Ramshakal, Shri
Rana, Shri Kashiram

Rana, Shri Raju
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
Rau, Shrimati Prabha
Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
Rawale, Shri Mohan
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
Renu Kumari, Shrimati
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
Roy, Shri Subodh
Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar
Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
Sahu, Shri Anadi
Sahu, Shri Tarachand
Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
Saiduzzama, Shri
Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
Sangtam, Shri K.A.
Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Saroja, Dr. V.
Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Sen, Shrimati Minati
Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
Seth, Shri Lakshman

Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
 Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
 Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhatttrapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant

Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateswarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.

*Voted through slip.

Wanaga, Shri Chintaman

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Pradip

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob

Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction*, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 361

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The Bill, as amended, is passed by the requisite majority in accordance with the provision of article 368 of the Constitution.

The motion was adopted.

12.56 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (NINETY-NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

(Amendment of article 332)

MR. SPEAKER: Before we go to voting for the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Bill, let the Lobbies be opened.

[Translation]

No member sitting inside will go outside and members sitting outside will come inside.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Sir, The members sitting outside can come in. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): I would request the Government to bring the Women Reservation Bill and pass it like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): I would make a request to the Government to pass the Women Reservation Bill in the same way. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You bring the Women Reservation Bill and pass it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Before I put the motion for consideration of the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Bill, 2003 to the vote of the House, I may inform the House that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

12.57 hrs.

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

13.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 6

AYES

13.03 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Aditya Nath, Yogi

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

*AYES-361+2 (S/Shri Subodh Mohite and P.C. Thomas also recorded their votes through slips) 363.

Ahmad, Shri Daud
 Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
 Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.
 Alva, Shrimati Margaret
 Alvi, Shri Rashid
 Ananth Kumar, Shri
 Argal, Shri Ashok
 Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita
 Athawale, Shri Ramdas
 Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.
 Azad, Shri Kirti Jha
 Babbar, Shri Raj
 'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat
 Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh
 Baidna, Shri Ramchander
 Bais, Shri Ramesh
 Baitha, Shri Mahendra
 Banatwalla, Shri G.M.
 Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
 Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree
 Bangarappa, Shri S.
 Barman, Shri Ranen
 Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh
 Basavanagoud, Shri Kolor
 Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya
 Begum Noor Bano
 Behera, Shri Padmanava
 Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
 Bhagat, Prof. Dukha
 Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
 Bind, Shri Ram Rati
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna
 Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
 Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.
 *Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur
 Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
 Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhry, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Shri Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

*Voted through slip.

Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 *Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
 Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri

Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Jawahar Lal
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
 Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
 Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
 Jha, Shri Raghunath
 Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
 Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
 Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
 Kamal Nath, Shri
 Kannappan, Shri M.
 Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
 Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
 Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
 Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
 Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai
 Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
 Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
 Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
 Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
 Khan, Shri Hassan
 Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
 Khan, Shri Sunil
 Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
 Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
 Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
 Khanna, Shri Vinod
 Khunte, Shri P.R.
 Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
 Krishnan, Dr. C.
 Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh
 Kumar, Shri Arun
 Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
 Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
 Lahiri, Shri Samik
 M. Master Mathan, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
 Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
 Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
 Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
 Mahto, Shri Bir Singh
 Mahto, Shrimati Abha
 Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
 Malaisamy, Shri K.
 Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
 Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
 Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
 Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
 Mane, Shri Shivaji
 Mane, Shrimati Nivedita
 Manjay Lal, Shri
 Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
 Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
 Mann, Shri Zora Singh
 Meena, Shri Bherulal
 Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
 Meghwal, Shri Kailash
 Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
 Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
 Mohite, Shri Subodh
 Mohol, Shri Ashok N.
 Mollah, Shri Hannan
 Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
 Moorthy, Shri A.K.
 Munda, Shri Kariya
 Muni Lall, Shri
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
 Murmu, Shri Rupchand
 Murmu, Shri Salkhan

Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
 Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
 Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
 Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
 Naik, Shri Ram
 Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
 Nayak, Shri Ananta
 Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
 Nitish Kumar, Shri
 Oram, Shri Jual
 Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
 Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
 Pal, Shri Rupchand
 Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
 Panda, Shri Prabodh
 Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
 Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
 Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
 Pasi, Shri Suresh
 Passi, Shri Raj Narain
 Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
 Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
 Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
 Paswan, Shri Sukdeo
 Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
 Patel, Dr. Ashok
 Patel, Shri Chandresh
 Patel, Shri Deepak
 Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
 Patel, Shri Dinsha
 Patel, Shri Mansinh
 Pathak, Shri Harin
 Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
 Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
 Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
 Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
 Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Galkwad

