

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Third Session**  
**(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 18)*

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

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

**Wednesday, December 23, 1998/Pause 2, 1920 (Saka)**

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

*[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]*

*At this stage Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav, Shri  
Shailendra Kumar and some other Hon. Members  
came and stood near the Table.*

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Q. 341 Col. Sona Ram Choudhary.  
Please go to your seats. This is not good..

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to to your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. This is  
Question Hour. We are not taking up your subject.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. You can  
take up your subject, when it comes up. Please under-  
stand this. Otherwise, I have to take serious action. I  
have to take action against all of you who have come  
to the Well of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. Other-  
wise, I have to take action. Every day you are coming  
to the Well of the House. I have to take action against  
all of you.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. This is  
Question Hour. Please understand.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. I will  
take action against all of you, I will name the Members  
also. Please resume your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please understand  
this is the Question Hour. Please go to your seats. You  
can take up your subject, when it comes up in the House.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am telling you to take your seats.

Otherwise, I will name the Members and I will take a  
serious view.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : We were given  
an assurance that the Government will not bring this  
Bill today....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISMUTHIARY  
(KOKRAJHAR) : No Bodoland, no rest.

**11.07 hours**

*At this stage Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwismuthiary  
came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please go to your  
seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bwismuthiary, please go back to  
your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : Sir, Bodoland is a  
must.

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to hon. Members again.  
This is Question Hour. Please understand that we have a  
very important business today.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to hon. Members  
again. This is Question Hour. Please understand that  
we have a very important business today.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seats. This  
is Question Hour.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am once again appealing  
to hon. Members. This is Question Hour. We are  
not taking up the Bill now. Please resume your  
seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am appealing  
to you to please resume your seats. Otherwise, I will  
have to name the Members. The Chair will have to name  
the Members. Please go back to your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am again appealing to you.  
This not the correct practice. Please go back to your  
seats.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, Bodoland is a must.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. I am appealing to you again. This is Question Hour. Please resume your seats. Please try to understand.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you and I am appealing to your Leaders also. Please go back to your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you. I am appealing to the leaders also. Please resume your seats. This is not the procedure and proper way. Today we have some very important business to do. I am once again appealing to you all to please resume your seats. Please understand that this is Question Hour. I am appealing to the leaders also. This is not the proper way.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 12.15 p.m.

**11.11 hours**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till fifteen minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Underground Water

\*341. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRI K. P. MOHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee to review the methodology for assessment of availability of ground water resources in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have launched any plan to fill the underground water artificially;

(d) if so, the total areas of land covered under this plan. State-wise and location wise, particularly in Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu; and

(e) the total funds spent thereon during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government had constituted a Committee in November, 1995 to review the methodology for estimation of ground water resources and to look into all the related issues. The Committee submitted its report

in June 1997. Gist of recommendations contained in the report is given in Statement-I. The recommendations of the Committee were accepted by the Government and copies of the report were circulated to ground water organisations of the State Government for use in estimating ground water resources based on revised methodology.

(c) to (e) The Government had started a Central Sector Scheme on pilot basis in 1994-95 for studies in artificial recharge of ground water in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh. The studies were completed in 1997-98 at a total cost of Rs. 3,29,69,676. State-wise and year-wise break up of the amount spent on these studies is given in Statement-II. Based on the results of these studies, the Government have recently decided to extend this scheme for studies in artificial recharge of ground water to some more areas of States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

The Government have also formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the States in Artificial Recharge of Ground Water at an estimated cost of Rs. 101.50 crore. This scheme is at consultation stage. In addition, Government have prepared and circulated a Manual on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to States/ Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge scheme.

### Statement —I

*Gist of the Recommendations of the Committee (1997)  
Ground Water Resources Estimation*

The revised methodology as recommended has incorporated a number of changes as compared to the recommendations of Ground Water Estimation Committee 1984. In this methodology, watershed has been adopted as the assessment unit in hard rock areas. Ground Water assessment has to be made separately for non-command and command areas and areas of poor quality of ground water have to be treated separately. Ground water recharge has to be assessed separately for monsoon and non monsoon seasons. An alternative methodology has been provided for estimation of specific yield based on application of ground water balance in dry season which would be applicable in the non command part of hard rock areas. Norms for return flow from irrigation are now based on the source of irrigation i.e. ground water or surface water, type of crops, and depth to water table below ground level. An explicit provision is now introduced on recharge due to water conservation structures. Ground water levels have been made an integral part of ground water assessment and categorisation of areas for ground water development is now based on stage of ground water development and long term trend levels.

## Statement-II

## State-wise and year-wise breakup of expenditure on the Central Sector Scheme of Studies in Artificial Recharge of Ground Water

(Amount in rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	2,12,000	-	2,12,000
2.	Karnataka	39,49,459	16,61,957	13,64,690	6,60,265	76,36,371
3.	Kerala	-	-	6,88,273	24,35,000	31,23,273
4.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	7,12,500	4,64,000	11,76,500
5.	Maharashtra	57,64,000	42,26,280	10,92,933	2,20,802	1,13,04,015
6.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	8,50,000	6,50,000	15,00,000
7.	West Bengal	-	-	99,250	38,250	1,37,500
8.	NCT of Delhi	2,12,000	35,41,257	28,64,399	5,12,361	71,30,017
9.	UT of Chandigarh	-	-	2,22,000	5,28,000	7,50,000
		99,25,459	94,29,494	81,06,045	55,08,678	3,29,69,676

[Translation]

## Availability of Fertilizer

\*342. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers are facing a lot of difficulties due to non-availability of fertilizers and are compelled to sow without using fertilizers;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any firm steps to make fertilizers available to the farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertiliser which is under statutory price control and for which assessment of demand and allocation are made. Availability of urea is adequate during the current Rabi season and there are no reports of any shortages. The other fertilizers are decontrolled and Government do not control their distribution and movement. The overall availability of important phosphatic and potassic fertilizers like Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) is also adequate to meet the requirements of the Rabi season. However, pockets of shortages of DAP had been reported from the States of Rajasthan,

Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana. This was mainly due to bunching of imported DAP at the ports during the months of October and November and a sharp increase in the demand due to increase sown area under wheat. However, accelerated despatches have improved the availability.

The steps taken to improve the availability of DAP in the affected areas include priority berthing of DAP vessels at ports, speedy evacuation of DAP by rail from the plants and ports and priority import of 55,000 tonnes of DAP.

## Employment through FPI

\*343. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are possibilities of providing employment to the maximum number of unemployed persons by encouraging and promoting cottage and small-scale industries under the food processing industries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any promotional scheme to set up such industrial units sectors in cottage and small scale; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) Government is conscious of the high employment generating

potential of food processing industries. Therefore, various policy measures including delicensing of most of the processed food industries and providing fiscal reliefs in Excise and Custom Duties for the Processed Food Sector have been taken.

For the growth, development and promotion of processed food industry, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries provides financial assistance in the form of soft loan on grant in aid, for setting up/expansion of food processing units, Research and Development, Human Resource Development, Quality Control and other promotional activities under its Plan Schemes.

Cottage and Small Scale Industries can also avail of such financial assistance. Besides, the general concessions being provided to the small scale and cottage sector units are also available to the food processing industrial units in these sectors.

[English]

#### **Strike by Postal Employees**

\*344. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all Postal employees have threatened to go on strike in December, 1998 due to non-acceptance of their demands;

(b) if so, the detailed demands of the Postal employees;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet their demands; and

(d) the date from which these demands have been pending with the Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) Two Postal Staff Federations and their affiliated unions had sent a notice for strike on 21st and 22nd December, 1998. In view of the suo moto statement of the Minister for Communications in both Houses of Parliament on 17th December, 1998 extending a package of benefits to Postal Extra Departmental Agents, the strike notice was withdrawn by the two federations and their affiliated unions on 18th December, 1998.

(b) to (d) In view of the reply to (a), do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Status of Industry to Agriculture**

\*345. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to accord status of industry to agriculture sector; and

(b) if so, the facilities likely to be provided to the agriculture sector as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The National Policy on Agriculture which in the final stages of consideration, seeks to bestow on the agriculture sector, in as many respects as possible, benefits similar to those obtaining in industry such as easy availability of credit and other inputs, free movement of agro-products, infrastructural facilities for the development of agri-business activities, etc.

[English]

#### **Use of Hindi**

\*346. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take any measures to make Hindi as an alternative language of the UN in view of the assurance given by the Non-resident Indians to bear the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon after the Prime Minister addressed the UN in Hindi thereby adding to the prestige of India;

(b) whether several countries are willing to lend support to India in this direction and necessary support can be mustered in case the Prime Minister makes effort in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking any lead by India in this regard?

THE MINISTER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The question of introduction of Hindi as one of the official languages of the UN has received the attention of the Government. At present, the UN has six official languages viz. English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese. The introduction of an additional official language is governed by the established rules of procedure of the Organisation and would require the approval of a majority of the Member States of the UN which currently has 185 members. An important consideration in getting adequate support would be the additional financial implications for the Member States of the UN for such a move. The introduction of an additional official language would involve significant expenditure from the regular budget of the UN which is solely financed by assessed contributions of its Member States. Article 17 (2) of the UN Charter provides that "the expenses of the Organisation shall be borne by the Members as apportioned by the General Assembly". Thus, even if contributions were forthcoming from non-budgetary sources, the rules do not admit their use for this purpose. In the light of the financial crisis facing the UN, proposal for additional official languages would not appear feasible. However, to ensure the facility of speaking in Hindi by Indian representatives in the United Nations, the Government have been making arrangements for on the spot translation of speeches made in Hindi.

**Electronic Telephone Exchanges**

\*347. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to convert all old exchanges into electronic telephone exchanges in the country;

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

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

(d) the number of electronic and non-electronic telephone exchanges functioning in each State at present;

(e) whether the Government have fixed any target for the year 1998-99 to convert telephone exchanges into electronic exchanges in the country;

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

(g) the amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) By December, 1999.

(d) to (f) 101 out of 139 telephone exchanges are likely to be converted to electronic exchange during the year 1998-1999 and the balance by December, 1999. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II and Statement-III.

(g) There is no separate fund earmarked for this purpose. However, approximately Rs. 395 crores are likely to be incurred.

**Statement-I**

*Details of State-wise Old (Non-electronic) Telephone exchanges in the Country as on 1st April, 1998*

Sl. No.	State	Nos.	Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	77650
2.	Andaman Nicobar	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4.	Assam	0	0
5.	Bihar	0	0
6.	Delhi	9	110000
7.	Goa	0	0

1	2	3	4
8.	Gujarat (Including Daman & Diu, Nagar & Haveli)	22	165700
9.	Haryana	5	19600
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	170
12.	Karnataka	12	95000
13.	Kerala (Including Lakshadweep)	7	43800
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3	25000
15.	Maharashtra	24	152500
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Orissa	2	9000
21.	Punjab (Including Chandigarh)	4	27800
22.	Rajasthan	4	16500
23.	Sikkim	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu (Including Pondicherry)	15	99100
25.	Tripura	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2	15000
27.	West Bengal	6	47700
		139	904520

**Statement-II**

*State-wise number of Electronic/Non-electronic Telephone exchanges in the country as on 30th November, 1998*

Sl. No.	State	Number of exchanges Electronic	Non-Electronic
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2107	5
2.	Andaman Nicobar	29	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	75	0
4.	Assam	319	0
5.	Bihar	855	0

1	2	3	4
6.	Delhi	156	3
7.	Goa	69	0
8.	Gujarat (Incl. Daman & Diu and Nagar & Haveli)	1457	16
9.	Haryana	791	4
10.	Himachal Pradesh	612	0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	249	6
12.	Karnataka	2174	7
13.	Kerala (Incl. Lakshadweep)	817	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2732	2
15.	Maharashtra	2900	14
16.	Manipur	31	0
17.	Meghalaya	46	0
18.	Mizoram	42	0
19.	Nagaland	35	0
20.	Orissa	763	1
21.	Punjab (Incl. Chandigarh)	1009	1
22.	Rajasthan	1663	2
23.	Sikkim	25	0
24.	Tamil Nadu (Incl. Pondicherry)	1538	4
25.	Tripura	51	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2208	1
27.	West Bengal	862	2
		23615	73

**Statement-III**

*Details of State-wise/Union Territory-wise Old (Non-electronic) Telephone exchanges in the country planned for conversion during 1998-1999*

Sl. No.	State	Nos.	Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	67650
2.	Andaman Nicobar	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4.	Assam	0	0

1	2	3	4
5.	Bihar	0	0
6.	Delhi	9	110000
7.	Goa	0	0
8.	Gujarat	12	91000
9.	Haryana	4	14600
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	50
12.	Karnataka	7	43000
13.	Kerala	6	34800
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	15000
15.	Maharashtra	15	97400
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Orissa	1	6000
21.	Punjab	3	24800
22.	Rajasthan	3	6500
23.	Sikkim	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	13	81100
25.	Tripura	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1	10000
27.	West Bengal	6	47700
		101	649600

**Union Territories**

1.	Daman & Diu	0	0
2.	Nagar & Haveli	0	0
3.	Lakshadweep	0	0
4.	Chandigarh	0	0
5.	Pondicherry	0	0
		0	0

[Translation]

**FPI Units in the Country**

\*348. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented various schemes for promoting food processing industries in the country since its inception;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes implemented;

(c) the estimated installed capacity of food processing industries in the country till the end of March, 1998; and

(d) the total amount of foreign investment made in it till the end of March, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries was set up in the year 1998. The Ministry has been operating several Plan Schemes for the growth, development and promotion of processed food industry. Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry financial assistance is made available to Non-Governmental Organisations, Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings and private sector industries.

The thrust areas of the Plan assistance are :

1. Establishment of post harvest infrastructure particularly cold chain facilities.
2. Establishment of Food Processing Industrial Estates/Parks.
3. Setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing industries.
4. Research & Development.
5. Human Resource Development.

The assistance is provided in the form of soft loan or grant-in-aid and the quantum of assistance varies from scheme-to-scheme.

Since food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information on the installed capacity of the food processing industries is now Centrally maintained.

Since liberalisation in July, 1991 till March, 1998, the total amount of foreign investment approved in the various sectors of food processing is Rs. 8756 crores, out of which actual inflow upto March, 1998 is approximately Rs. 1750 crores.

[English]

#### Internet Facility

\*349. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to provide Internet facilities in the whole country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications pending with the Government for providing Internet facility in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the names of the cities proposed to be connected with Internet during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Internet Access Nodes will be opened by Department of Telecom and also by authorised Internet Service providers at all District Head Quarters/local charging areas by 26th Jan. 2000. As an interim measure, and till nodes are provided in all local charging areas, access to the nearest internet nodes will be provided by Department of Telecom on local call rates, progressively. A very large number of cities and towns have been connected with internet facility and more cities/towns are being added progressively.

The list of pending applications with Departments of Telecom (DOT)/Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL) is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*Number of applications pending with the Government for providing Internet facility in the Country State-wise*

1	2	3
1.	Maharashtra Including Goa	1233
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	30
3.	Tamil Nadu	243
4.	New Delhi	950
5.	Gujarat	114
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0
7.	Orissa	134
8.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	20
9.	Kerala	0
10.	Karnataka	253
11.	Andhra Pradesh	310
12.	Haryana	28
13.	Rajasthan	920
14.	West Bengal	1
15.	Himachal Pradesh	0
16.	Assam	10
17.	Andaman & Nicobar	0
18.	Punjab	92
19.	Sikkim	0
20.	Bihar	423
21.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	50



1	2	3
22.	Meghalaya	0
23.	Manipur	0
24.	Tripura	4
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
26.	Mizoram	0
27.	Nagaland	0

#### Conference on Horticulture

\*350. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Conference on Horticulture was held in November, 1998;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made during the Conference;

(c) whether the Government have examined the recommendations made by the Conference; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The National Horticulture Conference was held on 20-21st November, 1998, at New Delhi, to review the progress of the central sector/centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in the States/Union Territories and to discuss issues of critical importance to Horticulture Development in the country.

(b) Major recommendations made by the Conference are as follows :-

- (1) A Programme for Integrated Development of onion and potato to be launched to avoid periodical scarcities and gluts in future.
- (2) Reliable database on horticulture to be developed for future planning.
- (3) Additional cold storage capacity in the country to be created for perishable horticulture crops including potato and onion.
- (4) Tissue Culture and Bio Technology to be promoted for production of good quality planting material.
- (5) New Initiatives for NE Region and Hilly and Tribal Areas to be formulated.
- (6) Better progress to be shown by States for utilization of funds released by the Centre for Horticulture Development.

(c) and (d) The following action has been taken on the conclusions of the conference:-

- (1) The proposal for Integrated Development of Onion and Potato has been formulated for approval in the IX Plan.

(2) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is already implementing a scheme for generation of production estimates of select horticulture crops. The scheme has been expanded to cover additional crops the IX Plan. National Crop Forecasting Centre has been set up to monitor crop conditions across the country.

(3) National Horticulture Board and National Co-operative Development Corporation are already providing financial assistance to create cold storages in the country. However, an Inter Ministerial High Power Committee has been constituted to look into the issue of additional cold storage facilities, upgradation of technologies for the cold storage and related issue.

(4) Ongoing Central Sector/Centrally sponsored schemes have been expanded for approval in the IX Plan, to promote tissue culture and bio technology for production of quality planting material.

(5) Technology Mission for Integrated Horticulture Development in NE Region including the state of Sikkim and a new scheme for Horticulture Development in Tribal and Hilly Areas have been formulated for approval in the IX Plan.

(6) States have been advised both in the Conference and in writing subsequently to show better utilization of funds already released by the Centre.

[Translation]

#### Indo-Bangla Talks

\*351. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any talk/agreement with the Government of Bangladesh on the question of illegal migrants;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the strict enforcement of 1990-91 agreement with the Bangladesh on illegal migrants;

(d) the irritants still persisting between both the countries; and

(e) the steps taken for resolving the outstanding issues between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (e) The question of illegal immigrants has been discussed with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels on several occasions. The question figured most recently in the talks held during the visit of the Union Home Secretary to Dhaka on 21-23 November, 1998. It had also been discussed at the

meetings of the Joint Working Group (JWG) held in New Delhi on 19-20 August, 1998 and at the Director General level talks between the Border Security Force (BSF) and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) in Dhaka on 25-28 October, 1998. After detailed discussions, both sides have agreed that the procedure spelt out in the first JWG meeting in March 1994, as amended at the second JWG meeting (April 1995) will be adhered to. Both the countries also agreed that the verification of the nationality of persons, convicted by courts in either country would be completed at the earliest. There are various issues that arise from time to time dealing with aspects of border management including security related issues, smuggling and trafficking in women and children. As friendly neighbours, both countries are committed to resolving outstanding issues through dialogue. For this purpose, JWG meetings and meetings between the BSF and BDR are scheduled twice a year. The Home Secretaries meet once a year to discuss the outstanding issues.

[English]

### Hydrogen Bomb

\*352. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

SHRI E. AHAMED :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the article titled "The H-Bomb issue is crucial" in the Frontline Magazine dated June 19, 1998 and another article published in "The Hindu" titled "Scientist question DAE claim" and

(b) what is the factual position on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Articles, apart from containing several erroneous statements, refers to a report by some American scientists which underestimates the yield of the Indian nuclear tests of May 11, 1998 and raises doubts about the testing of a Thermonuclear Device by India.

Using four different methods of analyses, global seismic data and close-in acceleration measurement, Indian scientists have clearly established that the total yields of the devices tested on May 11, are in conformity with the announced yield values : that is 15 kilotons for the fission device and 45 kilotons for the Thermonuclear device. The yield of the third device which was a sub kiloton device of 0.2 kilo ton does not add significantly to the total yield. It may also be mentioned that there are other international seismic studies which have confirmed the yields announced by our scientists.

### Foodgrain Development Programme

\*353. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Foodgrains Development Programme for rice was undertaken in different States;

(b) if so, the progress achieved under this scheme. State-wise; and

(c) the amount released by the Government for the said programme during the last two years, State-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice) is being implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Kerala, Eastern Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and the Union Territory of Pondicherry since 1994-95.

(b) State-wise production and productivity of Rice since the inception of the scheme is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The funds released by the Government under the scheme to the participating states during the last two years is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

### Statement-I

#### State-wise Estimates of Production and Productivity of Rice 1994-95 to 1997-98

State	Production (Thousand Tonnes)				Yield (Kg/Hectare)			
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Adv)	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (ADV)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	9276.7	9014.2	9900.2	7877.0	2550	2441	2494	2412
Arunachal Pradesh	105.8	124.5	140.0	*	967	1049	1146	*
Assam	3309.1	3390.0	3328.2	3412.0	1350	1354	1336	1394

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bihar	6297.9	6640.0	7236.4	7089.0	1297	1318	1427	1414
Goa	133.0	128.1	148.0	*	2486	2394	2761	*
Kerala	975.1	953.0	837.8	803.0	1937	2023	1941	2033
Madhya Pradesh	6463.0	5839.1	6200.9	4388.0	1208	1093	1172	812
Manipur	478.3	331.8	367.3	*	3010	2149	2211	*
Meghalaya	111.5	111.8	120.3	*	1080	1075	1137	*
Mizoram	100.2	101.5	111.2	*	1498	1543	1719	*
Nagaland	174.0	185.0	153.0	*	1279	1321	1093	*
Orissa	6353.2	6226.2	4375.5	6351.0	1426	1375	981	1392
Tamil Nadu	7562.8	5290.0	6060.8	7052.0	3394	2712	2672	2987
Tripura	413.9	465.5	544.8	*	1617	2011	2104	*
Uttar Pradesh	10365.0	10362.5	11773.4	12160.0	1859	1862	2121	2148
West Bengal	12235.9	11887.0	12636.8	13290.0	2120	1997	2179	2275
Pondicherry	68.2	64.6	65.7	*	2526	2494	2489	*

\*Figures for these States are yet to be estimated, separately.

#### Statement-II

##### Scheme : Integrated Cereals Development Programme - Rice

States/ Agencies	Allocation 1996-97			Release Total 1996-97	Allocation 1997-98			Release Total 1997-98	Allocation 1998-99			Release Total 1998-99 So far
	Total	C. Share	S. Share		Total	C. Share	S. Share		Total	C. Share	S. Share	
Andhra Pradesh	1203.80	919.35	284.45	463.97	982.30	736.72	245.58	719.00	913.70	685.28	228.42	674.00
Arunachal Pradesh	60.20	47.90	12.30	5.04	50.10	37.60	12.42	36.00	53.33	40.00	13.33	17.00
Assam	238.65	189.30	49.35	0.00	197.70	148.27	49.43	0.00	187.90	141.53	46.37	0.00
Bihar	1026.60	775.20	251.40	181.83	656.60	492.45	164.15	34.00	628.00	471.00	157.00	0.00
Goa	14.05	11.08	2.97	0.00	40.72	30.54	10.18	7.00	32.95	24.72	8.23	10.00
Kerala	141.00	113.80	27.20	94.96	179.70	134.78	44.92	134.00	179.70	134.78	44.92	131.00
Madhya Pradesh	434.10	337.95	96.15	0.00	398.10	298.58	99.52	29.00	461.00	345.75	115.25	203.00
Manipur	42.10	33.25	8.85	24.96	48.00	36.00	12.00	46.00	70.00	52.50	17.50	32.00
Meghalaya	43.60	34.32	9.28	22.14	38.95	29.21	9.74	17.00	50.00	37.50	12.50	8.00
Mizoram	26.60	21.05	5.55	13.53	28.55	21.41	7.14	36.00	40.01	30.00	10.01	18.00
Nagaland	49.40	38.73	10.67	34.81	63.90	47.92	15.98	41.00	80.00	60.00	20.00	36.00
Orissa	939.35	720.32	219.03	448.03	1185.60	889.20	296.40	998.00	1159.96	869.97	289.99	740.00
Tamil Nadu	903.70	697.05	206.65	750.08	733.40	550.05	183.35	628.00	782.30	586.73	195.57	639.00
Tripura	46.40	36.00	10.40	22.76	55.10	41.33	13.77	30.00	70.00	52.50	17.50	22.00
Uttar Pd.	1682.80	1286.83	395.97	1180.89	1388.50	1041.38	347.12	1195.00	1366.58	1024.94	341.64	812.00
West Bengal	418.35	330.98	87.37	0.00	411.30	308.48	102.82	144.00	397.60	298.20	99.40	80.00
Pondicherry	24.30	24.30	0.00	17.00	33.10	33.10	0.00	20.00	33.10	33.10	0.00	20.00

**Flood Prone Areas**

\*354. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered due to floods and droughts in the country at the end of each Five Year Plan;

(b) whether floods and droughts prone areas are increasing at the end of each Five Year Plan period;

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

(d) the plan of action to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) Details indicating that the Plan-wise loss suffered due to floods at 1981-82 prices, as reported by the Central Water Commission, are enclosed in the statement. According to the Ministry of Water Resources, the Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) has assessed the flood prone areas of the country as 40 million hectares. The statistics on flood affected areas do not indicate any increase from the above assessment made by the RBA. However, the area affected due to floods depends upon a number of factors such as intensity of rainfall, its distribution in time and space, population density, forest cover, soil and topography of the region etc. Investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the respective State Governments. The Centre renders assistance which is advisory in nature. The Centre also provides financial assistance to carry out important flood management works in the State of Assam and border States of Northern as well as North Eastern India. Central assistance is also being provided to North Bihar for carrying out flood proofing programme.

It has been reported by the Central Water Commission and Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment that no such survey regarding Drought Prone Areas has been carried out. However, according to a study made by Central Water Commission during 1975-82, the area affected by drought in the country is 51.12 million hectares spread over 315 taluks in 74 districts. Efforts are reportedly made under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) to mitigate the adverse effects of drought and prevent any loss to the nation. The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment is implementing DPAP since 1973-74 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The programme is monitored on a regular basis through review meetings with the concerned States. As per information recieved from various states, the estimated value of damage to crops during the last five years is indicated below:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)	
1994-95	8286.00
1995-96	451652.03
1996-97	141055.00
1997-98	44524.95
1998-99	2867.61

**Statement****Flood Damage in India During 1953 to 1996**

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Plan Period	Total Damage to Crops, Houses and Public Utilities (1981-82 Prices)
1.	First Plan (1953-56)	1395.90
2.	Second Plan (1956-61)	1525.96
3.	Third Plan (1961-66)	1109.89
4.	Annual Plans (1966-69)	1438.77
5.	Fourth Plan (1969-74)	5344.56
6.	Fifth Plan (1974-78)	4974.88
7.	Annual Plans (1978-80)	3047.68
8.	Sixth Plan (1980-85)	7660.36
9.	Seventh Plan (1985-90)	12410.09
10.	Annual Plans (1990-92)	1678.80
11.	Eighth Plan (1992-97)	2623.66

*[Translation]***Y-2K Problem**

\*355. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to solve the problem of Y-2K in computer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of research made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) : (SHRI

KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has worked out a plan of action for addressing the Y-2K problem. These include encouraging various institutions to provide specialized training on Y-2K solutions, sensitizing various users in government departments and organisations as well as private sector about the problem and the need to take steps in time to solve the problem. The Department of Electronics has issued : 'Year 2000 Survival : A Practitioner's Guide' to all concerned and jointly with the software industry has also brought out a directory of Indian Y-2K solution providers and publicized Y2K on web page on Internet. The Government of India has constituted a High Level Empowered Action Force on managing the Impact of Year 2000 problem in India under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission.

[English]

#### **Brackishwater Aquaculture**

\*356. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are implementing Central Schemes on Brackishwater Aquaculture in the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the other Central Government Schemes proposed to be implemented in the States for enhancing production of fish and raising the living standard of fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Development of Integrated Coastal Aquaculture", a package of financial, technical and extension support is provided to the small-scale shrimp farmers through 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) set up in all the coastal States of the country and the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. BFDAs have been set up in the Districts of Valsad, Bharuch and Surat in Gujarat. A subsidy of Rs. 30,000/- per hectare of water area is provided to the beneficiaries for developmental costs and inputs. Assistance of Rupees one lakh per hatchery or 10 per cent of the cost, whichever is lower is given for prawn seed hatcheries of 2-5 million capacity per annum. Trainees are provided stipend @ Rs. 25/- per day and travelling allowance limited to Rs. 140/- per trainee for two months training.

(c) The following Central Sector/Central Sponsored Schemes which are in operation at present would continue to be implemented for enhancing production of fish and raising the living standard of fishermen:

i) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture through Fish Farmers' Development Agencies.

- ii) Development of Marine Fisheries through Motorisation Programme and Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil supplied to Fishing Vessels below 20 metre length.
- iii) Fishing Harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports
- iv) Training and Extension Scheme.
- v) National Welfare of fishermen through Group Accident Insurance of Fishermen, Development of Model Fishermen Villages and Saving-cum-Relief programme.

[Translation]

#### **Anti Tank Missile Developed by Pakistan**

357. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that recently Pakistan has successfully tested newly developed anti-tank missile name Bhakhtar Shikan equipped with a capacity to attack its target even in darkness;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and steps taken to counter this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) Government has seen reports in the Pakistan media that an anti-tank guided missile with a night vision capability has been tested by Pakistan in November, 1998. This has been described by Pakistan as "Bhakhtar Shikan". Government closely monitors and continuously assesses all developments with regard to Pakistan's missile programme. Government remains fully committed to effectively safeguarding the country's security in keeping with us its assessment of the national security requirements.

[English]

#### **Cyber Laws**

\*358. SHRI R. S. GAVAI :

SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact a comprehensive cyber law aimed at legitimising electronic communication and dealing with cyber crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of present laws likely to be amended for the purpose;

(d) the main features of the law likely to be enacted; and

(e) the time by which this is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) (a) to (e) An Information Technology Bill is proposed to be introduced in the Parliament.

The salient features of the proposed Bill are as follows:-

- The Bill provides that, unless otherwise agreed, an acceptance of contract may be expressed by electronic means of communication and information shall not be denied legal effect, validity or enforceability solely on the ground that it is in the form of an electronic record.
- The Bill provides for use of electronic record signed with secure digital signature both in the Government, public and private. The offences of computer crime like unauthorised access to computer data network, tampering with computer source document etc. have also been defined in the Bill.
- The Bill proposes amendments in the existing Acts such as Indian Evidence Act, 1872; the Indian Penal Code, 1860; RBI Act and the Bankers Book Evidence Act, 1891.

[Translation]

### Gujral Doctrine

\*359. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Government is following the doctrines enunciated in the "Gujral Doctrine"; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the doctrine is followed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The 'Gujral Doctrine' was based on our well known and articulated objectives of foreign policy. It was basically an initiative aimed at emphasising India's role and policy in South Asia in a more friendly and cooperative mould and to be more accommodative to our neighbours in view of our size and resources. The 'Doctrine' was a continuation of our basic objectives and aims in foreign policy in reaction to the situation as obtained in our neighbourhood. We continue to seek friendly, good and neighbourly cooperation and mutually beneficial relations with all our neighbours.

[English]

### Passport Office

\*360. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared an action plan for the modernisation and expansion of existing passport offices/collection centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the new locations identified by the Government for opening passport offices and collection centres; and

(d) the time by which these offices are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (d) It has been Government's constant endeavour to expand and modernise the network of passport offices and collection centres throughout the country keeping in mind the increasing demand for passport services and need to provide prompt and efficient service to the public.

2. 28 passport offices and 12 passport collection centres are currently functional all over the country. The opening of new passport offices is governed by certain criteria such as the location of existing offices, volume of applications from a particular region and regard to the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament for External Affairs that there must be at least 50,000 applications per annum from an area of a new passport office to be opened. Government has taken a decision in principle to open 10 more collection centres which would become operational as soon as requisite arrangements are in place in co-ordination with the concerned State Governments.

3. A list of the Passport Offices and collection centres currently existing as well as those collection centres proposed is given in the Statement enclosed.

4. Government has also undertaken to computerise the passport offices in a phased manner. Of the 28 passport offices, 15 located at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kozhikode, Lucknow, Mumbai, Trichy and Trivandrum have so far been computerised. A comprehensive computerisation programme is also being implemented which envisages installation of latest computer hardware and application software and satellite-based communication which would link all the 28 passport offices in

India to a Central Processing Cell to be established in New Delhi. This programme is expected to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the passport offices and improve the quality of services provided to passport applicants.

### Statement

#### *Existing Passport Offices, Collection Centres and Proposed Collection Centres*

##### *Passport Offices*

S.No.	Location of the Passport Office	Area of Jurisdiction
1	2	3
1	Ahmedabad	The State of Gujarat & Union Territory of Diu
2	Bangalore	The State of Karnataka
3	Bareilly	31 districts of U. P.
4	Bhopal	The State of Madhya Pradesh
5	Bhubaneshwar	The State of Orissa
6	Calcutta	The State of West Bengal, Sikkim and Tripura
7	Chandigarh	11 districts of Punjab, 14 districts of Haryana, State of Himachal Pradesh and U. T. of Chandigarh
8	Chennai	14 districts of Tamil Nadu and U.T. of Pondicherry
9	Cochin	5 districts of Kerala and U.T. of Lakshadweep
10	Delhi	N.C.T. of Delhi and 5 districts of Haryana
11	Ghaziabad	4 districts of U.P.
12	Guwahati	The States of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur
13	Hyderabad	18 districts of Andhra Pradesh
14	Jaipur	The State of Rajasthan
15	Jalandhar	6 districts of Punjab
16	Jammu	6 districts of Jammu & Kashmir
17	Kozhikode	6 districts of Kerala
18	Lucknow	36 districts of U.P.

1	2	3
19	Mumbai	6 districts of Maharashtra and the U.T. of Daman and Dadra & Nagar Haveli
20	Nagpur	14 districts of Maharashtra
21	Panaji	The State of Goa
22	Patna	The State of Bihar
23	Pune	6 districts of Maharashtra
24	Srinagar	8 districts of Jammu & Kashmir
25	Thane	5 districts of Maharashtra
26	Trichy	15 districts of Tamil Nadu
27	Trivandrum	3 districts of Kerala
28	Vishakhapatnam	5 districts of Andhra Pradesh

##### *Existing Collection Centres*

S. No.	Location of the Centre	State
1	Agartala	Tripura
2	Aizawl	Mizoram
3	Amritsar	Punjab
4	Aurangabad	Maharashtra
5	Dardhanga	Bihar
6	Imphal	Manipur
7	Kohima	Nagaland
8	Madurai	Tamil Nadu
9	Mangalore	Karnataka
10	Ranchi	Bihar
11	Shillong	Meghalaya
12	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh

##### *Proposed Collection Centres*

S. No.	Location of the Centre	State
1	2	3
1	Agra	Uttar Pradesh
2	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
3	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
4	Gulbarga	Karnataka

1	2	3
5	Gurgaon	Haryana
6	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
7	Pondicherry	UT of Pondicherry
8	Surat	Gujarat
9	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh
10	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh

#### Commuted Pension

3863. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not accepted the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission to restore the commuted pension after 12 years instead of 15 years;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review this recommendation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The V Pay Commission on commutation of pensions recommended an increase in the commutation limit from 1/3rd to 40% and restoration of commuted pension after 12 years. The Government accepted enhancing the commutation limit but maintained status quo regarding restoration period as no decision had been taken on retirement age. With enhancement of retirement from 58 to 60 years, the Government would study the implications and take appropriate decision.

#### National Planning

3864. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether nation's planning has been failed to solve the problem of safe drinking water, elementary education, health, poverty eradication even after 50 years of independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to solve the problems on priority basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) In the last fifty years, there has been considerable improvement in all the sectors, even though the spread of benefits has been constrained by a faster growing population. The incidence of rural poverty has declined from 56% in 1973-74 to 37 per cent in 1993-94 as per the official estimates of poverty. Near self sufficiency in food production has been achieved. The literacy rate has increased from 18.33% in 1950-51 to 52.2% in 1990-91. The Crude Death Rate (CDR) has declined from 25.1 in 1951 to 8.9 in 1996. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 146 in 1951 to 72 in 1996, life expectancy rose from 32 years in 1947 to 61.1 years in 1991-96. National programme for combating major public health problems were evolved and implemented.

(c) to (e) Poverty alleviation and improvement of basic amenities received special attention in Plans. In 1996, the Basic Minimum Services (BMS) programme was launched for attainment of certain objectives within a specified time frame in seven specified areas including safe drinking water and health services. During the current year, Planning Commission has prepared Special Action Plans (SAPs) to be given emphasis in the Ninth Five Year Plan in five areas viz. (i) Food and Agriculture; (ii) Physical Infrastructure; (iii) Health, Education, Housing and Drinking Water; (iv) Information Technology; and (v) Water Resources Policy. Well specified targets with fixed time frames have been laid down for these sectors.

#### Kuwait Returnees

3865. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of claims of people for handing over the belongings of deceased Indian nationals abroad are not handed over to the claimants in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such claims are not settled even though the belongings have been sent to Consular Division of Ministry of External Affairs by our Embassies abroad; and

(d) the details of above claims in so far as the claims relate to the belongings sent from our Embassy in Kuwait for the year 1995 and onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Government is not aware of a large number of pending cases. The normal practice is for the belongings



of deceased Indian nationals abroad to be arranged to be despatched either alongwith the mortal remains of the deceased by the local sponsors or by the next of kin through a Power of Attorney. In cases where there is a dispute in identifying the legal heirs of the deceased, however, the despatch of the belongings may be delayed until the heirs have been identified through due legal process.