Patil, Shri R.S.
 Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
 Patil, Shri Uttamrao
 Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
 Pilot, Shrimati Rama
 Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
 Potai, Shri Sohan
 Prabhu, Shri Suresh
 Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
 Pradhan, Shri Ashok
 Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
 Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
 Premajam, Prof. A.K.
 Puglia, Shri Naresh
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
 Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
 Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
 Raja, Shri A.
 Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
 Rajendran, Shri P.
 Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
 Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
 Ram Sajivan, Shri
 Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
 Ramshakal, Shri
 Rana, Shri Kashiram
 Rana, Shri Raju
 Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
 Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
 Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
 Rau, Shrimati Prabha
 Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
 Rawale, Shri Mohan
 Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
 *Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
 Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
 Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
 Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
 Renu Kumari, Shrimati
 Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
 Roy, Shri Subodh
 Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
 Sahu, Shri Anadi
 Sahu, Shri Tarachand
 Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
 Saiduzzama, Shri
 Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
 Sangtam, Shri K.A.
 Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
 Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
 Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
 Saroj, Shri Tufani
 Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
 Saroja, Dr. V.
 Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
 Sayeed, Shri P.M.
 Sen, Shrimati Minati
 Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
 Seth, Shri Lakshman
 Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
 Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
 Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shri K.P.
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari

Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Dr. Raman
 Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh Sardar Buta
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhattapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand

Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathi, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
 Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M.
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
 Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha
 Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh
 Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
 Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan
 Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
 Yadav, Shri Pradip
 Yadav, Shri Sharad

*Voted through slip.

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob

Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction,* the result of the division is:

Ayes: 360

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

Amendment of Article 332

MR. SPEAKER: There are two amendments to clause 2.

Shri S.K. Bwiswmuthiary, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Yes, Sir. I beg to move:

Page 1, lines 9 to 11,—

for "Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District, so notified, and existing prior to the constitution of the Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District, shall be maintained".

substitute "Bodoland Autonomous Territory, so notified, shall be such that the number of seats allotted to the Scheduled Tribes is not less than thirteen". (1)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall put amendment no. 1 moved by Shri Bwiswmuthiary to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

*AYES-360+5 (S/Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, Subodh Mohite, Bishnu Pada Roy and P.C. Thomas also recorded their votes through slips) 365.

Amendment made:

Page 1, lines 9 and 10,—

for "the Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District, so notified, and existing prior to the constitution of the Bodoland Territorial Council Areas District".

substitute "the Bodoland Territorial Areas District, so notified and existing prior to the constitution of the Bodoland Territorial Areas District". (3)

(Shri Chinmayanand Swami)

MR. SPEAKER: The Lobbies are already cleared.

I shall now put clause 2, as amended, to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 7	AYES	13.06 hrs.
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A. Narendra, Shri
Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba
Advani, Shri L.K.
Ahmad, Shri Daud
Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.
Alva, Shrimati Margaret
Alvi, Shri Rashid
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Argal, Shri Ashok
Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita
Athawale, Shri Ramdas
Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.
Azad, Shri Kirti Jha
*Baal, Shri T.R.
Babbar, Shri Raj

*Voted through slip.

'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat
 Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh
 Baimda, Shri Ramchander
 Bais, Shri Ramesh
 Baitha, Shri Mahendra
 Banatwalla, Shri G.M.
 Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
 Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree
 Bangarappa, Shri S.
 Barman, Shri Ranen
 Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh
 Basavanagoud, Shri Kolur
 Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya
 Begum Noor Bano
 Behera, Shri Padmanava
 Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
 Bhagat, Prof. Dukha
 Bhagora, Shri Tarachand
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh
 Bind, Shri Ram Rati
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna
 Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana
 Brahmanaiah, Shri A.
 Brar, Shri J.S.
 Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy
 Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal

Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram
 Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhry, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Shri Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
 Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala

Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand

Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh

Giluwa, Shri Laxman

Goel, Shri Vijay

Gogoi, Shri Dip

Gohain, Shri Rajen

Govindan, Shri T.

Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy

Gudhe, Shri Anant

Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal

Hamid, Shri Abdul

Handique, Shri Bijoy

Hansda, Shri Thomas

Haque, Mohammad Anwarul

Hassan, Shri Moinul

Hussain, Chowdhary Talib

Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar

Jadhav, Shri Suresh Ramrao

Jag Mohan, Shri

Jagannath, Dr. Manda

Jai Prakash, Shri

Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.

Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan

Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.

Jha, Shri Raghunath

Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.

Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar

Kaliappan, Shri K.K.

Kamal Nath, Shri

Kannappan, Shri M.

Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram

Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh

Katara, Shri Babubhai K.

Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal

Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbbhai

Kaur, Shrimati Preneet

Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh

Khaire, Shri Chandrakant

Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat

Khan, Shri Hassan

Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali

Khan, Shri Sunil

Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar

Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.

Khanna, Shri Vinod

Khunte, Shri P.R.

Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Krishnan, Dr. C.

Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh

Kumar, Shri Arun

Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya

Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna

Lahiri, Shri Samik

M. Master Mathan, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.G.

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra

Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar

Mahant, Dr. Charan Das

Mahto, Shrimati Abha

Makwana, Shri Savshibhai

Malaisamy, Shri K.

Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar

Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.

Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Mane, Shri Shivaji

Mane, Shrimati Nivedita

Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
Mann, Shri Zora Singh
Meena, Shri Bherulal
Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
*Mohite, Shri Subodh
Mohol, Shri Ashok N.
Mollah, Shri Hannan
Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
Moorthy, Shri A.K.
Munda, Shri Kariya
Muni Lall, Shri
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Murmu, Shri Rupchand
Murmu, Shri Salkhan
Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
Naik, Shri Ram
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Nayak, Shri Ananta
Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
Nitish Kumar, Shri
Oram, Shri Jual
Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh
Pal, Shri Rupchand
Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
Panda, Shri Prabodh

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
Pasi, Shri Suresh
Passi, Shri Raj Narain
Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
Paswan, Shri Sukdeo
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Dr. Ashok
Patel, Shri Chandresh
Patel, Shri Deepak
Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Mansinh
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
Patil, Shri R.S.
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
Patil, Shri Uttamrao
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
Pilot, Shrimati Rama
Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Pradhan, Shri Ashok
Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Puglia, Shri Naresh

Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon	Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala	Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore	Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
Raja, Shri A.	Saroj, Shri Tufani
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab	Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Rajendran, Shri P.	Saroja, Dr. V.
Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri	Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh	Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Ram Sajivan, Shri	Sen, Shrimati Minati
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan	Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
Ramshakal, Shri	Seth, Shri Lakshman
Rana, Shri Kashiram	Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Rana, Shri Raju	Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar	Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar	Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin	Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
Rau, Shrimati Prabha	Shanta Kumar, Shri
Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh	Sharma, Capt. Satish
Rawale, Shri Mohan	Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh	Sikdar, Shri Tapan
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada	Singh Deo, Shri K.P.
Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender	Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
Reddy, Shri G. Ganga	Singh, Ch. Tejveer
Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana	Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal	Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
Renu Kumari, Shrimati	Singh, Dr. Raman
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban	Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
Roy, Shri Subodh	Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap	Singh Sardar Buta
Sahu, Shri Anadi	Singh, Shri Bahadur
Sahu, Shri Tarachand	Singh, Shri Balbir
Sai, Shri Vishnudeo	Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
Saiduzzama, Shri	Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
Sanadi, Prof. I.G.	Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
Sangtam, Shri K.A.	Singh, Shri Charanjit
Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh	Singh, Shri Chhattapal

Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 *Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
 Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji
 Thakur, Dr. C.P.
 Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
 Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su
 *Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tripathee, Shri Ram Naresh
 Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore
 Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh
 Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
 Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
 Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
 Venugopal, Shri D.
 Verma, Prof. Rita
 Verma, Shri Rajesh
 Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
 Virendra Kumar, Shri
 Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
 Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
 Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha
 Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh
 Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
 Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan
 Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
 Yadav, Shri Pradip
 Yadav, Shri Sharad
 Zahedi, Shri Mahboob
 Zawma, Shri Vanlal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction,* the result of the division is:

Ayes: 359

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

*AYES—359+4 (S/Shri T.R. Baalu, Subodh Mohite, Ramjivan Singh and P.C. Thomas also recorded their votes through slips)
 363:

Clause 1**Short title**

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3,—

for "(Ninety-ninth Amendment)"

substitute "(Ninetieth Amendment)" (2)

(Shri Chinmayanand Swami)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

*The Enacting Formula and the Long Title
were added to the Bill.*

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed'.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 8

AYES

13.09 hrs.

A. Narendra, Shri

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Aditya Nath, Yogi

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Ahmad, Shri Daud

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alva, Shrimati Margaret

Alvi, Shri Rashid

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

Baalu, Shri T.R.

Babbar, Shri Raj

'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Badnore, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Banatwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

Bangarappa, Shri S.

Barman, Shri Ranen

Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolar

Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya

Begum Noor Bano

Behera, Shri Padmanava

Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh

Bind, Shri Ram Rati

Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Botcha, Shri Satyanarayana

Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.

Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur

Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy

Chakraborty, Shri Swadesh
 Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
 Chandel, Shri Ashok Kumar Singh
 Chandel, Shri Suresh
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat
 Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni
 Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghunath
 Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna
 Chauhan, Shri Nand Kishore Singh
 Chautala, Shri Ajay Singh
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
 Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajibhai
 Chinnasamy, Shri M.
 Choudhry, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram
 Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
 Choudhary, Shrimati Reena
 Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
 Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chowdhary, Shri Adhir
 Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
 Chowdhury, Shri Bikash
 D'Souza, Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix
 Dahal, Shri Bhim
 Dalit Ezhilmalai, Shri
 Das, Shri Khagen
 Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
 Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
 Dattatraya, Shri Bandaru
 Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
 Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
 Diler, Shri Kishan Lal

Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
 Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
 Gamang, Shrimati Hema
 Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
 Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
 Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
 Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
 Giluwa, Shri Laxman
 Goel, Shri Vijay
 Gogoi, Shri Dip
 Gohain, Shri Rajen
 Govindan, Shri T.
 Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
 Gudhe, Shri Anant
 Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal
 Hamid, Shri Abdul
 Handique, Shri Bijoy
 Hansda, Shri Thomas
 Haque, Mohammad Anwarul
 Hassan, Shri Moinul
 Hussain, Chowdhary Talib
 Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
 Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar
 Jag Mohan, Shri
 Jagannath, Dr. Manda
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
 Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.
Jha, Shri Raghunath
Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh C.
Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
Kaliappan, Shri K.K.
Kamal Nath, Shri
Kannappan, Shri M.
Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram
Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
Katara, Shri Babubhai K.
Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal
Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbbhai
Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh
Khaire, Shri Chandrakant
Khan, Shri Abul Hasnat
Khan, Shri Hassan
Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali
Khan, Shri Sunil
Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar
Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali
Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.
Khanna, Shri Vinod
Khunte, Shri P.R.
Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
Krishnan, Dr. C.
Kulaste, Shri Faggan Singh
Kumar, Shri Arun
Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya
Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna
Lahiri, Shri Samik
M. Master Mathan, Shri
Mahajan, Shri Y.G.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar

Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
Mahto, Shrimati Abha
Makwana, Shri Savshibhai
Malaisamy, Shri K.
Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar
Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.
*Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand
Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar
Mane, Shri Shivaji
Mane, Shrimati Nivedita
Manjay Lal, Shri
Manjhi, Shri Ramjee
Mann, Sardar Simranjit Singh
Mann, Shri Zora Singh
Meena, Shri Bherulal
Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur
Meghwal, Shri Kailash
Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari
Mistry, Shri Madhusudan
Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal
*Mohite, Shri Subodh
Mohol, Shri Ashok N.
Mollah, Shri Hannan
Mookherjee, Shri Satya Brata
Moorthy, Shri A.K.
Munda, Shri Kariya
Muni Lall, Shri
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Murmu, Shri Rupchand
Murmu, Shri Salkhan
Murthi, Dr. M.V.V.S.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh
Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
Naik, Shri Ram

Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso	Pilot, Shrimati Rama
Nayak, Shri Ananta	Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad	Potai, Shri Sohan
Nitish Kumar, Shri	Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Oram, Shri Jual	Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada	Pradhan, Shri Ashok
Pal, Dr. Mahendra Singh	Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Pal, Shri Rupchand	Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.	Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Panda, Shri Prabodh	Puglia, Shri Naresh
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan	Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar	Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh	Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore
Pasi, Shri Suresh	Raja, Shri A.
Passi, Shri Raj Narain	Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab
Paswan, Dr. Sanjay	Rajendran, Shri P.
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas	Rajesh Ranjan Alias Pappu Yadav, Shri
Paswan, Shri Ramchandra	Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Paswan, Shri Sukdeo	Ram Sajivan, Shri
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar	Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
Patel, Dr. Ashok	Ramshakal, Shri
Patel, Shri Chandresh	Rana, Shri Kashiram
Patel, Shri Deepak	Rana, Shri Raju
Patel, Shri Dharm Raj Singh	Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
Patel, Shri Dinsha	Rao, Dr. D.V.G. Shankar
Patel, Shri Mansinh	Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
Pathak, Shri Harin	Rau, Shrimati Prabha
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.	Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
Patil (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.	Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Patil, Shri Bhaskarrao	Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb	Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad	Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Patil, Shri R.S.	Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.	Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
Patil, Shri Uttamrao	Renu Kumari, Shrimati
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal	

Riyan, Shri Bajju Ban
 Roy, Shri Subodh
 Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap
 Sahu, Shri Anadi
 Sahu, Shri Tarachand
 Sai, Shri Vishnudeo
 Saiduzzama, Shri
 Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
 Sangtam, Shri K.A.
 Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
 Sankhwar, Shri Pyare Lal
 Sar, Shri Nikhilananda
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
 Saroj, Shri Tufani
 Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
 Saroja, Dr. V.
 Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
 Sayeed, Shri P.M.
 Sen, Shrimati Minati
 Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
 Seth, Shri Lakshman
 Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
 Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
 Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
 Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram
 Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
 Shanta Kumar, Shri
 Sharma, Capt. Satish
 Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
 Sikdar, Shri Tapan
 Singh Deo, Shri K.P.
 Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
 Singh, Ch. Tejveer
 Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
 Singh, Dr. Raman

Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
 Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
 Singh Sardar Buta
 Singh, Shri Bahadur
 Singh, Shri Balbir
 Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
 Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan
 *Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
 Singh, Shri Charanjit
 Singh, Shri Chhatrapal
 Singh, Shri Khel Sai
 Singh, Shri Lakshman
 Singh, Shri Maheshwar
 Singh, Shri Prabhunath
 Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
 Singh, Shri Ramanand
 Singh, Shri Ramjivan
 Singh, Shri Rampal
 Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti
 Singh, Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna
 Singh, Shrimati Shyama
 Sinha, Shri Yashwant
 Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
 Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
 Somaiya, Shri Kirit
 Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
 Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
 Subba, Shri M.K.
 Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
 Swain, Shri Kharabela
 Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
 Swami Shri I.D.
 Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.

*Voted through slip.

Thakor, Shri Punjaji Sadaji

Thakur, Dr. C.P.

Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai

Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su

*Thomas, Shri P.C.

Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari

Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Tripathi, Shri Ram Naresh

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore

Tur, Shri Tarlochan Singh

Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra

Venkataswamy, Dr. N.

Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.

Venugopal, Shri D.