(c) and (d) The belongings of deceased Indian nationals abroad are not usually sent to the Ministry of External Affairs but directly to the next of kin/legal heirs as per the procedure outlined at (a) and (b). Since 1995, there have been only two cases where the belongings of the deceased were despatched to the Ministry of External Affairs, of which one apparently pertains to an Indian national Shri Totikonda Thothadri who had died in Kuwait in 1993.

### Central Administrative Tribunal

3866. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :

SHRI P. SANKARAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several posts of judges are lying vacant in various benches of CAT;

(b) if so, the details thereof, bench-wise alongwith the period of these vacancies;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to fill up these posts;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the decisions/directions given by the CAT have not been complied with by the concerned departments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The details of posts of Vice-Chairman and Members in the Central Administrative Tribunal lying vacant at present are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) The applications are invited to fill up vacancies in the posts of Vice-Chairman and Members normally on six monthly basis. Appointments are made in accordance with the procedure on the basis of the recommendations of a Selection Committee.

(d) and (e) No such information is maintained centrally. However, instructions already exist in terms of which the decisions/directions of the Central Administrative Tribunal are required to be complied with within the time limit prescribed in the order or within six months of the receipt of the order where no such time limit is indicated in the order.

### Statement

#### *Vacancy Position of Vice-Chairman and Members in the Central Administrative Tribunal as on 1-12-1998*

S. No.	Name of the Bench	Vacancy position of Vice-Chairman and Members with date (in bracket)		
		Vice-Chairman	Administrative Member	Judicial Member
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Principal Bench	1(11.2.1998)	—	—
2.	Ahemdabad	—	—	1 (25.9.98)
3.	Allahabad	1(26.1.1998)	1 (17.5.1998)	—
4.	Lucknow	—	1 (27.3.1998)	—
5.	Mumbai	—	1 (20.5.1998)	1 (4.1.1998)
6.	Calcutta	—	1 (1.4.1998)	—
7.	Chandigarh	—	2 (20.1.1998 and 4.10.1998)	—
8.	Ernakulam	—	2 (10.7.1998 and 14.9.1998)	—

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Jabalpur	1 (15.9.1998)	1 (15.10.1998)	—
10.	Jodhpur	—	1 (5.11.1996)	—
11.	Jaipur	—	1 (1.4.1998)	—
12.	Patna	1 (27.9.1998)	1 (4.2.1997)	—
13.	Chennai	—	1 (26.9.1998)	—
14.	Bangalore	—	1 (1.12.1998)	—
Total		4	14	2

[Translation]

### Construction Of Dam

3867. SHRI H. P. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have cleared the proposal to construct a dam across the river of Sone in Bihar for power generation recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

### Small Hydel Power Stations

3868. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit setting up of small hydel power station in villages, under Voluntary Organisation or Panchayat that do not pose any threat to ecology and environment;

(b) whether any such station have been set up in the State of Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is encouraging setting up of small hydel power stations by Non-Governmental Organizations, local bodies, apart from Government, public and private sectors.

(b) and (c) In the State of Kerala, Meenvalom small hydel project in Palakkad district has been allotted to the Palakkad Zilla Panchayat for implementation. Requests for allotment of small hydel schemes received from the Kannur, Kozhikode, and Malappuram Zilla Panchayats are under consideration of the Kerala Government. So far, no such station has been set up in Kerala.

### Vigilance Department of Kendriya Bhandar

3869. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of the Kendriya Bhandar found involved in irregularities and corruption cases during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to strengthen the vigilance system in Kendriya Bhandar;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the number of cases relating to Kendriya Bhandar pending with vigilance Department at present alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Complaints had been received against 67 employees. The complaints related to matters like:

- i) Overcharging from the customers.
- ii) Interpolation/overwriting in store issue notes.
- iii) Shortage/pilferage of stock.
- iv) Less weighment of ration articles.

- v) Non-mentioning in the cash memo of names of goods sold to the customers.

Penalties including dismissal, demotion, withholding of annual increments etc. were imposed on those found guilty.

(c) and (d) The existing set up is considered adequate.

(e) Eleven. Investigations and enquiries are going on.

[Translation]

### Telephone Exchanges

3870. SHRI D. S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone exchanges sanctioned for Nasik and Dhule districts in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges set up and functional during the said period;

(c) the number of telephone connections allotted in these said districts from the new exchanges during the said period;

(d) whether the DOT has fixed any criteria regarding the allotment of new telephone connection from the new exchanges;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any irregularities have been noticed by the Government regarding excess allotment of telephone connection in the said districts from new exchanges;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) The number of Telephone Exchanges sanctioned for Nasik and Dhule districts of Maharashtra during the last three years is as under:

Year	Nasik	Dhule
95-96	4	3
96-97	6	8
97-98	19	7

(b) The number of Telephone Exchanges set up and function during the said period is as under :

Year	Nasik	Dhule
95-96	4	3
96-97	6	8
97-98	19	7

(c) The number of Telephone connections allocated in these said districts from the exchanges during the said period is as under :

Year	Nasik	Dhule
95-96	12638	2302
96-97	19120	2500
97-98	19129	9005

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) As per the Departmental policy, the applicants in each category are to be provided telephones as per their turn according to date of registration. This procedure is being followed except in cases, where the applicant falls in technically Non-feasible areas. In such cases, the telephone connections are provided at a later date with the approval of competent authority. This is not considered as irregularity.

(g) and (h) Does not arise in view of (e) and (f) above.

[English]

### Under Tunga Irrigation Project

3871. SHRI B. M. MENSINKAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Upper Tunga Irrigation Project of the State Government of Karnataka is pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have sought World Bank assistance for the said project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work on this project is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Clearance

of Uppar Tunga Irrigation Projects is linked with compliance of observations regarding dam, gates and canal design, irrigation planning, environmental, constructional material and cost aspects by the State Government.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been received from the State Government.

(e) As per State Plan document of Karnataka, work on Project has already commenced during Eighth Plan.

#### Central Agriculture University

3872. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up Central Agriculture University at Kokrajhar within Bodoland Autonomous area in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) There is no proposal to set up Central Agricultural University at Kokrajhar within Bodoland Autonomous area in Assam since there is already a State Agricultural University in Assam namely Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Tissue Culture

3873. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several crops are grown in the country by adopting tissue culture;

(b) if so, the crops produced by adoption of this method; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to popularise of tissue culture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Tissue culture technology has been adopted for the production of a large quantity of plantation and horticultural crops including floricultural and ornamental crops. The horticultural crops include Banana, Cardamom, Potato, Ginger, Turmeric and Ornamentals. Tissue culture technique is also being used for producing forest trees like Eucalyptus species, Bamboo species, Teak, Poplar, Leucaena species besides cash crop like sugarcane.

(c) Under the Central Sector Schemes on (1) Devel-

opment of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits, and (2) Development of Commercial Floriculture, assistance is being provided through the State Governments for establishing tissue culture units under the Public Sector as well as the Private Sector. The above schemes were implemented during the VIII Plan and were continued during 1997-98. The schemes are being continued during 1998-99 also.

[English]

#### Issuing of Telephone Directories

3874. SHRI C. D. GAMIT :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI :

SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone directories have not been issued in Delhi for the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether telephone directories have also not been issued in other cities in the country for the last many years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that telephone directories are issued well in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Telephone directory could not be printed due to contractual failure and the contract was terminated. Fresh Tender was floated for printing of telephone directory which has now been finalised and directory is under printing.

(c) and (d) Sir, Printing of telephone directories in some other telephone districts also has been delayed. This has been mainly due to insufficient response to tenders and contractual failures.

(e) Policy for printing of telephone directories has been reviewed recently to ensure timely publication.

#### Air Station at Parbhani in Maharashtra

3875. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Radio Station at Parbhani in Maharashtra has been declared as a full-fledged station;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start broadcasting programmes independently;

(c) whether there is any hitch in delinking Parbhani Station of AIR from the Aurangabad Station; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 65 minutes programmes is produced in the studios at Parbhani and broadcast daily.

(c) and (d) Delinking of Parbhani station from Aurangabad is held up due to non-availability of sanction for requisite staff. The matter is being pursued by Prasar Bharati with competent authority for sanction of requisite staff.

[Translation]

#### STD Facility in Rajasthan

3876. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Talukas and tehsil headquarters in Rajasthan having telephone exchanges with STD facility;

(b) the number of Talukas not having this facility; and

(c) the time by which STD facility is likely to be provided in these Talukas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) There are 213 Tehsil Headquarters in Rajasthan. These all are having telephone exchange with STD facility. Word "Taluka" is not used in Rajasthan.

(b) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

[English]

#### Agriculture in the Concurrent List

3877. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring the agriculture in the Concurrent List from the State List;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this step is being taken to stimulate investment in the agriculture sector;

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

(e) if so, the details of the views expressed by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Telephone Advisory Committee in Jamnagar

3878. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone advisory committee has not been constituted in Jamnagar district of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) whether the Government have received any representation for early constitution of this committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;

(f) the criteria laid down for nomination of the member of the committee;

(g) whether the Government have received any representation for nominating Members of Parliament to this committee; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No, Sir, TAC for Jamnagar Telecom District stands constituted with the nomination of Hon'ble M.P., Shri Chandresh Patel.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Member of the TAC are nominated taking into consideration all the recommendations received from various sources.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

**Tube Wells**

3879. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Central Ground Water Board by digging deep tube-wells in several areas of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome thereof; and

(c) the details of future plan of the Government to provide sufficient water in the State for irrigation purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has drilled 785 boreholes in Orissa upto March, 1998. District-wise details of boreholes drilled by the Board in Orissa are given in the statement. The wells drilled between 80 to 260 metres depth in hard rock areas of the State have yielded water in the range of one to 1578 litres per second and the wells drilled between 150 to 600 metres depth for alluvial areas of the State has yielded water in the range of two to 65 litres per second.

(c) Development and use of ground water for various purposes, including that for irrigation, is done by the concerned State Government. The Central Ground Water Board provides technical assistance for location and utilisation of sources of ground water as required by the State Governments. The successful exploratory wells drilled by the Board are also handed over to the States for the utilisation.

**Statement**

*District-wise Details of Boreholes Drilled by CGWB in Orissa upto March, 1998*

Sl. No.	District	No. of boreholes drilled by the Board
1	2	3
1.	Balasore(bhadrak)	69
2.	Bolangir	85
3.	Cuttack	71
4.	Dhenkanal	11
5.	Deogarh	3
6.	Kalahandi	82
7.	Keonjhar	54
8.	Kendrapara	6
9.	Koraput (Navrangpur)	69
10.	Mayurbhanj	64

1	2	3
11.	Phulbani	30
12.	Puri	40
13.	Sambalpur	101
14.	Sundergarh	80
15.	Ganjam	5
16.	Neopada	7
17.	Subarnapur	8
Total		785

[Translation]

**Telephone Out of Order in U.P.**

3880. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days after which the complaint lodged regarding telephone being out of order is disposed of;

(b) whether the Government have recieved any representations regarding out of order telephones in Lucknow and other cities in U.P. during the last three years;

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

(d) the manner in which financial loss suffered by subscribers is proposed to be compensated; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Complaints regarding telephones being out of order are being disposed of expeditiously, barring cases due to Cable faults etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The complaints thus received were got examined/attended to and telephones were set right expeditiously.

(d) Complaints, received/registered/noticed are attended expeditiously barring cases of Cable faults etc. In case telephone remains faulty continuously for 7 days or more due to departmental reasons, rental rebate is granted to the subscribers.

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

[English]

**Waiting List for Telephone Connections in West Bengal**

3881. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is long list of people waiting for telephone connection in West Bengal as compared to other States;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list for new telephone connections in the State as on November 30, 1998;

(c) the number of telephone connections allotted during the last three years, district-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to clear the waiting list in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) As on 30.11.98, the waiting list of West Bengal is 1.28 lakhs, which is less than waiting list of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, U.P., Punjab, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

(c) The number of telephone connections provided during the last three years, district-wise is shown in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Expansion of existing exchanges and opening of new exchanges are being done to increase the switching capacities to clear the waiting list. Out of the total waiting list of 128241 in West Bengal, it is planned to provide 100153 connections during the current financial year. The remaining part of the waiting list will be cleared during the next financial year.

#### Statement

*Number of Connections Provided Over Last Three Years  
District-wise in West Bengal State*

Sl.No.	District	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
01.	Bankura	1294	1994	2729
02.	Birbhum	2123	2132	4999
03.	Burdwan	12614	18225	20957
04.	Coochbehar	1002	1508	2374
05.	Darjeeling	2631	6504	7958
06.	Dinajpur (N)	1657	1888	2489
07.	Dinajpur (S)	1199	1564	2003
08.	Hooghly	1624	2953	4832
09.	Howrah	423	620	1202
10.	Jalpaiguri	1692	3239	3797
11.	Malda	1949	3231	5299

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Midnapore	7148	7570	7781
13.	Murshidabad	1397	4380	4248
14.	Nadia	4541	5827	4771
15.	Purulia	1053	1445	1369
16.	24 Parganas (N)	1945	2622	4874
17.	24 Parganas (S)	943	1591	1992
18.	Calcutta	65107	75176	151588
Total		110342	142469	235262

#### Status of T.V. Relay Centre at 24 Parganas

3882. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of TV relay centre, located at 'Basanti' in South 24 Parganas of West Bengal; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Low Power Transmitter, Basanti in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal is technically ready but not relaying transmission as staff for operation and maintenance of this LPT is yet to be sanctioned.

#### Air Station at Sitamarhi in Bihar

3883. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up AIR station at Sitamarhi in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Landless Farmers

3884. SHRI DEVENDER BAHADUR ROY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of landless farmers in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any special plan to safeguard the interest of these landless farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said plan is likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) A statement giving the number of landless farmers (cultivating wholly leased in area and/or wholly otherwise operated land) as per Agricultural Census, 1990-91 is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The Government are implementing a number of schemes like IRDP, JRY, EAS, IAY, TRYSEM, DWCRA etc. which are designed to benefit the rural poor including landless agricultural farmers/labourers.

#### Statement

*State-wise number of Landless farmers in the country as per Agricultural Census 1990-91*

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Wholly leased in holdings Nos.	Wholly other wise operated holdings Nos.	Landless farmers (Col 3 + Col 4) Nos.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	18	22
2.	Assam	67	27	94
3.	Bihar	18	23	41
4.	Gujarat	2	4	6
5.	Haryana	46	6	52
6.	Himachal Pradesh	14	2	16
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	12	149	161
8.	Karnataka	—	Neg.	Neg.
9.	Kerala	2	25	27
10.	Madhya Pradesh	14	160	174
11.	Maharashtra	8	15	23
12.	Manipur	8	Neg.	8
13.	Meghalaya	9	9	18
14.	Nagaland	3	—	3
15.	Orissa	10	22	32

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Punjab	10	—	10
17.	Rajasthan	7	44	51
18.	Sikkim	7	Neg.	7
19.	Tamil Nadu	33	11	44
20.	Tripura	3	64	67
21.	Uttar Pradesh	56	44	100
22.	West Bengal	105	36	141
23.	A & N Islands	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	Neg.	—	Neg.
25.	Chandigarh	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
27.	Delhi	—	—	—
28.	Goa	23	4	27
29.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
30.	Mizoram	—	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	3	Neg.	3
32.	Daman & Diu	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
Total		464	663	1127

#### Internets

3885. SHRI DEVJIBHAI J. TANDEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide internet facility in Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Vapi, Umargaon and Valsad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) : Internet facility is available at all these stations. The Department of Telecommunications have allowed access to the nearest Internet Node on local call rate progressively with effect from 15.8.1998. All the above



stations have access to nearest DOT Internet Node (Surat) on local call basis.

DOT proposes to be set up Internet Nodes at Valsad, Daman and Silvassa (Dadra Nagar Haveli) during 1999-2000. Even on commissioning of above nodes, Internet facility will continue to be available at Vapi and Umergaon on local call basis.

#### **Bus Service Between India and Pakistan**

3886. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce bus and train services between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether all the formalities in this regard are over; and

(c) the expected time of the introduction of bus and train services to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) An agreement and a protocol, providing a framework and operational mechanism for a bus service between Delhi and Lahore, were initiated on 3rd December, 1998 by the leaders of the Indian and Pakistani delegations following discussions held between the two countries in Islamabad from 2 to 3 December, 1998. Follow up action has now to be taken for the signing of the Agreement by the two Governments. The bus service is expected to commence by the middle of January, 1999.

A train service between India and Pakistan has already been operating since 1976. Presently, this train, called Samjhauta Express, runs between Lahore and Attari twice a week.

#### **Concessional Telephone Facility**

3887. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided concessional telephone facility to the in-service employees as well; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

However, serving employees of DOT are registered under Non-OYT General serving employees DOT category for priority provision of Telephones at his/her normal place of residence or for the use of his/her families at some other station if his/her family is staying at that station.

[Translation]

#### **Yamuna Barrage**

3888. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the construction of a barrage across the river of Yamuna at Agra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when this proposal is pending with the Union Government;

(c) the reasons for not taking any decisions on that till now; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The Detailed Project Report of Agra Barrage Project across River Yamuna at an estimated cost of Rs. 100.01 crores was received in Central Water Commission in April 1996. Comments of the Central Water Commission and other Central Appraising Agencies have been sent to the State Government. The decision on the project depends on the promptness with which the comments of these Central Appraising Agencies are complied with by the State Government.

[English]

#### **Branch Post Offices**

3889. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines fixed recently for according of sanctions to open Branch Post Offices in rural villages especially in Tribal areas of the country;

(b) the total number of Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices are likely to be sanctioned in the current year in Orissa, district-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the targets are likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) The norms for opening Branch Post Offices in rural/tribal areas of the country are given in Statement enclosed.

(b) A target of opening of 10(Ten) Extra-Departmental Branch Post Offices and 2 (Two) Departmental Sub Post Offices has been fixed for Orissa Circle for the current annual plan 1998-99, subject to availability of resources.

(c) Achievement of targets involves availability of human and financial resources and suitable accommodation.

### **Statement**

#### *Norms for Opening of Post Offices*

#### **1. Norms for opening of new Branch Post Offices:**

##### **1.1 Population :**

###### **a) In Normal Areas :**

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO Villages)

(b) In the hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas :

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

##### **1.2 Distance :**

###### **(a) In Normal Areas:**

The minimum distance from the nearest existing Post Office will be 3 kms.

(b) In the hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas :

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

##### **1.3 Anticipated Income :**

###### **(a) In Normal Areas:**

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1 3% of cost.

(b) In the hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas :

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

### **Support Price For Shelac**

3890. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare the support price for Shelac cash crop; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Gov-

ernment announces minimum support prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities grown by farmers. The MSPs for forest produce like shelac having localized production are not fixed by the Government.

### **Over-time Allowance**

3891. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Non-Gazetted employees of Union Government can claim overtime allowance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of ceiling on claim of OTA in revised pay scales?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Under the existing orders, Overtime Allowance (OTA) is payable to the specified categories of Central Govt. employees who are drawing pay upto Rs. 2200/- p.m. under the Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules 1986. The Fifth Central Pay Commission while recommending discontinuance of Overtime Allowance in Central Govt. offices had also recommended that the payment of Overtime Allowance to the Staff Car Drivers, Operational Staff and Industrial employees may be continued to be governed by the existing rules and instructions on the subject. It has been decided to continue the status quo in regard to payment of OTA subject to a review of the matter to make the eligibility to OTA more restrictive and commensurate with the interests of Govt. work. Accordingly, until further orders, payment of OTA has been continued to be made as per the existing orders on the basis of notional pay admissible to the concerned Govt. employees in the prervised pay/payscale as laid down in the existing orders.

### **Setting up of TV Transmitter in Jammu and Kashmir**

3892. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a T.V. transmitter at Hiranagar and Ramnagar in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir. Currently, there is no approved

scheme to set up transmitters at Hiranagar and Ramnagar. However, Prasar Bharati have prepared a special plan for special assistance for improving their infrastructure and coverage in J & K. On sanctioning of the special assistance, the proposal for installation of more transmitters in J & K for DD-I and DD-II including at Hiranagar and Ramnagar would be considered.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Pay Scales of UDCs/ Stenographers Grade-D**

3893. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Arbitration appointed by the Union Government regarding revision of Pay Scales of UDCs and Stenographers Grade-D have since given its award;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the date from which the award has been made effective by the Board of Arbitration;

(d) whether the above award has since been implemented by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) : (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Board of Arbitration in CA No. 10 of 1992 has rejected the demand of revision of pay scales of UDCs of CSCs vide its order dated 30.7.1998. The Board of Arbitration in CA No. 11 of 1992 has accepted the demand of revision of pay scales of Steno Grade 'D' of CSSS vide its order dated 30.7.1998.

(c) The revision of pay scales of Steno Grade 'D' has been made effective w.e.f. 6.12.1991 (the date of recording disagreement).

(d) and (e) Action with regard to acceptance/rejection of the Award is being taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the JCM scheme. As it also involves studying its impact on other cadres it will be difficult to specify a definite time limit for acceptance/rejection of the Award.

#### **Maheshwar Irrigation Project**

3894. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the construction work of the Maheshwar Project on Narmada river;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allowed minor modification of the project after review; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Maheshwar Project on Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh is a Hydro-electric Project and there is no irrigation component in this project. Government of Madhya Pradesh have constituted a Task Force for the review of the project from Resettlement and Rehabilitation considerations as about 2265 Project Affected Families in 13 villages (9 fully and 4 partially) are likely to be displaced by the project. The Task Force has not yet submitted its report.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Fishing Information Centres**

3895. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Fishing Information Centres in coastal areas of the country, particularly at Porbandar;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Under the programme of Ocean Information Service of the Department of Ocean Development, the maps of Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs) are prepared and disseminated to about 170 fishing centres along the coastline of the country, including Porbandar. The maps of PFZs are prepared based on satellite derived Sea Surface Temperature information and processed centrally at National Remote Sensing Agency. In view of the this, there is no proposal to set up separate Fishing Information Centres at present in the country.

[Translation]

#### **Below Poverty Line**

3896. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has received any representation from the Government of Bihar to revise the estimate of the percentage of people living below poverty line in rural areas of Bihar;

(b) the details of revision sought by the Bihar Government;

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Planning Commission has revised its estimate of the percentage of people living below poverty line in Bihar; and

(e) if so, the percentage of people living below poverty line in Bihar at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. The Planning Commission, which is the nodal agency in the Government of India for estimation of poverty, has not received any such representation from the Government of Bihar.

(b) to (e) : Do not arise.

[English]

#### Programmes Allotted to Producers

3897. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commissioned programmes allotted to various producers during the year 1998;

(b) the break up of the categories of commissioned programmes i.e. Telefilms, Serials, Documentaries etc. so allotted;

(c) the names of the producers and the banner under which the commissioned programmes were sanctioned;

(d) whether the producers whose proposals were not selected/approved have been intimated the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) A total number of 385 programmes in various formats were commissioned by Doordarshan during the year 1998.

(b) The details are as under :-

Telefilm	-	54
Serials	-	103
Documentaries	-	171
Spots	-	2
Short Films	-	3
Current Affairs	-	27
Others	-	5

(c) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir. It is a continuous process.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*List showing the names and banners where available of the producers to whom commissioned programmes were assigned during the year 1998*

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s Vandhana, 11 Tolstoy Marg,  
New Delhi-110001.

Shri K. Selvaraju,  
M/s Images Network, 440/A,  
Munirka Market,  
New Delhi-110067.

Ms. Sashi Mehta,  
M/s Signet Communications.  
R-1/402, Park View Apartments,  
Hauz Khas Enclave,  
New Delhi -16

Shri Satish Pandey,  
M/s Lucrative Eye,  
K-1/67, C.R. Park,  
New Delhi -110019.

Shri Rajiv Mehrotra,  
M/s Mediart Films,  
A-86, Nizamuddin East,  
New Delhi-110013.

Shri Diptendu Dey,  
M/s Eastern News &  
Features Agency (P) Ltd.  
Kamallalaya Centre,  
156 A, Lenin Sarani, R.N. 222,  
Calcutta-700013

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 6-G, Vandhana,  
11, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-1

Shri A.K. Sen, M/s APCA, 139,  
Zamrudpur Commercial Complex,  
G.K.-1, New Delhi-48

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 6-G, Vandhana,  
11, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-1

M/s Perspective India,  
117, Sheikh Sarai Phase-I,  
SFS Flats, New Delhi-110017.

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 11, Tolstoy Marg,  
New Delhi-1

Shri Rajiv Mehrotra,  
M/s MediartFilms,  
A-86, Nizamuddin East,  
New Delhi-110013.

Shri K. Selvaraju,  
M/s Images Network Padma  
Printers, 400-A,  
Munirka Market, N.D. -67.

Shri Pritish Nandy,  
M/s Pritish N. Commu.,  
206, Centrepont, Dr. A. Road,  
Mumbai-400012

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 11, Tolstoy Marg,

—do—

Ms. Manika Gupta, 408,  
Asia House, K.G. Marg, N.D.-1

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 11, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-1

Shri Rajiv Mehrotra,  
M/s Mediart Films, A-86,  
Nizamuddin East, New Delhi-110013.

Shri Pritish Nandy,  
Pritish Nandy Communications, 206,  
Centrepont, Mumbai-400012

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 11, Tolstoy Marg,  
New Delhi-1

Shri G.S. Chani,  
M/s Sideline Video, Chandigarh.

Ms. Neelam,  
M/s Media Two Network, Delhi.

Shri K. Sanjay,  
M/s Nadh Brahman, Delhi.

Shri Digbijoy Mehdi,  
M/s Digbijoy Production, Guwahati.

Ms. Aarti,  
M/s Kuldip Films, New Delhi.

Sh. Sanjoy Chadha,  
M/s S.C. Films, Delhi.

Sh. K. Deepaka Gulati,  
M/s Anju Visuals, Delhi.

Ms. Manika Goel,  
M/s M. J. Films, New Delhi.

Mrs. Neelofer Shama,  
M/s N. S. Films, New Delhi.

Sh. Dhurv Sehgal,  
M/s Akansha Films, Delhi.

Sh. Pramod Razdan,  
M/s Samvad Films, Delhi.

Sh. Gopal Das,  
M/s N.R.M. Creations, Delhi.

Sh. G.R. Khan,  
M/s Peer Panchal Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Saurabh Singh,  
M/s Saurabh Frodms, Delhi.

Sh. Aslam Ganai,  
M/s R.A. Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Pritipal Singh,  
M/s Sudan Commns, Delhi.

Sh. Kishor Dang,  
M/s R.R. Films International, Delhi.

Ms. Prina Sareen,  
M/s Uday Audio Visuals, Delhi.

Ms. Reena Khanna,  
M/s Ajay Vijay Software, Delhi.

Sh. Zamir Ashai,  
M/s Zamir Ashai, Srinagar.

Sh. Arun Kaul,  
M/s Vyeth Television Network,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Abbin Kaul,  
M/s A.K. Films & Ads. Delhi.

Sh. Tassaduq Hussain,  
M/s The Fore, Delhi.

Sh. Khurshid Alam,  
M/s K.A. Films, Srinagar

Ms. Rakhi Verma,  
M/s K.K. Combines, Delhi.

Sh. Anis Ahmed Khan,  
M/s T.A. Chalchitra, Delhi.

Sh. Sanjay Pandita,  
M/s Tulsi Advtg. Agency, Jammu.

Sh. Mustaq A. Bala,  
M/s Debonair Films & Video Commns. Srinagar.

Ms. Sharmila Banerjee,  
M/s Surabhi Associates, Delhi.

Mr. Sunita Raina,  
M/s Paras Films, Delhi.

Sh. Dinesh Babbar,  
M/s Aasia Movietone (P) Ltd., Delhi.

Sh. Amit Kumar,  
M/s Roving Eye Prodns, Delhi.

Sh. Iqbal Mazid,  
M/s Pamassus Prodn, Srinagar.

Ms. Savitri  
M/s Chitra Darshan, Dehradun.

Sh. Laxman Shah,  
M/s Jaishree Prodn, Delhi.

Sh. Surinder  
M/s Video Gems, Jammu.

Sh. Khsuru Parvez Masudi,  
M/s Hifsa Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Irfan Hussain,  
M/s Moon Light Prodn, Delhi.

Sh. Nikhil  
M/s Hazrat Films, Mumbai.

Sh. R. Mehrotra  
M/s S.K.R. Enterprises, Delhi.

Sh. Shalabh Srivastave,  
M/s Sun Sai Prodn, Delhi.

Sh. D.K. Sharma,  
M/s Gangotri Films, Delhi.

Sh. Gautam Jetly,  
M/s ib-5, Delhi.

Ms. Shashi Bhartiya,  
M/s Khalish Visuals, Delhi.

Shri Tassaduq Hussain,  
M/s The Fore. Delhi.

Sh. Rayyan  
M/s Video Tower, Delhi.

Sh. Vijay Kumar,  
M/s AVS Films & Doc, Delhi.

Sh. Sanjeev,  
M/s Sanjay Films, Mumbai.

Sh. Rajeev Khanpuri,  
M/s Nirmal Art Creation, Delhi.

Sh. Khurshid Alam,  
M/s Thahura Films, Delhi.

Sh. Sanjay Rawal,  
M/s Video India, Delhi.

Ms. Kala Aiyar,  
M/s Genesis Media (P) Ltd., Delhi.

Sh. Rajmani Rai,  
M/s RMR Audio Visuals, Varanasi.

Sh. Pritpal Sachdeva,  
M/s Studio Super, Delhi.

Sh. S. Balaji,  
M/s Kashika Prodns, Delhi.

Sh. Nalayar Zafri,  
M/s Inzo Entertainment, Delhi.

Sh. Arun Kaul,  
M/s Vyeth Television Network, Delhi.

Sh. Sunil Tripathi,  
M/s Mani Media, Delhi.

Sh. Gowhar Ahmed,  
M/s Sheena Prodns, Delhi.

Sh. Anees Amrohvi,  
M/s Rachnakar Prodn. Delhi.

Mr. Babbar,  
M/s Babbar Visuals, Mumbai.

Ms Sangeeta Mahadani  
M/s Perfect Pictures, Delhi.

Sh. Devendra Khandelwal,  
M/s Intellectual Vision (P) Ltd. Delhi.

Sh Anil K. Razdan,  
M/s S.S. Films & Advtg. Intl., Delhi.

Sh. Surat Singh  
M/s Nipur Commns., Jammu.

Sh. Bashir Dada,  
M/s Dada Saheb Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Umesh Rathore  
M/s Neeru Pictures, Delhi.

Sh. Rahul Jalali  
M/s. Media Net, Delhi

Sh. Surinder Shukla,  
M/s Oasis Films, Delhi.

Sh. Raman Nanda,  
M/s Media Arc, Delhi.

Mrs. Anita Saluja,  
M/s A.S. Films, Delhi.

Sh. Amitabh Prashar,  
M/s Infotainment Commns., Delhi.

Sh. M. Salim Khan,  
M/s Cine Commn, Srinagar.

Sh. J.R. Tagore,  
M/s Anurag Prodn. Delhi.

Sh. S.W. Khan,  
M/s Mayur Films, Delhi.

Sh. Upendra Sood,  
M/s Mediatech, Delhi.

Sh. Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s A.N.I., Delhi.

Sh. Sushil Sharma,  
M/s Aishwarya Films, Delhi.

Subhasarshani Singh,  
M/s Crown Commns. Delhi.

Sh. P.C. Sarin, Delhi.

Sh. Ranjan Kumar Singh,  
M/s Media Men, Delhi.

Ms. Anuradha,  
M/s AIM Television, Delhi.

Sh. Vivek Verma,  
M/s Maestro Prodn., Delhi.

Sh. Rajeev Khandelwal,  
M/s Dutch Angle, Delhi.

Sh. Virender Sharma,  
M/s Laat Sahib Films, Mumbai.

Ms. Mona Sareen,  
M/s Aayush Creations, Delhi.

Ms. Asma Mirza,  
M/s Rachita Films, Ghaziabad.

Sh. Hariom Kapoor,  
M/s Films From India, Delhi.

Sh. Vinod Zutshi,  
M/s Balaji Films, Delhi.

Mrs. Meeta Choudhary,  
M/s Cine Hues, Delhi.

Sh. V.N. Raina,  
M/s A. & A Commns, Delhi.

Sh. Dinesh Lakhanpal  
M/s Lakhanpal Prodn., Mumbai.

Sh. S. S. Dass,  
M/s N.D. Prodn. Delhi.

Sh. Shankar Bhan,  
M/s Achala Prodns. Delhi.

Sh. J.L. Kaul,  
M/s. Media Enterprises, Delhi.

Sh. Kirti Agarwal,  
M/s. Kirti Agarwal, Delhi.

Sh. Mehmood Nazir,  
M/s Glow Creations, Delhi.

Sh. Vinod Sharma,  
Ms/ Cine Linker India, Delhi.

Sh. B. Srinivas,  
M/s Jai Guru Datta Prodn. Noida

Sh. Nanajee,  
M/s Kashmir Line, Jammu.

Ms. Harminder Kaur,  
M/s T.V.N.D. Delhi

Ms. Usha Joshi,  
M/s United Artists (P) Ltd., Delhi.

Mrs. Swetha Sharma,  
M/s Swetha Films, Delhi.

Sh. Subhas Kaushik,  
M/s Light Films, Ghaziabad.

Ms. Uma Vasudev,  
M/s In Group '80., Delhi.

Sh. Prabhat Dabral,  
M/s New Age Television, New Delhi.

Smt. Aparna Katara Sharma,  
M/s Point of View Commns., Delhi.

Sh. Rafi-Ud-din Ahmed,  
Srinagar.

Sh. M. A. Zauqui,  
M/s Zauqui Video, Chandigarh.

Sh. G. S. Channi,  
M/s Sideline Video, Chandigarh.

Ms. Lalita Shankar,  
M/s Amba Enterprises, Delhi.

Sh. Sanjay Khanna,  
M/s S. K. Youth Films, Delhi.

Sh. Shahab Meeruthi,  
M/s Cinemawala, Delhi.

Sh. Shabbir Hyder,  
M/s Hyder Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Pushpesh Pant,  
M/s Tasveer Commns., Delhi.

Sh. R. K. Soral,  
M/s Suyog Films, Mumbai.

Ms. Kuckoo Mathur,  
M/s Mathur Video Vision, Delhi.

Ms. Nayanshir,  
M/s Machan, Delhi.

Sh. A. Sambamurthy,  
M/s Prime Image (P) Ltd. Delhi.

Sh. Vijay Gopal,  
M/s SVG Network, Delhi.

Ms. Madhumita Chakraborty,  
M/s Newshound Prod. Delhi.

Sh. M. B. Khurshid,  
M/s Marsha Films, Srinagar.

Sh. Pradip Rai Khangwal,  
M/s Rai Media Int., Delhi.

Sh. Ramesh Sharma,  
M/s Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Ramesh Sharma,  
M/s Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Ramesh Sharma,  
M/s Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Ramesh Sharma,  
M/s Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

Shri Arun Purie,  
M/s Living Media India (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

Ms. Nalini Singh,  
M/s TV Live India (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

M/s Manushi,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Umesh Agarwal,  
New Delhi.

M/s Crest Communication Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

M/s Gandhian Vision,  
New Delhi.

Ms/ Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.  
New Delhi.

Ms/ Moving Picture Co. (P) Ltd.  
New Delhi.

M/s South View Productions,  
New Delhi

Ms. Meera Dewan.

Sh. Rajendra Dhorapkar,  
M/s Rajendra Dhorapkar Associates,  
Noida, (UP).

M/s Sarbjeet International,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Michael William,  
M/s Riverbank Studio, New Delhi.

Sh. Prasant Sareen,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Muzaffar Ali,  
New Delhi.

M/s Sumohi Arts,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Joys Sebastian,  
M/s. Agnus Dei Communications,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Mukul Roy Choudhary,  
M/s ATMA, Calcutta.

Sh. S. B. Shankar Kumar,  
Hyderabad.

Sh. S. Chattopadhyaya,  
Calcutta.

Sh. Shobit Jain,  
M/s Rain-Macher Imagers, Delhi.

Dr. S. Krishnaswamy,  
M/s Krishnaswamy Associates (P) Ltd.,  
Chennai.

Sh. Jayant Panda,  
M/s Son-Gesta Films, Cuttack.

Sh. Nandan Saxena,  
M/s Top Quark Production, Delhi.

Sh. Rakesh Khatri,  
M/s Comet Videotech, Delhi.



Sh. Dilip Sood,  
M/s Softs Entertainment,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Hitesh Ratan,  
M/s the Reflections,  
New Delhi.

Ms. Ranjanan Gauhar,  
M/s Ranjana Films, New Delhi.

Shahla Raza,  
M/s 3rd Cinema, Noida (UP)

Sh. Sudhir Tailang,  
Delhi.

Sh. Gyan Seth & Ramesh R. Kohli,  
New Delhi.

M/s Sampreshan New Services (P) Ltd.,  
New Delhi.

M/s Inter News (P) Ltd.  
New Delhi.

Sh. Aparna Sen,  
Calcutta.