Verma, Prof. Rita

Verma, Shri Rajesh

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash

Virendra Kumar, Shri

Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma

Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R.

Wanaga, Shri Chintaman

Yadav, Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Devendra Singh

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Pradip

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Zahedi, Shri Mahboob

Zawma, Shri Vanlal

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction*, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 361

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The Bill, as amended, is passed by the requisite majority in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution of India.

The motion was adopted.

13.10 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Jaswant Singh, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Punjab Agro Newsprint Limited and the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 737 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 2003 under sub-section (5) of section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (2) A copy of the Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Third Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 580 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Please in Library. See No. LT 7898/2003]

*AYES-361—4 (S/Shri Brahma Nand Mandal, Subodh Mohite, P.C. Thomas and Chandra Pratap Singh also recorded their votes through slips) 365.

*Voted through slip.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Arun Jaitley—not present. Who is going to lay papers listed against Shri Arun Jaitley?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received any letter from him, authorising other Minister to present his papers. So, I am not permitting.

Shri Vidyasagar Rao.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Draft Notification No. F. No. 7 (3)99-IP (Hindi and English versions) containing order seeking to amend the principal order published in Notification No. S.O. 857 (E) dated the 10th December, 1997 under sub-section (3) of section 11B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

[Please in Library. See No. LT 7901/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Removal of (Licensing requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs (Amendment) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 490 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 2003 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
- (2) A copy of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 495 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2003 under sub-section (4) of section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976 together with a Corrigendum thereto (in English version only) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 546 (E) dated the 14th July, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7902/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:—

- (i) G.S.R. 556 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on X-Ray Baggage Inspection Multi Energy System, origination in, or exported from, European Union, at the rates recommended by the designated authority.

- (ii) G.S.R. 581 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to withdraw anti-dumping duty on strontium carbonate, originating in, or exported from, the Peoples Republic of China.

- (iii) G.S.R. 582 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty D (-) Para Hydroxy Phenyl Glycine Methyl Potassium Dane Salt, originating in, or exported from, the People's Republic of China and Singapore at the rates recommended by the designated authority.

- (iv) G.S.R. 612 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 23/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 613 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 6/2002-CE dated the 1st March 2002 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944.

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

- (i) G.S.R. 552 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.

- (ii) G.S.R. 611 (E) published in *Gazette of India* dated the 29th July, 2003 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (4) A copy of the Income-tax (10th Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 855 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003 under of section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1969, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (5) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 550 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in *Gazette of India* dated the 17th July, 2003 notifying the change in the location of Debts Recovery Tribunal, Nagpur with effect from 27th June, 2003, as mentioned therein issued under section 3 of Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993.
- (6) A copy of the Public Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 585 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003 under section 12 of the Public Provident Fund Act, 1968.
- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Bank Act, 1873:
- (i) The Post Office Savings Bank General (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 586 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.
 - (ii) The Post Office Savings Account (Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 587 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.
 - (iii) The Post Office Recurring Deposit (Second Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 588 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.
 - (iv) The Post Office Time Deposit (Second Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 589 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.

- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959:

- (i) The National Savings Certificates (VIII Issue) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 590 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.
- (ii) The National Savings Certificates (VIII Issue) (Third Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 591 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.
- (iii) The Kisan Vikas Patra (Second Amendment) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 592 (E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 25th July, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7903/2003]

13.11 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Fifty-first Report

[English]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Sir, I beg to present the Fifty-first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on "Allotment of PAN".

13.12 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Sir, with your permission, I would like to inform you that the following Government business will be conducted in the week beginning on Wednesday 13th August, 2003:

1. Further deliberation on Representation of Peoples Act (RPA), 2003 passed by the Rajya Sabha and its passage.

2. Deliberation and passage of National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2003.
3. Discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2003-2004.
4. Introduction, Discussion and Passage of Appropriation Bill pertaining to the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2003-2004.
5. Discussion and Passage of Sick Industrial Company (Special Provisions) Repeal Bill, 2001.

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): Sir, with reference to the statement made by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs announcing business of the next week, I desire that the following two subjects may be included for discussion:

1. Policy for close monitoring of multinational companies producing and marketing food items.
2. Problems faced by the farmers in the matter of procurement prices and credit facility.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Medical examination and registration of all the Amarnath-bound pilgrims be undertaken/arranged in the State-capitals itself in order that time and money may not go waste.
2. In the line of the students belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities, students from other categories should also be allowed to take IAS Exam and should be given relaxation in age and all other facilities as are given in case of SC and ST candidates.

[English]

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. The problems faced by the small-scale industries in the face of competition from the multinational companies.