Sh. M. K. Raina,  
Noida (UP)

Sh. B. V. Karanth,  
M/s B. V. Karanth Productions,  
Bangalore.

Sh. Pinaki Chaudhary,  
Calcutta.

Ms. Amita Talwar,  
M/s Smriti Films,  
Hyderabad.

Sh. Ashok Viswanathan,  
Calcutta.

Sh. Raja Sen,  
M/s Raja Sen Production,  
Calcutta.

Sh. Muzaffar Ali,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Muzaffar Ali,  
New Delhi.

Prof. Kirpal Singh,  
M/s Gurkripa Films, Delhi.

Ms. Tabassum Fatima,  
M/s Irum Productions, Delhi.

Sh. Gulbahar Singh,  
M/s K.R. G. Pictures, Calcutta.

Ms. Santosh Bedi,  
M/s Sahiba Communications,  
Delhi.

Ms. Madhu Suri,  
M/s Saraswati Productions,  
New Delhi.

Shri Alok Nath,  
M/s United Colours,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Bapi Mishra,  
M/s Khandagiri Enterprises,  
Bhubaneswar.

Sh. Muzzamil B. Baba,  
M/s Alghazali Communications,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Beant Singh,  
M/s R.R. Productions,  
Ghaziabad (UP).

Sh. Prafulla Mohanty,  
M/s M. M. Films, New Delhi.

Sh. M. Abbas Sefi,  
M/s A.P. Films, New Delhi.

Sh. Nilotpal Majumdar,  
M/s Frame Lines, Calcutta.

Shri Bibek,  
M/s Kaveri Media Productions,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Ompal Singh,  
M/s V.S. Films, Noida, (UP).

Smt Maheswari Pattanaik,  
M/s Maheswari Films,  
Bhubaneswar.

Sh. Manoj Sahni,  
M/s Manurina Communications,  
Chandigarh.

Veena Kumar,  
M/s Subhav Films, New Delhi.

Sh. S. Mohapatra,  
M/s Kumar Pictures,  
Bhubaneswar.

Sh. Sanjeev Kothiyala,  
M/s Surabhi Communications,  
New Delhi.

Sh. Amir Qazalbash,  
M/s Ritu Arts, New Delhi.

M/s Sri Srinivasa Productions,  
Bangalore.

Mrs. Lalita Shankar,  
M/s Amba Enterprises, New Delhi.

Sh. Khan Sohali Khurshid,  
M/s Chirag Communications,  
Delhi.

Ms. Uma Bhardwaj,  
M/s Satyen Kappu Films Productions, New Delhi.

Ms. Arita Sarvajit,  
M/s Abha Media (P) Ltd., New Delhi.

Sh. Girija Pattnaik,  
M/s Vision Media, Noida (UP).

Ms. Uma Menon,  
M/s Rudra Communications India, New Delhi.

Ms. Jai Shree,  
M/s Kuppa Shah Films, Delhi.

Dr. Lalvin Thadani,  
M/s Muskaan Productions.

Sh. P. Kumar,  
Ms/ Innovision.

Sh. Uday Kumar,  
M/s U. K. Films.

Sh. Vivek Verma,  
M/s Maestro Productions

Sh. Lav Chawla,  
M/s Krishna Vision.

Dr. Krishna Bose Keswani,  
M/s Tele Creations India

Sh. Raj Mani Rai,  
M/s RMR Audio Visuals.

Sh. Madhu Mahankali,  
M/s Guys & Professionals.

Sh. Susheel Saxena,  
M/s Sanjana Productions.

Sh. Sanjay Khanna,  
M/s S.K. Youth Films.

Sh. Subrata Lahiri.

Sh. Shahid Wahid Khan  
M/s Mayur Films.

Sh. Vijay Kumar,  
M/s Ajay Vijay Software.

Ms. Veena,  
M/s Veena Group.

Ms. Suman Mohan,  
M/s Summohan Advtg. Agency.

Dr. Anil Saxena,  
M/s Target Films.

Sh. Manish Kumar,  
M/s V.V. Films.

Sh. Himanshu Malhotra,  
M/s Multi Media.

Sh. J. K. Nirmal,  
M/s J. K. Nirmal Productions.

Ms. A. D. Barman,  
M/s Anweshika Media Centre.

Sh. Nikhil Kumar,  
M/s Nikil TV

Sh. Pawan Duggal  
M/s Kusum Prem Productions

Sh. Virender Sharma  
M/s Laat Sahib Films.

Shri V. K. Sharma  
M/s Weshiv Wision.

Sh. Lalit Behl,  
M/s Tele Shot

M/s Aapka TV Media,  
New Delhi.

Dr. Pratibha Sarup,  
M/s Ma Shree Karni Films (P) Ltd.,  
Mumbai.

Sh. G. V. Iyer  
Bangalore.

Sh. Jaspal Bhatti,  
M/s Jaspal Bhatti Productions, Chandigarh.

Dr. Nissar Allana,  
M/s Theatre & Television Associates, New Delhi.

Sh. Aditi Sircar,  
M/s Know Steps Production, Calcutta.

Sh. Gobindh Nihalani  
M/s. Udbhav, Mumbai

Sh. Hafeez Khan,  
NSD, Delhi.

Shri Prabhat Dabral,  
2/7, MCD Flats,  
M-Block, NDSE-II, New Delhi-110049.

Shri K. Selvaraju,  
M/s Images Network, Pocket-K, Sheik Sarai, Phase-II,  
New Delhi-17.

Ms. Sashi Mehta,  
M/s Signet Communications, R-1/402, Park View  
Apartments, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi.

Shri Kirti Agarwal, III/59-E,  
Mayur Vihar-I, Delhi-91.

Shri Sanjiv Prakash,  
M/s ANI, 6-G, Vandhana, 11, Tolstoy Marg,  
New Delhi-110001.

Ms. Ritu Dhawan,  
M/s Independent Media P. Ltd.,  
75, Amrit Nagar, South Extn.

Smt. Sunita Sharma.

Sh. S. N. Bora,  
M/s Trans Asia Films' 86,  
Guwahati.

Ms. Sabita Chanam,  
M/s Chanam Media Delhi.

Sh. Dipak Das,  
M/s Link Communications, Guwahati.

Sh. Pradeep Gogoi,  
M/s P. G. Communications, Guwahati.

Ms. Rani Bardoloi,  
M/s Macons, Guwahati.

Sh. Surya Hazarika,  
M/s S. H. Films Prodn. Guwahati.

Sh. Manik Rehman,  
M/s Rashmi Films, Guwahati.

Sh. Siba Prasar Thakur,  
M/s S. N. Films, Guwahati.

Sh. Mridul Gupta,  
M/s Pulse Prodn., Guwahati.

Ms. Uma Chakraborty,  
M/s New Vision, Guwahati.

Sh. Mridul Barman,  
M/s Noopur Cine Prodn. Guwahati.

Sh. P. Basanta Kumar,  
M/s Ree Kee Films, Imphal,  
Manipur.

Sh. Navajyoti Duara,  
M/s Art & Movies, Guwahati.

Sh. Digvijay Medhi,  
M/s Digvijay Prodn., Guwahati.

Ms. Madhumita Chakraborty,  
M/s Newshound Prodn., Delhi.

Sh. Dulal Saikia,  
Guwahati.

Sh. G. K. Barkotoki,  
M/s Video Cast, Guwahati.

Sh. Pranab Jyoti Burman,  
M/s Pooja Cine Prodn., Guwahati.

Sh. C. N. Baruah,  
M/s Soumar Films, Guwahati.

Ms. Farida Hussain,  
M/s Montage Prodn. Guwahati.

Ms. Kiran Talukdar,  
M/s NE Vision, Guwahati.

Ms. Angela Pachua,  
M/s Cinemystique Prodn. Aizawl, Mizoram.

Sh. Navin Kohli,  
M/s Third Channel, Delhi.

Sh. Suresh Kohli,  
M/s Nupur Films, Delhi.

Ms. Meenakshi Barthawal,  
M/s Focus Vision, Delhi.

Ms. Veena Singh,  
Delhi.

Sh. Puspesh Pant,  
M/s Tasveer Communications, Delhi.

Smt. Rani Bardoloi,  
M/s Macons, Guwahati.

Sh. M. Maniram,  
M/s Moirangthem Movies, Guwahati.

Ch. Memi Devi,  
M/s Studio Sangal Imphal

Sd. Mussaweer Rehman,  
M/s S. M. R. Prod., Guwahati.

Sh. Atul Baishya,  
M/s Sobi Communications,  
Guwahati.

Sh. Nitumani Gogoi  
M/s Prativa Cine Ent., Guwahati.

Sh. Pankaj Baruah,  
M/s Pee Bee Video, Guwahati.

Ms. Dharitri Nazzari,  
M/s Mega Television, Delhi.

Sh. Indranil Banerjee,  
M/s K. Media Pvt. Ltd., Delhi.

Sh. Bani Prakash Das,  
M/s Action '94. Guwahati.

Sh. Sangzela Tlau,  
M/s Zozam Audio Visual Aizawal, Mizoram.

Ms. Pinki Brahma Ch.  
M/s. Rain Macher Images, Guwahati/Delhi.

Ms. Rongsenla,  
M/s. Rangmar Prodn. Dimapur, Nagaland.

Sh. Tapan Bhuyan,  
M/s. Images Creators, Guwahati.

Ms. Pranamika Barman,  
M/s. East Video Vision, Guwahati.

Sh. Moji Riba  
M/s. Centre for Cultural Research & Doc.  
Itanagar, Arunachal.

Sh. Sudesh Unhi Raman,  
M/s. Seven Hills Pictures Mizoram.

Ms. D. Diengdoh,  
M/s North-East Comm. Shillong.

Sh. P. C. Sarin,  
M/s Shakur Arts, Kohima.

Ms. Rinchin Droma,  
M/s Rinchin Films, Delhi.

Ms. Elizabeth Zopari,  
Delhi.

Sh. H. R. Salooja  
M/s H. M. S. Films, Delhi.

Ms. Prina Sarin,  
M/s Uday Audio Visuals Delhi.

Ms. Anita Roy Chaudhary  
M/s Anita Films, Delhi.

Ms. Uma Bhardwaj  
M/s Kamakhya Films, Delhi.

Sh. M. P. Lele,  
M/s P. T. I. (TV) Delhi.

Ms. Kamini Sahgal,  
M/s Kamini Prodns., Delhi.

Ms. Dolly Chawla,  
M/s Creative Communications, Delhi.

Sh. Shalav Srivastave,  
M/s Sun Sai Prodn., Delhi.

Ms. Archana Kapoor,  
M/s A. K. Productions, Delhi.

Sh. Vijay Kumar,  
M/s Studio Creations, Delhi.

Sh. Dinesh Babbar,  
M/s Asia Movietone, Delhi.

Sh. Mahindra Mandal,  
M/s M. M. Productions, 24, Praganas (W.B.)

Sh. Abhishek Bharadwaj,  
M/s Production 17, Delhi.

Sh. D. K. Sharma  
M/s Gangotri Films, Delhi.

Sh. K. Vikram Singh,  
M/s Cine Arts India, Delhi.

M/s Horn Bill Prodn.  
Kohima.

Sh. M. S. Azad,  
M/s B. K. P. Mediavision, Delhi.

Sh. Kamal Kishore,  
M/s Desh PAI Society, Delhi.

Sh. Surendra Manan,  
M/s Ananya Prodns. Delhi.

Sh. Junty Daula,  
M/s J. L. Productions, Guwahati.

Sh. Pranjdi Saikia  
Guwahati.

Sh. Gulbahar Singh,  
M/s K. R. G. Pictures, Calcutta.

Tabassum Fatima,  
M/s Irum Prodns., Delhi.

Ms. Nilofar Shama,  
M/s. N.S. Films, Delhi

Ms. Alpana Upadhyay  
M/s Rachanatmak Log, Mumbai.

Sh. Mong Tai,  
M/s Veena Group Delhi.

Sh. S. Qaisary,  
M/s Quisary Creations, Delhi.

Sh. P. L. Ahuja,  
M/s Ambica Communications, Delhi.

Sh. Virendra Sharma  
M/s Laat Saheb Films

Ms. Particle Sangama,  
M/s Prachi Communications, Noida.

Smt. A Deb Barman,  
M/s Anweshika Media Centre, Delhi.

Smt. Saroj Sharma,  
M/s Shri Creations, Mumbai.

Sh. Ved Sharma,  
M/s Radium Video, Matrics, Delhi.

Ms. Madhu Thapa,  
M/s Bakhan Creation Delhi.

Shri M.P. Lele,  
M/s P. T. I., New Delhi.

Shri Rashid Firdousi,  
M/s Valley Film, Srinagar,

Shri Mir Hilai,  
M/s Hi-Vision, Jammu.

Shri Ranjit Raina,  
M/s Imagic Pictures, Delhi.

Shri O. N. Kaul,  
M/s Medians, Jammu.

Shri Lav Chawla,  
M/s Krishna Vision, Delhi.

Shri Khurshid Alam,  
M/s K. A. Films, Srinagar.

Shri M. B. Khurshid,  
M/s Filvid Entertainers, Srinagar.

Shri Rafi-Ud-Din-Ahmed,  
M/s News Line, Srinagar.

Ms. Vijay Kau,  
M/s Saakar Films, Jammu.

Shri S. Kesar,  
M/s Guru Dev Films, Delhi.

Ms. Aparana Katara Sharma,  
M/s Point View Communications,  
Delhi.

Shri Suresh Kohli,  
M/s Suresh Kohli Production, Delhi.

[Translation]

### **Solar Energy in Hilly Areas**

3898. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electrification of many villages is not possible in hilly and remote areas of the country due to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, whether the Government are formulating any scheme to identify such villages and benefiting them from solar energy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) As per the provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, prior approval of the Central Government is necessary for use of any forest land for non-forestry purposes. There is no clear estimate of the number of villages where conventional electrification is not possible due to lack of clearance under this act. It is however well known that many villages in hilly and remote areas could not be electrified so far due to difficult terrain, high costs and other related factors.

(b) and (c) Electrification of villages through the solar energy can be achieved through the installation of individual Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) systems like home lighting systems, street lighting systems and water pumps as also through small capacity village level photovoltaic power plants.

The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has identified the following regions as high focus areas in the country for implementation of its Solar photovoltaic (SPV) Programme:

1. All the States in the North Eastern Region (including Sikkim)
2. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
3. Lakshadweep Islands
4. Jammu & Kashmir
5. Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh
6. Chhota Nagpur Region in Bihar
7. Sundarban and Sagar Island region in West Bengal
8. KBK Region in Orissa
9. Jaisalmer and Barmer Districts in Rajasthan
10. Bastar District in Madhya Pradesh

The above regions are considered suitable for large scale deployment of Solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems. The programme implementing organizations have been advised to implement at least 50% of the targets allocated

to them in high focus areas identified in their States. Special projects have also been sanctioned and allocation of targets made to some of these regions in the framework of the photovoltaic programme. Among the projects under implementation are the electrification of 286 villages in the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, 50 villages in Rajasthan, and three villages in West Bengal.

[English]

#### CTBT

3899. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister in his address to the recent UN-General Assembly Session at New York while offering to sign CTBT, also called for matching steps by other nuclear countries; and

(b) if so, the details of the matching steps India has in mind?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) In an address to the UN General Assembly on 24 September 1998, Prime Minister stated that "India is now engaged in discussions with key interlocutors on a range of issues, including the CTBT. We are prepared to bring these discussions to a successful conclusion, so that the entry into force of the CTBT is not delayed beyond September 1999. We expect that other countries as indicated in Article XIV of the CTBT, will adhere to the Treaty without conditions". In a statement in Parliament on 15 December, Prime Minister further elaborated that "for the successful conclusion of the talks, creation of a positive environment by our interlocutors is a necessary ingredient".

#### Financial Links with Kashmiri Ultras

3900. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Laden's financial links with Jammu and Kashmir ultras exposed" appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated 24 August, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts reported in the news-item; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that Kashmiri militants do not get funds from foreign agencies?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are aware of Osama Bin Laden's links with terrorist groups in Jammu & Kashmir. Government are closely monitoring the situation and taking all necessary steps.

#### Drip Irrigation System

3901. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and financial assistance provided to Madhya Pradesh by the Union Government for setting up of drip irrigation system in Agriculture during 1997-98;

(b) whether the State Government has sent a proposal to the Union Government to raise the targets and provide additional assistance for drip irrigation for the said period;

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Union Government are likely to provide more financial assistance to the State and raise the targets in this regard during the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) A target of 100 hectares involving an outlay of Rs. 25.88 lakhs were fixed for Madhya Pradesh Government during 1997-98 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture.

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal for covering 1500 hectares during 1997-98 at an outlay of Rs. 291.45 lakhs.

(c) After taking into account the unspent balance available with the State Government, the target for drip irrigation was enhanced to 300 hectares with an outlay of Rs. 70.61 lakhs for 1997-98.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) During 1998-99 a target of 1000 hectares has been fixed for Madhya Pradesh State with an outlay of Rs. 245.38 lakhs as Central share.

#### Irregularities in Allotment of STD/PCO Booths

3902. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the irregularities committed in the allotment of STD/PCO booths in Pathardl District, Ahmadnagar (Maharashtra Telecom Circle);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No, Sir.

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

#### US Ban on Technology Items

3903. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government has imposed ban on export of dual use technology items to various organisations under the control of Department of Atomic Energy;

(b) if so, the names of such organisations and impact of this decision; and

(c) the steps taken to protest this decision in World Trade Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir. The US Bureau of Export Administration (Department of Commerce) has released recently a list of entities which are subject to export restrictions from the USA, which interalia includes various organisations under the control of the Department of Atomic Energy.

- (b) (1) Research & Development (R&D) Units, namely
- (i) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), its allied Units and Facilities
  - (ii) Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) & its allied Units and Facilities
  - (iii) Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), its allied Units and Facilities
  - (iv) Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC)
  - (v) Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT)
- (2) Heavy Water Board and its Production Facilities
- (3) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (formerly AMD)

(4) Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT)

(5) Directorate of Purchase & Stores (DPS)

(6) Construction Services & Estate Management Group

(7) Advanced Fuel Fabrication Facility (AFFF)

(8) Beryllium Machining Facility

(9) Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)

(i) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) and its power projects.

(ii) Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL) and its mines and plants

(iii) Electronic Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL).

(iv) Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL) and its Plants

(10) Aided Institutions

(i) Institute of Mathematical Sciences

(ii) Institute of Physics

(iii) Mehta Research Institute of Maths and Maths Physics

(iv) Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (SINP)

(v) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)

(11) Technical Liaison Mission (TLM)

The recent ban on export to DAE units will not affect any of DAE's programmes, because of its efforts on indigenisation.

(c) The Government has made a statement of protest at the General Council of World Trade Organisation (WTO) on 11.12.1998.

#### Atomic Research Centres

3904. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

SHRI S. S. OWAI SI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether RDMS, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research form a part of a US adversary list at present for supply of technology;

(b) if so, whether they come in the adversary list a little before the nuclear blast;

(c) whether the software giant Oracle of US has asked its agents/franchisees not to sell its original data base management system to these institutions;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) to what extent this ban is likely to affect India's nuclear programmes; and

(f) the present status of these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) are listed in the "Indian Government Entities involved in nuclear or missile activities" released by the Government of the United States. RDMS is not an institution. It is the name of a software as explained in reply to part (c) .

(b) The US Government had been earlier imposed special licensing procedures for exports to the Department of Atomic Energy.

(c) The latest version of Oracle RDBMS (Relational Data Base Management Systems), Oracle 8 is not available to these institutions.

(d) This is a part of US export control restrictions.

(e) and (f) BARC and IGCAR are the premier R&D units working on India's nuclear programme. At present no nuclear data base is operated using Oracle RDBMS. Therefore, the ban by the US Government is not likely to affect their functioning.

[Translation]

#### Disputed Territory

3905. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Urdu Service of BBC has been reporting Jammu & Kashmir State of India is a disputed territory for the last few days;

(b) if so, whether it is a clear challenge of the integrity and sovereignty of India and Pakistan definitely has a hand behind this fallacious publicity; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this publicity?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) BBC have clarified that as per their guidelines, the term "disputed territory" is not used for Kashmir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the clarification given by BBC.

[English]

#### Tropical Fruits Drinks

3906. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether five Indian made flavours of tropical fruit drinks, distributed by a U.S. company have hit the U.S. market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned in the transaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) India is a regular exporter of fruit juices including fruit drinks to USA. The value of exports of fruit juices including fruit drinks was Rs. 163.00 lakhs in 1995-96 Rs. 37.00 lakhs in 1996-97 and Rs. 158.00 lakhs in 1997-98 to U.S.A.

#### Casual Workers in Various Doordarshan Kendras

3907. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRI RAJU RANA :

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

(a) whether a large number of casual workers like floor assistants, production assistants, tailors etc. are working in various Doordarshan Kendras particularly at Gujarat Doordarshan Kendra for the last 10-18 years and given only 10 days' job in a month;

(b) if so, whether wages paid to Casual Production Assistants have been revised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir, but none in Gujarat.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Pearl Culture

3908. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:



(a) the technologies transferred to primary sector in the State of Orissa from the Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture and the country as a whole;

(b) if so, the Research Assignment taken up to promote 'Pearl Culture' in the State of Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken for augmenting the production of this lucrative commodity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The following technologies have been transferred to the primary sector by the Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar:

- i) Breeding, intensive seed production and culture of carps, catfish and freshwater prawns.
- ii) Multiple Carp breeding.
- iii) Polyculture of carps.
- iv) Sewage-fed fish culture and waste water treatment through aquaculture.
- v) Integrated fish farming.
- vi) Fish feed management and formulation of low cost feed for carps (CIFACA) catfish (CIFAMA) and prawns (CIFAPRA).
- vii) Fish disease diagnostics and their control with special reference to Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome and formulation of CIFAX, a medicine for control of fish disease.
- viii) Improved Rohu variety through genetic selection.
- ix) Pond nutrient and environment management through bio-fertilization with Azolla.
- x) Freshwater pearl culture.
- xi) Intensive culture techniques like cage culture and running water fish culture.
- xii) Specific designs for different types of hatcheries, farms and recirculatory flow-through systems.

(b) The technology for freshwater pearl culture production has been standardised by CIFA under its Institute based research and development programmes as well as through the funding support from the Department of Bio-technology. The research is being further intensified to refine the technology with value addition.

(c) For augmenting the production of freshwater pearls, the CIFA is undertaking specific studies to identify

the potential of freshwater mussels, possibilities of its farming and alternate candidate mussel species for pearl culture. Further prospective entrepreneurs, interested in freshwater pearl culture, are being identified and intensive training in different aspects of freshwater pearl culture is being imparted. The CIFA has also proposed to establish a comprehensive facility for training and technology dissemination in the field of freshwater pearl culture.

### **Chemical Weapons**

3909. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Iran obtained Chemical Weapons from India-CIA" appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated August 13, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Indian Government have issued any denial in this matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item is purportedly based on a report prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) of the United States, alleging that India has apparently provided 'some' weapons of mass destruction technology, including in the chemical field, but not on a large scale, to Iran.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government have categorically dismissed such allegations and emphasised that India as an original state party to the Chemical Weapons Convention, is fully committed to discharging its obligations under this Convention. India maintains an effective system of export controls on dual use chemicals and related equipment in keeping with its commitment to non-proliferation.

### **Sand Minerals**

3910. SHRI N. K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced a new policy on exploitation of beach sand minerals;

(b) if so, the main features of the policy;

(c) whether the Government have invited global tenders to undertake rare earth mining from the mining land under Indian Rare Earth, Chavara in Kerala;

(d) if so, whether the Government has assessed the security implications of permitting foreign companies to undertake mining activities in this sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main features of the policy are given in the summary statement enclosed.

(c) Government have not invited any global tender to undertake rare earths mining. Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a public sector undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy invited tenders through a notice published in the Times of India and Malayala Manorama to explore the possibility of IREL entering into working arrangements with capable private sector entities for mining, pre-concentrating and supplying the mineral concentrates which is the feed material for IREL's Mineral Separation Plant to further improve and expand the operation of Indian Rare Earths Limited at Chavara, Kollam District, Kerala.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### Statement

##### *Summary Note on the Policy for Exploitation of Beach Sand Minerals*

1. India has large reserves of beach sand minerals in coastal stretches around the country. Ilmenite is the largest constituent of the Indian deposits, other being rutile, leucoxene, zircon, sillimanite, garnet and monazite. The minerals other than garnet and sillimanite have been classified as "prescribed substance" under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

2. Under the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1991, the mining and production of minerals classified as "prescribed substances" is reserved for the public sector. However, the Policy Resolution also allows selective entry of the private sector. At present, the Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Government of India (Department of Atomic Energy) undertaking and Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. (KMML), a Government of Kerala undertaking are engaged in mining, production and processing of these minerals from the beach and deposits at a few locations in Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Considering the growing demand for these minerals and/or their value-added products in the domestic as well as international markets and the potential available in the country, setting up of new plants for exploitation of the deposits in fresh locations would be in the interest of the country. Production of various value-added products of these minerals is, however, highly capital intensive and it may not be possi-

ble for only the PSUs (both Central and State owned) operating in this field to set up the new plants on their own. It is therefore, necessary to allow the private sector to set up such plants within the framework of some broad guidelines. Considering the growing demand for these minerals and/or their value-added products in the domestic as well as international markets and the potential available in the country, setting up new plants for exploitation of the deposits in fresh locations would be in the interest of the country. Production of various value-added products of these minerals is, however, highly capital intensive and it may not be possible for only the PSUs (both Central and State owned) operating in this field to set up the new plants on their own. It was, therefore, considered necessary to allow the private sector to set up such plants within the framework of some broad guidelines.

3. In view of the background explained above, Government of India has recently approved a policy to encourage further exploitation of these mineral deposits through a judicious mix of public and private sector participation (including foreign investment).

4 (a) The activities in this field have been placed in three categories;

- (i) Mining and mineral separation.
- (ii) Value addition *per se* to the products of (i).
- (iii) Integrated activities (comprising both (i) and (ii)).

(b) Participation of wholly Indian owned companies will be permitted in all the above mentioned categories of activities, with or without joint venture with the Central or State Government(s) concerned or any existing or new Central/State PSUs.

(c) Foreign direct investment, particularly with more advanced/latest technology vis-a-vis what is being used by the domestic entities currently operating in the field, will be permissible in pure value addition projects (category in para 4(a) (ii), i.e., without mining and mineral separation) as well as integrated projects (category in para 4(a) (iii), i.e., comprising both mining and mineral separation and value addition).

(c) (i) Upto Seventy four per cent (74%) foreign equity participation will be permissible in both pure value addition and integrated projects, provided the level of value addition is the maximum according to the prevailing international standards/levels of value addition to the products of mining and mineral separation of beach sand minerals.

(c) (ii) For pure value addition projects as well as

integrated projects with value addition upto any intermediate stage foreign equity participation would be permitted upto seventy four percent (74%) through the instrument of joint venture company(ies) with Central/State PSUs such that the independent equity holding of at least one PSU is not less than twenty six per cent (26%) of the total equity.

(c) (iii) In exceptional cases where foreign equity participation above seventy four per cent (74%) is unavoidable, approval will be subject to the clearance of the Atomic Energy Commission.

(d) If monazite is produced in the process of exploitation of beach sand minerals, such monazite shall be disposed of by the entity concerned, at its cost, in accordance with the instructions/directives of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board or any person/body authorised by the competent authority in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act and the Rules and Orders thereunder.

(e) The provisions of the Atomic Energy Act and the Rules and Orders thereunder will continue to apply to the exploitation of beach sand minerals, including their import/export, to the extent such minerals are notified as prescribed substances and require licensing under the said provisions. The mining leases under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act will continue to be granted by the State Government(s) concerned.

(f) All cases of foreign direct investment in activities relating to exploitation of beach sand minerals, whether or not such minerals per se are notified as prescribed substances under the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, will continue to be processed for approval and regulated in accordance with *all other guidelines, norms, stipulations, etc.,* of the Central Government (Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Finance etc.) and the Reserve Bank of India, to the extent that these other guidelines, etc., are not inconsistent with the guidelines detailed in this policy.

#### **Fund For Upper Krishna Project**

3911. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for allocation of funds for Upper Krishna Project during the Ninth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka proposed an outlay of Rs. 3371 crores for Upper Krishna Project (UKP) for Ninth Five Year Plan. This outlay consists of Rs. 1450 crore for the Stage I and Rs. 1921 crore for the Stage II of the project. The working group on Irrigation Sector as set up by the Planning Commission for the Ninth Plan and Annual Plan 1997-98 recommended an outlay of Rs.1450 crore for UKP (Stage I) Project for Ninth Plan and in case of UKP (Stage II) Project which, as of now, is an approved project, the working group recommended an outlay of Rs. 1921 crore for Ninth Plan but subject to approval of this project and the decision of the Supreme Court. Accordingly, no earmarking of financial outlay for UKP (Stage II) Project was made by the Planning Commission in the State's Annual Plan (1997-98). However, in case of UKP (Stage I) Project, the financial outlay of Rs. 882.50 crore was earmarked by the Planning Commission in the State's Annual Plan (1997-98).

#### **Samadhan Centre**

3912. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop cost effective applications of Electronics for rural and social development including agriculture, watershed development and adult literacy etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to set up more 'Samadhan Centres' throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Electronics under its programme for Application of Electronics for Social and Rural Development sponsors projects to promote cost effective and easy to use applications of electronics in various sectors of rural based activities such as agriculture, post harvesting operations, watershed development as well as socially oriented applications.

(c) and (d) The Department of Electronics has been envisaging the establishment of village Level Information Centres (SAMADHAN CENTRES) which are planned to be set up/executed by NGOs or computer literate villagers. Action has been initiated by an NGO to set up first SAMADHAN CENTRE in the Ramanathapuram Distt. of Tamil Nadu. Many other blocks have shown keen interest to set up such Centres.

**Allocation of Funds by NFDC**

3913. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the details of amount advanced/spent by the NFDC during the last three years for the production and exhibition of films alongwith the success rate of these ventures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : The details are as under :

I. *The details of amount advanced during last 3 years for production*

	(Rs. in lakhs)			
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
Own Produced films	20.91	14.42	101.24	136.57
Co-produced films	222.68	261.61	210.23	694.52
Loan	27.24	—	5.00	32.24
Total	270.83	276.03	316.47	863.33

II *Details of the expenditure towards Print, Publicity & other exploitation expenses*

Own Produced films	99.22	10.77	7.55	37.54
Co-produced films	—	53.52	13.11	66.63
Indian Film Dist.	8.18	13.46	8.08	29.72
Total	27.40	77.75	28.74	113.89

III *Income from distribution of films through Theatre/TV & Sale of Rights*

Own Produced films	22.01	27.37	24.42	73.80
Co-produced films	51.96	28.72	74.66	155.34
Indian Film Dist.	14.13	26.78	51.13	92.04
Interest on film loan	30.63	23.76	22.79	77.18
Total	118.73	106.63	173.00	398.36

IV *Recovery of Loan :*

	20.57	5.57	5.89	32.03
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V *Success rate of the ventures :*

	Net Recovery	% of Recovery
III-II		
Own Produced films	36.26	26.55%
Co-produced films	88.71	12.77%
Loan	32.03	99.34%

[Translation]

**Internationalisation of Kashmir Issue**

3914. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the U.N. Secretary General Mr. Koffi Annan has linked Kashmir with the World's other sensitive issues such as Cyprus and Afghanistan in its Annual Report which may flare up tension and war in the World;

(b) whether India has examined the pros and cons of the above remarks and have issued a rejoinder; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The UN Secretary General in his Annual Report on the Work of the Organisation has stated: "The rising tensions between India and Pakistan over Kashmir and other issues is also a major cause of concern as is the stalemated peace process in Cyprus." He also referred to "the turmoil in Afghanistan" in his report.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government examined the pros and cons and issued a statement, which pointed out that the UN Secretary General's Report is a routine feature and is submitted every year to the General Assembly. References to Jammu & Kashmir issue have been included in the UN Secretary General's report since 1993. There is no increase in tension between India and Pakistan. We remain committed to carrying forward the process of direct bilateral dialogue with Pakistan.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

**Printing of Telephone Directories in Kannada**

3915. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone directories of Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli, Mangalore and other cities in Karnataka have been printed in Kannada by the Karnataka Telecommunications Department;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to print them in Kannada also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Telephone directories in regional language are printed if the demand is more than 15% of the working connections.

#### **Threat From Taliban Movement**

3916. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government perceives any threat from the Taliban movement in Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to meet such eventualities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the existence of terrorist training camps and facilities in the Taliban held territories in Afghanistan. Government is also aware that these facilities are used by Pakistani fundamentalist groups to train and then undertake terrorist activities in J & K. The Government is taking all necessary steps.

[Translation]

#### **Migration of People**

3917. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the details of people who have migrated from industrially backward States during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check migration from such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No comprehensive survey has been conducted.

(c) Migration from one State to another State for better employment opportunities is not objectionable as this option is guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution. However, to safeguard the interests of migrant workers at their destination point, the Government have enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979.

#### **Computer Education**

3918. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide computer education in remote rural areas through partial financial assistance under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where computer education is being imparted during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Electronics has promoted five electronics projects including 'Computer in Education' to create computer awareness, its productive applications and promote their usage in Government and Government aided schools/colleges and institutions. As mentioned in the Brochure on 'Guidelines on Implementation of Electronics Projects', the Department of Electronics provides the necessary technical assistance and guidance to facilitate implementation of these projects within the framework of the guidelines of the Scheme issued by the Government of India, Department of Programme Implementation from time to time.

Under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools' (CLASS) currently under implementation by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), central assistance is provided to States and Union Territories for purchase of computer hardware and for implementing the Computer Literacy Project in Government and Government aided Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools.

#### **Central Assistance Scheme**

3919. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions made to each State under the Central assistance and loan from the Agriculture Stabilisation Fund during the year 1998-99, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from any State to raise this allocation particularly from Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Under Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme, central assistance is released to the State Governments in the ratio of 75% grant and 25% loan to help build up the Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Funds at the level of State Cooperative Banks. For the financial year 1998-99, a sum of Rs. 500 lakhs has been provided under the Scheme. No State-wise

allocation of funds is made under the scheme, as funds are released on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise in view of (a).

#### Financial Assistance

3920. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give financial assistance to terrorist affected areas to strengthen communication system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) to (c) Development of telecommunication network is normally based on requirement of each territorial circle, Project circle and Maintenance Circle, Financial resources, as required, are also assessed on the basis of each circle's development plans.

[English]

#### New Appraisal System

3921. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce new appraisal system for social sector spendings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the new system is likely to be successful in making a cut on the social sector spendings; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the new system does not create bottle necks in the implementation of ongoing projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### RAPP

3922. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of nuclear power plant units which have outlived their age in the country;

(b) the details of schedule of commissioning of unit III of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project at Kota; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to commission the said unit in stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No Atomic Power Station has outlived their life span in India.

(b) The scheduled date of criticality of Unit-III of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station at Kota is expected to be July, 1999.

(c) To avoid delay in commissioning the project, parallel working in various activities and crashing of downstream activities by employing more resources and offering incentives to contractors of critical works as well as employees of Nuclear Power Corporation is resorted to.

#### Degradation of Marine Resources

3923. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a Food and Agriculture Organisation's assessment that India is among the top five countries with "excessive fishing capacity" responsible for degradation of marine resources and significant economic waste; and

(b) if so, the whether the Government contemplate immediate action to stall further degradation and to rehabilitate damaged resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the saturation in the traditional fishing fleet which has resulted in almost full exploitation of the annual harvestable potential from the near-shore coastal waters.

Various measures are being undertaken to optimise and rationalise the fishing fleet as well as fishing effort by area-wise deployment of different categories of fishing vessels, regulation of fishing gear and mesh size, uniform closed fishing season, development of deep sea fishing including diversified fishing, replenishment of fish stocks by undertaking projects on sea ranching, setting up of artificial reefs, etc.

### Upgradation of LPT into HPT in Madhya Pradesh

3924. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to upgrade Low Power T.V. Transmitters into High Power T.V. Transmitter in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken in this regard so far; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (d) Schemes for establishment of HPTs at Guna, Shahdol, Ambikapur and Bhopal (DD-2) in replacement of LPTs are presently under implementation.

[Translation]

### FPI Units in the Country

3925. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number and location of industries functioning under the Department of food processing industries;
- (b) the number and names of the factories out of them running in profit and in loss;
- (c) whether the Government contemplate to privatise some units of Food Processing Industries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has two Public Sector Undertakings under its administrative control namely, Modern Food Industries (India) Limited (MFIL) with its headquarters at Delhi and North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) with its headquarters at Guwahati.

MFIL has 14 bakery units all over the country and has 5 other manufacturing units. NERAMAC has a fruit juice concentrate plant at Nakata in Tripura and a cashew-nut processing unit at Agartala, Tripura.

- (b) While MFIL is running in profit, NERAMAC is incurring losses.
- (c) and (d) The Government has decided to partially

disinvest Government equity in MFIL. Global Advisor has been selected and further process to identify Strategic Partner is on.

[English]

### Electronic Clearance Scheme

3926. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the date on which the Electronic Clearance Scheme (ECS) was introduced in Bangalore City;
- (b) the number of telephone subscribers availing the said facility so far;
- (c) whether the said facility is to be provided free of cost to the subscriber as per the Reserve Bank of India's circular; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for levying extra charge while remitting monthly telephone bills by the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) 1st July, 1998.