2. The growing number of cancer, heart and kidney patients in the country and inadequate facilities for their treatment.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. The construction of a high dam in Barah area may be considered for the permanent solution to the devastation being faced every year in Saharsa, Supaul, Khagadia and Madhepura districts due to flood in the rivers originating from Nepal.
2. Saharsa (Bihar) is a divisional Headquarter. It is also a big town. An outdoor stadium may be constructed there.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram): Sir, the following important items may be included for discussion in the next week's agenda commencing from 11th August, 2003:

1. To discuss and deliberate the varied implications involved arising out of the Indian fishermen's problem while fishing in Sri Lankan maritime borders and in that process, to take initiative for revival and restoration of Katchatheevu which was wrongly handed over to Sri Lanka.
2. To discuss and to set right the regional imbalances that have been in existence in Tamil Nadu in the matter of B.G. conversion under Railways.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Acute problem of unemployment.
2. Sending of troops to Iraq.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda and oblige:

1. Need to make central legislation for ban on Cow-slaughter across the country (Cow-Slaughter Prohibition) in view of people's sense of

reverence and faith pinned to the cows and for the Conservation of Cows.

2. Sanbhar Lake, the biggest lake of saline water that has been the main source of salt production was leased out to the Government of India for ten years after Rajasthan came into existence in 1950. Currently, M/s Sanbhar Salt Ltd., which is an Ancillary undertaking of M/s Hindustan Salt Ltd. is not functioning well in a satisfactory manner. The salt production is declining every year. As a result, there has been loss of revenue to the State Government of Rajasthan. Not just that, the people of Rajasthan were deprived of the development of Salt-based industries and the opportunities of active employment. Hence, Sanbhar Lake needs to be handed over immediately to the State Government of Rajasthan by the Central Government.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Antennas have been installed in every village by the Central Government. Nearly 90 per cent of them are lying un-used and have become redundant which are unlikely to be made functional in future. In view of this, WLL facility should be provided to the villagers having fixed the initial deadline as 2005.
2. Due to earlier price-hike in postcard by the Central Government, it costs Rs. 2 per card even while communicating death-news. It's not possible for common people and is burdensome for economically-backward people. Hence, its price may be fixed 25 paise or 50 paise instead of Rs. 2.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I would like that the following two items may be included in the next week's business:

1. The Supreme Court's judgment on the right of the worker to go on strike is a retrograde judgement. Sir, by this judgment, the Supreme Court of India wants to take away the right of the employees and the workers of our country. Sir, this judgment is contrary to the provisions of Industrial Dispute Act of 1947. It is also not in consonance with the ILO convention to which

our country is a party. Sir, with this judgement the thousands and thousands of workers of our country, who have the right to organise and go on strike, will be taken away.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Sir, is this 'Zero Hour' or a submission?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a special Shri Basu Deb Acharia submission!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It is an important subject, and there can be a proper discussion on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, this is a submission, and it is always read out in the House. You can only read it out.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I have not received my paper.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to keep it with you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the second item is as follows:

The unemployment situation in the country is becoming serious. The Government has not fulfilled its commitment to provide one crore jobs in each year. A large number of industrial units have been closed down rendering thousands of the workers and the employees jobless.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Sir, I demand that the Women's Reservation Bill be listed in the agenda next week. It is pending for the last three years. Sir, I want a direction from you for this Bill to be introduced, and discussed next week. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, let me make it clear that there is no 'Zero Hour' today. We have decided earlier on this issue. So, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This Bill is very important.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, why is the Women's Reservation Bill being ignored?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Somnath Chatterjee, being the leader of the party, is only allowed to speak. I do not know what point he wants to make, but he is permitted to speak.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, what about the Women's Reservation Bill being included? This is not being included.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is a very important issue, and I am sure the entire democratic people of this country are greatly disturbed because of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of banning strikes, in so far as the Government circles are concerned.

Sir, after 56 years of Independence, if we find that our Government employees have become slave labour, we cannot accept that position at all. In a country where there is a rule of law, there are fundamental rights and directive principles, which recognise the right of the working-class—They have the right to enjoy not only the fruits of their labour, but also minimum human rights as Government employees, as citizens of India—that right is sought to be taken away by a judgment where it has been said that it disturbs the life of this country. So many issues are disturbing the life of this country. So many cases are pending in the courts. Does it not disturb the conscience of the court? So many people are not getting justice. Thousands and thousands of cases are pending for years together. People do not get any quick relief in cases of wrongful dismissal. All those matters are not being taken into consideration.

Nobody is thinking as to why these two lakh plus people went on strike in Tamil Nadu. How is it being controlled? It is being controlled not by ordinary laws of the land, not by the Industrial Disputes Act, not by application of the Government Servant's Rules, but by application of a draconian black law like ESMA.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: That too, it is one woman's decision.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is nothing but a negation of the fundamental and ordinary legal rights of the citizens of this country. We cannot barter away that right. This can never happen in this country.
...(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): This ruling was given by the hon. Supreme Court.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Today, we have passed jointly two Constitution Amendment Bills. Let the Government bring a Constitution Amendment Bill to make it a fundamental right of the citizens of this country. We cannot barter away that right. I have requested Shri Advani, who has been kind enough to wait here, that the Government should make its position clear. Let him announce today that the Government will bring a Constitution Amendment Bill to make 'right to strike' a fundamental right.