- (b) 4022
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

### Soil Erosion

3927. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the model testing of Brahmaputra erosion at Majan, Nagaghuli and Rehmania is being undertaken by the River Research Institute Pune;
- (b) if so, when this model testing was launched and when it was completed; and
- (c) the initiative taken by the Government to implement the finding of the model testing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune has completed the model testing of erosion on the River Brahmaputra at Majan and Nagaghuli area respectively. No reference has been made yet by the Assam Government for extension of the model for conducting studies to Rohmeria area.

- (b) The model studies of erosion of Brahmaputra river at Majan and Nagaghuli area was started in November, 1996 and completed in May, 1998.
- (c) The Government of Assam has taken up anti-

erosion measures for protection of Nagaghuli and Maijan area from erosion of river Brahmaputra based on the recommendations of the model studies. Flood management being a State subject, implementation of these schemes is within the perview of the Government of Assam.

#### Rural Telephone Exchanges

3928. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural telephone exchanges set up in Orissa during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the number out of them are out of order;

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to make them operational;

(d) the number of telephone installed under MARR systems totally non-functional in Orissa and to lack of maintenance, district-wise; and

(e) the funds allocated for efficient functioning of these systems during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No. of rural telephone exchanges set up in Orissa during the last three years are given below:-

Year	No. of Rural Telephone Exchanges
1995-96	23
1996-97	36
1997-98	26

District-wise information is in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) and (c) No telephoen exchange is out of order. All are working satisfactory.

(d) 10561 numbers of telephones installed under MARR systems till date. Out of them 2218 are out of order due to faulty equipment. District-wise information is in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) Year-wise funds allocated for efficient functioning of these systems during the last three years are given below :-

Year	Allocation of funds (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	168.29
1996-97	143.56
1997-98	179.23

#### Statement-I

*District-wise number of Rural Telephone Exchanges set up in Orissa during the last three years*

Name of District	Telephone exchanges opened during		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Balasore	0	2	2
Baripada	0	0	4
Berhampur	5	6	5
Bhubaneshwar	0	5	1
Bolangir	2	1	0
Bhawanipatna	0	2	0
Cuttack	2	5	5
Dhenkanal	1	6	2
Koraput	5	2	5
Rourkela	2	0	2
Sambalpur	6	7	0
Total	23	36	26

#### Statement-II

*District-wise number of telephones under MARR systems installed and faulty in Orissa till date.*

Name of District	VPTs installed on MARR systems	VPT faulty
Balasore	938	288
Baripada	840	235
Berhampur	1091	256
Bhubaneshwar	951	437
Bolangir	616	131
Bhawanipatna	608	222
Cuttack	1134	197
Dhenkanal	1071	167
Koraput	1563	110
Rourkela	516	112
Sambalpur	1233	63
Total	10561	2218

#### Export of Telecom Equipments

3929. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vigorous efforts are being made to increase the export of telecom equipments and services; and



(b) if so, the details thereof, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following promotional efforts have been made by DOT to increase the export of telecom equipments and services :-

1. Export Promotion Fund has been created from which 50% subsidy is given for export promotion activities.

2. Department participates in all major exhibitions along with its Public Sector Undertakings. Some of the exhibitions in which Telecom Companies both in Private and Public Services participated are indicated below :-

- (i) AMERICA TELECOM 96 Brazil.
- (ii) COMMUNIC AFRICA 96 South Africa.
- (iii) ASIA TELECOM 97 Singapore.
- (iv) VIETNAM TELECOMP 97 Vietnam.
- (v) INDIA TRADE EXHIBITION 98 Mexico.
- (vi) AFRICA TELECOM 98 South Africa.
- (vii) INDIA TECH 98 Kenya.

3. The details of export of telecom equipment, consultancy Services and telecom services are under :-

(in crores)

	Telecom Equipment	Consultancy Services	Telecom Services
1993-94	58	118	456
1994-95	131	207	598
1995-96	310	235	1108.2
1996-97	240	270	1457.5
1997-98	296	312.5	2231.5

[Translation]

#### Telephone Exchanges in H.P.

3930. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges targeted

to be set up in Lahoul-Sphiti, Mandi, Kinnore, Shimla, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Una, Solan, Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh during the current year, location-wise;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges set up so far;

(c) whether due to non-availability of MCPC in the tribal areas of H.P., it is possible to achieve the target; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) Thirty two New Telephone Exchanges are proposed to be set up during the current year 1998-99. Location-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Two exchanges have already been set up.

(c) and (d) The above target is expected to be achieved. However, twelve exchanges in tribal areas on MCPC, as per details given in the enclosed Statement-II are likely to be commissioned during 1999-2000.

#### Statement-I

##### New Telephone Exchanges Proposed to be set-up During 1998-99

Sl. No.	Name of District	Location
1	2	3
1.	Kinnore	Karohham**
2.	Kinnore	Nigulsari**
3.	Shimla	Dharogra
4.	Shimla	Karyali
5.	Shimla	Kiara*
6.	Shimla	Kungal Balti
7.	Shimla	Lamba Jubber*
8.	Shimla	Neen
9.	Shimla	Jabalka
10.	Shimla	Khund
11.	Solen	Goyla
12.	Solen	Chamdar
13.	Solen	Pratha
14.	Chamba	Saru

1	2	3
15.	Chamba	Surgani
16.	Kangra	Gwal Tikker
17.	Kangra	Jassure
18.	Kangra	Kapital
19.	Kangra	Nandpur Bhatoli
20.	Kangra	Seui
21.	Mandi	Dhalara
22.	Mandi	Gaddi Dhar
23.	Mandi	Kelo Dhar
24.	Mandi	Nalag (Taleli)
25.	Mandi	Paura Kothi
26.	Mandi	Shikawari
27.	Mandi	Tullah
28.	Mandi	Thona
29.	Bilaspur	Kallar
30.	Hamirpur	Bhira
31.	Hamirpur	Chauri
32.	Una	Khurwain
33.	Lahoul-Sphithi	Nil

\* Already opened

\*\* Exchanges in tribal area

**Statement-II****New Telephone Exchanges Proposed to be opened Using MCPC**

Sl.No.	Location	Name of District
1	2	3
1.	Gondla )	Lahoul Sphiti
2.	Goshal )	
3.	Sansa )	
4.	Sissu )	
5.	Lippa )	Kinnor
6.	Chango )	
7.	Namgia )	
8.	Kanam )	

1	2	3
9.	Gaybong )	
10.	Lossar )	
11.	Sagnam )	
12.	Garola	Chamba

*[English]***Aquaculture Industry**

3931. SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact aquaculture legislation to overcome the conditions imposed by Hon'ble Supreme Court on aquaculture industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any suggestion has been received from Seafood Exporters Association in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The matter regarding enactment of legislation to regulate aquaculture activities in the coastal areas has been referred to a Group of Ministers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

**Modern Telephone Facilities in Goa**

3932. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many villages in Goa have been denied the modern telephone facilities inspite of the loan in this regard sanctioned by the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the number of villages involved and the reasons for depriving them of modern telephone facilities; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to implement this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) No Sir, Goa has 407 villages out of them 361 villages have been provided with telecom facility. Remaining 46 villages will also be provided with telecom facility during next 2 to 3 years. No ADB loan has been sanctioned for telecom facility in Goa.

[Translation]

**National Co-Operative Policy**

3933. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

DR. V. SAROJA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a National Co-operative Policy and the National Agricultural Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) A National Policy on Agriculture is in final stage of drafting. It aims at the management and conservation of the natural resource base through sustainable management of land and water resources. It seeks to promote environmentally non-degrading, technically sound, economically viable and socially acceptable improvement of natural resources to promote sustainable development of agriculture.

The Policy will, to this end, seek to achieve:

- conservation of the natural resource base through sustainable management of land and water resources and protection and conservation of bio-diversity;
- maintenance of food self-sufficiency;
- greater employment generation, higher household incomes and reduction of poverty through diversification of farming systems;
- reduction of regional imbalances through greater emphasis on rainfed farming and developing areas of untapped potential;
- strengthening of agricultural research and education;
- restructuring of agricultural extension to make it more demand-driven and farmer accountable;
- efficient use of inputs;

- expansion of the rural infrastructure through increased public and private sector investment;
- remunerative prices for agricultural produce through strengthening marketing institutions and infrastructure and creation of a favourable economic environment for the growth of the agriculture sector;
- value addition to farm produce through agro-processing and improved post-harvest facilities;
- revitalization of the rural credit to augment the flow of credit for agriculture and rural sector;
- higher agricultural exports and integration of the Indian commodity markets with global markets;
- creating quality consciousness among farmers and agro-processors and development of facilities for quality testing;
- benefit to the agriculture sector at par with industry;
- greater participation of user communities;
- safeguarding the interests of women and weaker sections of the rural community;
- land reforms that lead to higher productivity with equity.

The objectives of the proposed National Policy on Cooperatives are to facilitate all round development and economic viability of the Cooperatives and to ensure their working as autonomous, self reliant and democratically managed institutions responsible to their members. The framing of the proposed policies is still under consideration of the Government. Hence, it is not possible to indicate a time frame by which a final decision is likely to be taken.

[English]

**Investment made for FPI**

3934. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made for Food Processing Industries during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans; and

(b) the amount of investment made for the purpose and the achievement made during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors and hence information on the total investment is not Centrally maintained.

Most of the food processing industries are delicensed. Since liberalisation in 1991 till September, 1998, 4676 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) involving an investment of Rs. 53,490 crores have been filed. Besides 1078 approvals involving investment Rs. 18,664 crores for setting up food processing industries have been granted.

Out of the above, till September, 1998, 837 projects involving an investment of Rs. 11,168 crores have already started commercial production.

**Doordarshan Centre At Chhapra in Bihar**

3935. SHRI HIRA LAL ROY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Doordarshan Kendra at Chhapra (Saran) district of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Regional Centres of Films Division**

3936. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

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

(a) the number of regional centres of the Films Division in the country;

(b) whether all these centres are fully equipped with necessary equipments;

(c) if not, the steps taken to provide facilities in these centres;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open more regional centres of the Films Division; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) There are two Regional Production centres of Films Division at Bangalore and Calcutta apart from a unit of the Division at New Delhi for production of family welfare and defence training film.

(b) The Regional Production Centres are equipped with essential infrastructure like cameras, editing machines and recording equipments.

(c) While the essential facilities are available, it is proposed to suitably upgrade the facilities at these Centres, keeping in view the advancements in technology in this field, subject to availability of resources.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

**Telephone Adalat**

3937. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone Adalats held in Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) the number of cases settled in each adalat;

(c) whether the Government propose to hold more adalats on regular basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Telephone Adalat held

Year	No. of Adalat
1996-97	26
1997-98	32

(b) Cases Settled

Year	No.
1996-97	563
1997-98	904

(c) and (d) As per existing instructions, Telephone Adalats are required to be held in all Telecom Circles/ Districts every three months. There is no proposal to increase the frequencies of holding such adalats.

**Upgradation of Post Offices**

3938. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade existing sub post office and Branch post offices in U.P. particularly in Basti district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the offices proposed to be opened in the State particularly in the said district during 1998-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) Post Offices are upgraded subject to norm based justification and availability of resources. The proposals recieved from U.P. for upgradation of Departmental Sub Post Offices into Head Post Offices are in the State-ment attached. There is a target for opening 6 Departmental Sub Post Offices in U.P. during the current Annual Plan which includes those opened by upgradation of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices into Departmental Sub Post Offices also. No target for opening Departmental Sub Post Offices has been allotted to Basti this year.

(c) Target for opening post offices are allotted Postal Circle-wise under each Annual Plan. There is a target for opening 78 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 6 Departmental Sub Post Offices in Uttar Pradesh during the Annual Plan 1998-99, subject to availability of resources. No target has been allotted to Basti District during the current Annual Plan. For the Annual Plan 1999-2000, targets are assigned in beginning of the plan year.

#### Statement

##### *Proposals Recieved for Upgrading Departmental Sub Post Offices Into HOs*

S. No.	Name of the Departmental Sub Post Office	District of Uttar Pradesh
1.	Maharajganj	Maharajganj
2.	Tetribazar	Siddharthnagar
3.	Uttarkashi	Uttarkashi
4.	Hardwar	Hardwar
5.	Udham Singh Nagar	Udham Singh Nagar

#### **Implementation of Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995**

3939. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to review the implementation of the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 or propose to set up any mechanism for its effective enforcement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 provides for the appointment of authorised officers by the respective State Governments for enforcing the provisions of the Act. The Act also provides for punishment including imprisonment for contravention of any of its provisions. Till now, only 19 States and 1 Union Territory have notified the authorised officers. In the recently held State Information Ministers Conference. The State Governments were requested to expedite the notification of authorised officers. In order to make the law more effective and responsive to the current needs, a meeting was held last month in November with major cable operators from all over the country. Since certain issues are linked to the proposed Broadcast Bill, no time can be presently specified by which a final decision can be taken in this regard.

[Translation]

#### **Bank Loan to Farmers**

3940. SHRI K. D. SULTANPUR! : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commitment to provide bank-loans to farmers in various States of the country have been fulfilled by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the names of the States where pass-books have been issued to the farmers to grant loans on land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) With a view to providing adequate and timely credit to the farmers, various measures/initiatives have been taken for strengthening the institutional credit system in the agricultural and allied sector. These include the following :

- A proposal has been initiated for revamping of Cooperative Credit Structure.
- The State Governments have been advised to constitute Standing Committees to assess the requirements of agricultural credit for the Rabi and Kharif seasons and to review the performance thereof.
- Steps have been initiated for reformulation of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, with a view to restoring the autonomy of the cooperative institutions.

- Action has been initiated to amend the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Act, 1962 to diversify the activities of NCDC and to provide it operational freedom and access to resources.
- NABARD has been requested to relax its norms relating to minimum recovery for sanction of credit limits and norms in the discipline of Minimum Involvement.
- Equity support has been provided to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).
- The share capital of NABARD increased by Rs. 1000 crores during the last two years.
- State Level Agricultural Development Finance Companies have been set up in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for strengthening the flow of credit for commercial or high technology agriculture etc.
- The Cooperative Bank of India has been registered for being set up to enable the Cooperative Credit Structure to impart greater internal mobility or its resources and access to external sources of assistance.
- Guidelines in regard to requirement of collateral security by way of mortgage of land/charge on land or third party guarantee have been liberalised.
- Action has been initiated by the RBI for implementation of some of the recommendations of the High Level Committee (R.V. Gupta Committee) set up by the RBI to suggest measures for improving the credit delivery system in respect of commercial banks as well as simplification of procedures for agricultural credit.
- The scope of the rural credit system has been widened by formulating links with NGOs and Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- The Scheduled Commercial Banks including RRBs have been advised to provide 40% of the outstanding advances to priority sector borrowers. Similarly, banks have been advised to lend 18% of the net bank loan to agriculture sector.
- In order to assess the scale of finance for various crops, district technical Committees have been constituted by State Government.

Besides, for providing credit facilities to farmers in the form of Kisan Credit Card so that the farmers may use them to readily purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash for their produc-

tion needs, the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), at the instance of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India, has formulated a model scheme designing a Kisan Credit Card for issue to farmers on the basis of their land holdings for adoption by the banks. Instructions have been issued by NABARD to all State Cooperative Banks and the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in August 1998, for early introduction of a suitable scheme in their State/UT/area of operation on the lines of the model scheme. Similar instructions have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to all the Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs) for introduction of a suitable Kisan Credit Card Scheme. All the States have been addressed to ensure that necessary action is taken, so that the Scheme is implemented in all parts of their States by all the Banks including the Cooperative Banks.

According to the information received, Kisan Credit Cards have so far been introduced by 27 Commercial Banks, 4 State Cooperative Banks and 6 Regional Banks to farmers in various States including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu and the remaining States are soon expected to follow suit.

[English]

#### Telecast of Regional Languages Programme On Doordarshan

3941. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any programme are being telecast in the regional languages on Doordarshan I and II channels;
- (b) if so, the percentage of duration in each national language on these two national channels;
- (c) whether the time allotted to the national languages other than Hindi is quite negligible; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to allot more time to Hindi language programmes on DD I and DD II?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati have informed that statistics about such percentage of time allotted to different languages are not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(c) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have been intimated that each regional Doordarshan Kendra can originate programmes for 6½ hours daily in the regional language. In addition, Doordarshan has eleven Regional Language Satellite Services (RLSS) Channels devoted for exclusive programmes in regional languages.

(d) Prasar Bharati have intimated that there is no plan to allot more time to programmes in Hindi on DD-1 and DD-2 since the present quantum of programmes being telecast in Hindi is considered sufficient.

[Translation]

#### Telephones Out of Order

3942. SHRI RAMESH CHANDRA DWIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections installed under M.A.R.R. system in Banda, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi and Allahabad districts of Uttar Pradesh alongwith the targets fixed in this regard during the last three years;

(b) whether most of the telephones are out of order in the said district;

(c) if so, the names of the villages in the said district, where telephones are not functioning satisfactorily so far after their installation; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) In Banda, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi and Allahabad districts against a target of 1,315 rural telephones under MARR system a total of 1,269 telephones were provided in these 4 districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years. Yearwise and districtwise targets and the telephones provided are given in the following table.

		95-96	96-97	97-98	Total
Banda and Chitrakoot	Target provided	150 69	318 295	55 230	523 594
Kaushambi and Allahabad	Target provided	155 8	315 286	322 381	792 675

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The number of in-operational VPTs changes from time to time. In Banda and Chitrakoot districts 35 VPTs and in Kaushambi and Allahabad districts 245 VPTs are in-operational at the end of '98. The names of the villages are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) (i) Main reasons for the MARR VPTs becoming in-operational are :

- The MARR Technology has not been found to be very stable.
- Lack of stable and reliable commercial power supply for telephone exchanges. This affects the MARR Base Station and a large number of VPTs served by it adversely.

- Due to lack of proper roads and transport in the rural areas repairs take longer time.
- Lack of reliable transmission medium in some of the rural Telephone Exchanges.
- (ii) To improve performance of VPTs following steps are being taken:
  - Annual maintenance contracts are being signed with the suppliers for preventive maintenance and repairs of faulty equipment. Monitoring and supervision also is being stepped up.
  - Reliable transmission media is proposed for all the exchanges progressively by the year 2002.
  - Wherever required standby power system is being augmented.
  - From the year 1999-2000 Digital technologies like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) and TDMA/PMP will be used for providing Village Public Telephones in the villages not having telecom facility.