I am not advocating strike on any and every occasion. What we say is that strike is a very important weapon which should be resorted to at the last moment, if all other avenues are closed. What other avenues are open, nobody has said that. I would like to ask very respectfully the hon. Supreme Court to find out what is the Government's response and what is the remedy open to a Government Servant. There is a provision that if the service rules have been violated, they should have been proceeded against under the service rules. The Supreme Court said that the employees should go to a Tribunal in regard to violation of service rules. I would like to know to which Tribunal the people should go. Which Tribunal will give justice to them? These issues were not considered at all. I do not know as to why the Government of India did not intervene in this matter. They should have intervened in the Supreme Court. I do not remember whether I have seen it or not. They should have done that. This is an issue which is affecting the basic rights of the people of this country.

I am very sorry that our Prime Minister is not very well. We wish him a very speedy recovery. Therefore, I request Shri Advani, the Deputy Prime Minister, who is here, to say as to what is the Government's attitude on this. We demand that immediate action should be taken to nullify this anti-people judgement of the Supreme Court of India.

MR. SPEAKER: After a long time, today, we are taking up the discussion on 'Atrocities on Dalits'. It is being taken up after a very long time. I had assured in the earlier meeting that maximum time would be given today for the discussion on 'Atrocities on Dalits'. As a very, very exceptional case, I have permitted Shri Somnath Chatterjee, who, right from the beginning, was saying that this important issue should be discussed.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker Sir, my notice is there. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Would you not listen to me?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, other parties should also get a chance to express their views on this.

MR. SPEAKER: I can understand everything, but at the same time, I am bound by the order of the Business that we have decided. The issue of atrocities on Dalits was not discussed properly in the last Session. Therefore, it was decided in the BAC that we should given time to discuss this issue in this Session. It was decided that immediately after the two Constitutional (Amendment) Bills are passed today this should be taken up.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Sir, the discussion on the Dalits was scheduled for 12.00 clock.

MR. SPEAKER: I know.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Now it is 1.30. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, you have permitted Somnathji. The other parties also need to express their views on this very vital judgement.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no problem. However, let me tell you that the issue of atrocities on *dalits* will be delayed. I want to bring it to the notice of the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We can take that up 2 o'clock.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am on my legs. Just listen to me.

[English]

I am mentioning this only because this was the decision taken in the Business Advisory Committee. If something

else is to be done, let the House decide that the issue of atrocities on *dalits* may not be taken up now and be taken up at 2 o'clock instead. No problem.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is a very important issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not say that it is not important. I understand that it is important. But, you could have raised it through some other device. 'Zero Hour' is not the device to raise this issue.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, the issue of *dalits* is a very important one. But it should be debated in the full House, not in a half House in a half-hearted manner.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. The Government should take exception to this anti-worker ruling of the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*. If the right of the Government employees to strike is banned, it would be a matter of grave concern. It is a dangerous signal for the democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Akhileshji, you are an unauthorised speaker. Please take your seat.

[English]

Shri Shivraj Patil is the Member authorised to speak. My request is that you be brief on the issue. Otherwise, the issue of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan will be delayed.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever Akhilesh Singhji is speaking will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would like to reiterate that I am not levelling charges against anyone but I had stated that day also that if you schedule this discussion for Friday, it would meet the same fate. It will be 2.30 P.M. by the time the discussion begins. After that the Members will depart as tickets of all the Members are ready and the discussion will have no meaning. That day you had given the ruling that the discussion will start

*Not recorded.

immediately after the 'Question Hour' i.e. 12 O'Clock but now it is 2 P.M. Still I would like to say. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Immediately after this I would like to come to the issue of Dalits.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would like to point it out once more that I do not want to contravene between the issue of workers. Lest it be reported in the press tomorrow that the Members went on to discuss the issue of Scheduled Castes leaving the issue of anti-worker judgement delivered by the Supreme Court incomplete. We do not want to cast any wedge between the two. I want a serious and fruitful discussion on it. If it is not possible today as it seems to be so, we do not have any reservation about it. ...(*Interruptions*).

The House reassembles on Monday. Let the discussion be held on Monday and let's ensure that the discussion should be fruitful and it should be held with absolute seriousness. My submission is only this.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to hear Shri Shivraj Patilji and just after that I would like to take up the discussion on the subject of Dalits.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. I am bound by the decision taken by the Business Advisory Committee. The House can take a decision.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, you should allow us.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me know the view of the Government also on this.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Financial Business, the Supplementary Demand for Grants are Scheduled. The colleagues from whole of the Opposition had wished a holiday on 11th of August hence the Financial Business, the Supplementary Demands for Grants are scheduled for August, 13. I have just read out that, where is the scope. Therefore, the discussion will be held today itself.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The discussion will be held today.

[*Translation*]

You can have a discussion on this subject at another time. I have permitted Shri Shivraj Patilji. Only he will speak on this subject.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am taking a decision on this subject.

[*English*]

There is no time. Today the debate will start.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur): Sir, I shall be very brief and very precise. To be precise, I shall read out what I want to state on the floor of the House.

Right to strike may not have been provided in the Constitution and any other law. Yet, the conditions in the society have been such that it has been treated that it has been there. We have many times said that may rights are given by the nature and they are natural rights.

On the one hand, this right, right to strike, should not be used to cause difficulties to the men and women in the society, it should not be denied to the workers who are not equal and able to protect their interests in all case without resorting to striking.

The Court has given this verdict. It can be reconsidered and revised also as it is done in many other cases. This issue, certainly, can and should be considered by this Legislature, which is at the apex in the country, to take appropriate decision in this country. Steps should certainly be taken to protect the interests of the workers as well as the society.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Pappu Yadav.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, what about the burning issue which we took up yesterday? ...(*Interruptions*) Now, everyday, in the electronic media, the Ruling party Members are castigating the very existence of PAC.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: This is very important, Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How can you raise it without giving a prior notice?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes Shri Pappu Yadav, you may make your point now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the issue of Dalits not be taken up. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Pappu Yadavji, you may speak.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me time. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadavji, I know that you have been attacked. You have given a notice in that regard. So, you make your submission.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: This is intolerable. ...(Interruptions) The Ruling party Members are castigating. ...(Interruptions) How can we tolerate it? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise it under the device. Now, we are taking up the issue of Dalits after the submission by Shri Pappu Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Pappu Yadav, please speak now.

...(Interruptions)

13.32 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to take up the discussion on 'Dalits'

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Das Munsiji, discussion can not be held on this subject today. It will be discussed later on.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, there is an important discussion under Rule 193 on atrocities on Dalits, and everybody would like to participate in the debate. So, please cooperate.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji please keep standing and initiate the discussion.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, go to your respective seats. The business which has been agreed to by your leaders can be transacted in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas ji, you may speak. Initiate the discussion on 'Dalits'.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

13.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at two minutes past
fourteen of the clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today discussion is to be held regarding atrocities on Dalits but the Members belonging to Congress Party would not like to have discussion on this issue. They are anti-dalit.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we stand committed to the views of Shri Pappu Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs is present in the House. He is aware of the situation prevailing in Bihar. Day before yesterday, I was travelling in 'D' coupe of the train. When the train was approaching Kanpur, a grenade was hurled which smashed all the three windows i.e. the first window, the window of my cabin gate and the third one. Had there been persons all of them would have been killed in this attack. Nobody would have survived. There was high pitch sound and it appeared that the train would topple over. Two Ex.MPs were sitting with me. Out of them one was Anil Yadav. Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier my mother was shot at and my real sister-in-law (Bhabhi) was killed. Thereafter, my mother was shot at and my personal bodyguard was killed in this attack. Dozen of times bids were made on the life of my family and myself. This series is taking place since the Mandal Commission issue. A bomb was hurled at Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji, a bid on the life of Shri Anwarul Haque and also on Shri George Sahib was made in Muzzafarpur. I do not blame any party for the prevailing situation of Bihar. But my fight is against the system and the powerful people

who would like to destroy Bihar. I and my family members are not safe there. Even the opposition who is fighting against the system also not safe there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, three days back also I told you that there is no need to beg for security. In my case, Patna High Court ordered the Government twice to provide security cover to me and my family members. But, the Government denied to provide security cover. Those people, who would not like to see a prosperous Bihar, they and their family have already got black cat Commando and 10-10 security guards each having separate carbine and stengun. All those people, who do not like that Bihar may prosper, have got security cover. The Members of Opposition, who talk about the common people, have not been provided security cover. Being a Member of Parliament, I want security from your goodself. Keeping in view the prevailing situation in Bihar, you should provide security to me. I would not like to say more than this. ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, the *gunda* elements shot at the police at three different places and they abducted common people from Patna yesterday. An eleven years old girl have been abducted from Rajvanshi Nagar at 8 O'clock today and the abductors shot at the leg of her father. I can not describe about the prevailing situation there. I want security from your goodself. I will die but I will not take security cover from the Government of Bihar. Because I smell a rat in that protection. I will not take security cover from the Government of Bihar. Sir, ensure security cover to me. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow a discussion on this issue. I am allowing Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to start discussion on his proposal.

[English]

The hon. Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister is sitting here, he will take this matter seriously.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He will take this matter seriously.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji, please start discussion on your proposal. You should start discussion on the issue of atrocities on Dalits. I have informed the hon. Minister to pay attention on this issue.

...(*Interruptions*)

14.07 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Madhusudan Mistry and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot take any other issue without notice.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji, I have called your name. Your topic is very important. I would like that discussion should be held on this issue in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. Let us now take up discussion regarding atrocities on Dalits.

You must all cooperate. This subject is pending for a long time to be discussed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a notice. Your notice must come to me. There is a procedure for running the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The slogan should not go on record. Television cameras should also be switched off.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 13th of August, 2003.

14.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, August 13, 2003/
Sravana 22, 1925 (Saka).*

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