#### Statement

*Subject : List of MARR VPTs not working satisfactorily in Banda and Chitrakoot, Kaushambi and Allahabad Districts*

S. No.	Base Station	Village Name
1	2	3
<b>1. Banda and Chitrakoot District.</b>		
1.	Narani	Masani
2.	-do-	Raksi
3.	Baberu	Patawan
4.	-do-	Baghanda
5.	-do-	Jalalbar
6.	-do-	Nibhaur
7.	-do-	Paras
8.	Kamasin	Audaha
9.	Bandaalaha	
10.	-do-	Palani
11.	-do-	Pista
12.	-do-	Chechria

1	2	3
13.	-do-	Sikahula
14.	Khurauand	Ghudara
15.	-do-	Sangampur
16.	Manikpur	Hanuwa
17.	-do-	Saraiyan
18.	-do-	Rampuriya
19.	-do-	Kaaubara
20.	-do-	Dudhvanya
21.	-do-	Agarahunda
22.	-do-	Arwara
23.	-do-	Giduraha
24.	-do-	Naya Chandra
25.	-do-	Bisaindha
26.	Bharatkoop	Ghuratanpur
27.	-do-	Pataunda
28.	-do-	Look
29.	Karwi	Barwara
30.	-do-	Balapur
31.	Mau	Luari
32.	-do-	Kotari Khambha
33.	-do-	Aunghar
34.	-do-	Karahi

2. *Kaushambi and Allahabad Districts :*

1. Ratansennur
2. Sangipur
3. Jamalpur
4. Shyampur alias Kalyanshah
5. Balai Mau
6. Chandpur Saraibhar
7. Misir Patti
8. Devgaipur
9. Basdeiya

10. Baraipur
11. Purshottampur
12. Yadavpur
13. Umaria Badal
14. Ghasadooh
15. Unchdeeh
16. Chitpur Lakhni
17. Akodha
- 18.. Argaon
19. Rajapur Chaubara
20. Mahraonda
21. Purkhipur
22. Pasimapur
23. Alawaspur
24. Jamha
25. Karaundhi
26. Dhanipur
27. Sheikhpur Saraibha
28. R. Matimarina
29. Ramaipur
30. Raghunathpur
31. Bahadurpur
32. Ayodhya
33. Ghiroan
34. Barahula Kalan
35. Khamihari Kalan
36. Rajapur
37. Salaiya
38. Pure Kurmi
39. Dadar
40. Hardiya
41. Vasanpur
42. Dhooa
43. Hardaun



- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 44. Govari               | 80. Bhati Taluka Asdan  |
| 45. Pachoh               | 81. Kherua              |
| 46. Kolidiya             | 82. Numaiyan            |
| 47. Semri Niraul         | 83. Daahee              |
| 48. Tikar                | 84. Goitiupharhar       |
| 49. Jamsaut              | 85. Jodhbal             |
| 50. Baghaul              | 86. Ujahin Patti        |
| 51. Pura Datt            | 87. Phulwa              |
| 52. Kudwa (Unohgaon)     | 88. Pansara             |
| 53. Ghapar               | 89. Rawatpur            |
| 54. Ojra                 | 90. Ibrahimpur Dullapur |
| 55. Khauria              | 91. Berawan             |
| 56. Manpur Muradmadnipur | 92. Umri Ta Purwa       |
| 57. Siraundhi Kalan      | 93. Badgohma Khurd      |
| 58. Pathra               | 94. Bari Bajahiya       |
| 59. Khajuri Khurd        | 95. Manauri             |
| 60. Rehi                 | 96. Barauli             |
| 61. Mohiuddinpur         | 97. Benipur             |
| 62. Chandrasenpur        | 98. Mahee               |
| 63. Munimpur             | 99. Kolhuwa             |
| 64. Sikandarpur Aima     | 100. Bairee             |
| 65. Dahiya               | 101. Khapatiha          |
| 66. Paraioe              | 102. Padokhara          |
| 67. Jaraini              | 103. Antari Khurd       |
| 68. Githura              | 104. Joknai             |
| 69. Rasoolpur            | 105. Chandi             |
| 70. Rampur               | 106. Lohadi             |
| 71. Bathui               | 107. Nibi Ta Khai       |
| 72. Ghoori               | 108. Bhagesar Delhi     |
| 73. Udathu               | 109. Amilo              |
| 74. Gohanikalan          | 110. Ramgarh            |
| 75. Farid Chak           | 111. Kabra              |
| 76. Korai Uprehar        | 112. Rokadi             |
| 77. Adampur Nadir Ali    | 113. Pipraon Ta. Karcha |
| 78. Bajaha               | 114. Rahi Khurd         |
| 79. Nasirpur siona       | 115. Bharaoha           |

116. Rikariya
117. Khani Ka Uparehar
118. Kukdhi
119. Belsara
120. Devra
121. Kulmai
122. Sehra
123. Shahipur
124. Bhajana
125. Gaonesipur Kachar
126. Motiha
127. Mandaur
128. Jagua Sondha
129. Siadabad
130. Dumduma
131. Banda
132. Utraon
133. Prithvipur
134. Girdhapur Gadhi
135. Tal Mallahaan
136. Ambai Buzurg
137. Farhimpur (Jahanpu)
138. Korio
139. Vidura
140. Unchrawan
141. Kanwaar
142. Hisampur Madho
143. Thon
144. Makanpur Bari
145. Ajaipur Jita
146. Aszalpur Sano
147. Udahin Khurd
148. Padwa Pratappur
149. Chaam
150. Fatehro Gurohta
151. Naudia Tarhaar

152. Biharia
153. Sukhal Sahni
154. Nari Bari
155. Naudia Uparhar
156. Chaukhata
1. Khaudia
2. Banka Jalalpur
3. Baharia
4. Gamrathta
5. Jugunideeh
6. Jamui
7. Chaimalpur
8. Phoolpur Vikram
9. Jyayanipur
10. Buapur
11. Hasanpur Borari
12. Gaharpur
13. Sarai Laileadhar
14. Arwanol
15. Dahket
16. Balipur
17. Gauhanipur
18. Jamua
19. Baijpur
20. Adhani
21. Sarai Guldaura
22. Suwara
23. Bhatauti
24. Shahpur Kalan
25. Gaura
26. Bhingari
27. Kanaila
28. Kudar
29. Khoonta
30. Chaparo
31. Sendhuwar

32. Ghabra (Chapra)
33. Bhaundi
34. Parowa Pratappur
35. Lonipaar
36. Sonbarsa
37. Singh Tikar
38. Devra
39. Sonwai
40. Sonwai
41. Khapraura
42. Masiyari Tarhaar
43. Ghudi
44. Jawai
45. Lehdari
46. Sultanpur (Purwari)
47. Rukunpur
48. Kaini
49. Sultanpur
50. Radhopur
51. Rala
52. Lachchipur
53. Patti Parwezabad
54. Birauli
55. Deobhita
56. Sihauri
57. Pashim Sharira
58. Bharwsawan
59. Gauhauni
60. Brahmdurpur
61. Nikhoda
62. Sharitpur
63. Gauspur Tikri
64. Ibrahimpur
65. Ghasipur
66. Tikri Nagi
67. Awsaanpur

68. Nagwa Sondha
69. Baddu Ka Pura
70. Benipur
71. Rasoolpur
72. Bariawan
73. Jamunipur
74. Mohiuddinpur
75. Murar Patti
76. Chak Janantipur
77. Sihori Uparhar
78. Chak Sahwaan
79. Dihaa
80. Lohari
81. Kuwee
82. Hathsara
83. Siki Kalan
84. Ghorhat
85. Hisamabad
86. Awadhan
87. Jugraajpur
88. Chakwan
89. Maqdoompur Dhaksaha
90. Medraha

[English]

#### HPT at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh

3943. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install high power TV transmitter at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Scheme for the establishment of a 10 KW

HPT at Warangal is, at present under implementation. Project is likely to be completed during 2000-2001, subject to timely completion of tower and civil works, construction of approach road to transmitter site and availability of other infrastructural facilities. The transmitter would be commissioned soon thereafter depending upon availability of requisite staff for its operation and maintenance.

[Translation]

**Doordarshan Centre at Mehar,  
Satna in Madhya Pradesh**

3944. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Doordarshan Kendra has already been set up at Mehar in Satna District of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said Doordarshan Kendra is likely to start functioning.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Low Power TV Relay Centre is functioning at Mehar since May, 1995.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Telecast of Telugu Films**

3945. SHRI M. RAJIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad has stopped telecast of Telugu films since November, 1998;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to counter the popularity of private channels in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has reported that due to financial constraints, Telugu films on DD-8 were temporarily stopped. The telecast of the Telugu films has since been resumed with effect from 18th November, 1998.

(c) It is Doordarshan's constant endeavour to bring about qualitative improvement in its programmes with a view to sustain the interest of the viewers.

**Liquid Propulsion Centre**

3946. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government for

the expansion and modernisation of the ISRO liquid propulsion centre unit at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : The Liquid Propulsion System Centre (LPSC) Mahendragiri Test Facilities (LMF) in Tamil Nadu have been established primarily for testing the liquid propulsion engine and stages. At present based on our Programme requirements, the necessary test facilities for testing the cryogenic engines and stages are being established.

Suitable augmentation/modernisation of various facilities and restructuring of various activities needed for these programmes are done on a continuous basis. Necessary funds are being provided as and when required.

**Cancellation of Programmes**

3947. SHRI IMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of scheduled programmes to be telecast on several Doordarshan Kendras of Uttar Pradesh have been cancelled or stopped during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that no scheduled programmes as per fixed point chart of the Kendras in U.P. have been cancelled or stopped during the last three years except when important national or international events were relayed live by the National Network of Doordarshan or by the Metro service. However, such programmes were scheduled for telecast subsequently.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Flood Control**

3948. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Barh Ayog for controlling the flood in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ayog has submitted its report to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Ayog and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India had constituted the Rashtriya Barh Ayog in July, 1976 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jaisukhlal Hathi, the then Governor of Punjab, to evolve a coordinated, integrated and scientific approach to the flood problem of the country and also to draw a National Plan, fixing priorities, for implementation.

(c) and (d) The Ayog presented its report to Government of India in March, 1980 wherein 207 recommendations on flood management were made covering internal's the aspects of past approach and achievements, effect of developmental works and encroachment, methodology of flood damage assessment, areas needing urgent attention, land use and regulation, cost and benefit criteria and future approach. The report of the Ayog had been sent to all the States/Union Territories for implementation.

[Translation]

#### IFS Officers

3949. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Indian Foreign Service Officers, grade-wise;

(b) the grade-wise number of officers belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes out of them;

(c) the number of post lying vacant in these categories; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The grade-wise strength of the Indian Foreign Service Officers as on 15.12.98, is as follows : (i) Grade-I of IFS - 26; (ii) Grade-II of IFS - 34; (iii) Grade-III of IFS - 166; (iv) Grade-IV of IFS - 136; (v) Junior Administrative Grade and Senior Scale of IFS-183 and (vi) Junior Scale of IFS including Probationers - 42 (Total : 587).

(b) The grade-wise number of officers belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes out of the above, is as follows : (i) Grade-I of IFS - 1 SC & 1 ST; (ii) Grade-II of IFS : 1 SC; (iii) Grade-III of IFS - 26 SCs and 13 STs; (iv) Grade-IV of IFS - 24 SCs and 9 STs; (v) Junior Administrative Grade and Senior Scale of IFS - 30 SCs & 11 STs; (vi) Junior Scale of IFS including Probationers - 7 SCs, 3 STs and 11 OBCs. The reservations in OBC category commenced from the 1995 batch. The officers belonging to this category are, therefore, all in the Junior Scale of IFS and number 11.

(c) The number of posts lying vacant in these categories is 10. Against these vacant posts, 7 officers (3 SC, 1 ST and 3 OBC) who have already been recruited, are currently undergoing training at the Academy at Musoorie and would be joining the Ministry shortly. The remaining vacant posts are 3, all of which are at the recruitment level i.e., Junior Scale of IFS. Of the 3 posts, 1 is for SC and 2 are for OBC.

(d) The vacancies are being filled as per the recruitment rules.

#### Irrigation Scheme of Bihar

3950. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has recieved any irrigation scheme from the State Government of Bihar under the private irrigation programme for drought affected and naxalites affected areas of the State on the recommendation of the Sen Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### ISP Licences

3951. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grant the Internet Service Providers (ISP) Licences to 47 companies shortlisted for the purpose;

(b) the number of ISP Licences likely to be provided to these companies and the areas of the country likely to be given to these companies for carrying on their operations;

(c) whether these companies had not submitted applications for such licences in July last;

(d) whether these applications had not been cancelled by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India; and

(e) if so, the reasons for considering these companies eligible subsequently for granting licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Government propose to grant the Internet Service

Provider (ISP) licence to all Companies who apply for the same, and meet the eligibility criteria. On 6th November, 1998, i.e. on the date of announcement of the new ISP Policy, 47 applications were pending. There is no question of any shortlisting as far as ISP licences are concerned.

(b) Out of the 47 applications 26 licences have been issued. A list of these companies, alongwith their area of operations is shown in the enclosed statement. Six applications were withdrawn by the respective companies. Eight applications have been approved and the companies have been intimated to come for signing of the licence agreement. Seven applications are incomplete.

(c) Out of the 47 applications, 29 applications were submitted by July, 1998.

(d) These applications had not been cancelled by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

(e) Not applicable in view of (c) and (d) above.

#### Statement

*List of Companies who have been issued ISP Licence \* \* among the 47 Applicants*

S. No.	Name of Company	Category	Service Area
1	2	3	4
1.	MTNL	'B'	Delhi
2.	MTNL	'B'	Mumbai
3.	M/s Ortel Commn. Ltd.	'C'	Bhubaneswar
4.	M/s Rolta India Ltd.	'B'	Mumbai
5.	M/s Surevin Consultants (P) Ltd.	'C'	Ghaziabad
6.	M/s United Internet Commn. (P) Ltd. Mumbai	'C'	Jaipur
7.	M/s Bareilly Commn. (P) Ltd.	'C'	Bareilly
8.	M/s Paliwal Financial Services (P) Ltd. Panipat	'C'	Karnal
9.	M/s Somani Overseas Ltd. Surat	'C'	Surat
10.	M/s Arun Girija Commn. (P) Ltd. Patna	'C'	Patna
11.	M/s Kinjaru Appliances (P) Ltd. Ahmedabad	'C'	Rajkot
12.	M/s Eleclipse Network Pvt.Ltd.	'B'	Ahmedabad

1	2	3	4
13.	M/s Weikfield Mnemonix Infonetworks Pvt. Ltd.	'B'	Pune
14.	M/s S.N.C. Infotech Pvt. Ltd. Ghaziabad	'C'	Ghaziabad
15.	M/s Zaverchand Cyber Infotech (P) Ltd.	'C'	Vadodara
16.	Srishti Open System (P) Ltd. TVM	'C'	Trivandrum
17.	M/s Sukhkarta Fin Trade Pvt. Ltd. , Mumbai	'A'	All India
18.	M/s Trikon Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	'B'	Mumbai
19.	M/s Suchibh Communications Pvt. Ltd. Satara (M.P.)	'C'	Satara
20.	M/s Punjab Commn. Ltd., Mohali	'B'	Punjab
21.	M/s S.K. Digital Technology Pvt. Ltd. Durgapur (W.B.)	'C'	Durgapur
22.	M/s C.S. Prosof Tech Informatics Pvt. Ltd., Madurai	'C'	Madurai
23.	M/s Indusind Cable Television Ltd., Mumbai	'B'	Mumbai
24.	M/s Indusind Distribution Ltd., Mumbai	'A'	All India
25.	M/s Jain Studio Ltd., New Delhi	'C'	Ghaziabad
26.	M/s Gateway Internet Service Pvt. Ltd., Kakinada	'C'	Rajahmundry

#### Bore Wells

3952. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government to undertake irrigation bore wells programme in the State for small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total land in acres likely to be irrigated therefrom; and

(d) the time by which the funds are likely to be sanctioned and released?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) :** (a) to (c) Government of Assam submitted a scheme to Union Government costing Rupees 96.2 crore for undertaking 54000 Shallow Tube Wells (STW) to irrigate an area of 1,62,000 Hectares (400310 Acres) and sought central assistance of Rupees 64.77 crore.

(d) Minor Irrigation Schemes which includes STW are planned and funded by the State Governments from their own budgetary resources. However, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Ganga Kalyan Yojana, Central Assistance for Rs. 257.01 lakh, was released to the State Government of Assam for exploitation of Ground Water (Borewells and tubewells) during 1997-98.

#### **Eco-Friendly Fertilizers and Pesticides**

3953. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote use of eco-friendly, bio-pesticides, bio-fertilizer and bio-controls in the field of agriculture;

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

(c) the plans formulated to popularise the use such pesticides and fertilizers?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on studies carried out by various Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Bio-technology, Central Integrated Pest Management Centres, State Agricultural Universities and some of the Research and Development Centres in the Private Sector, bio-pesticides viz, neem and Bacillus-based pesticides, Aureofungin, Kasugamycin, Validamycin, Streptomycin, Sulphate and Tetracycline Hydrochloride have been registered by the Registration Committee under the Insecticides Act 1968, for controlling various insect pests and diseases in agriculture. Also, 10 parasites, 3 predators, 5 phyto-phagous insects and 8 insect/disease pathogens have been identified as major bio-control agents for the control of insect parts and diseases of various crops. On the basis of studies carried out by ICAR and National Bio-fertilizers Development Centre (NBDC) improved strains of bacteria to be used as bio-fertilizers have been identified besides improving shelf-life and standardisation of carrier material, storage conditions, packing material for bio-fertilizers. The NBDC, 6 Regional Centres and 58 Bio-fertilizers Production Units of Ministry of Agriculture are engaged in the production of bio-fertilizers.

(c) The plans being implemented to popularise the use of such eco-friendly bio-pesticides, bio-control agents and bio-fertilizers are as under:

(i) *Integrated Pest Management (IPM) technology is being promoted which inter-alia includes the use of bio-control agents, bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers, instead of laying emphasis on the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers;*

(ii) Establishment of 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) in 21 States and one Union Territory;

(iii) Establishment of Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs) for IPM training of Agricultural Extension Officers (AEOs) and farmers to promote the use of bio-control agents and bio-pesticides in agriculture;

(iv) IPM demonstrations under various Crops Schemes to demonstrate the use of bio-pesticides, pheromones and bio-control agents;

(v) Grants-in-aid to State Governments for setting up of 29 State Bio-control Laboratories @ Rs. 50 lakhs for each Laboratory;

(vi) Training of State functionaries in the production techniques of bio-control agents;

(vii) Simplified procedure and data requirements for the registration of bio-pesticides as well as commercialisation of bio-pesticides during the pendency of provisional registration;

(viii) Research and Development support by ICAR Institute and Department of Bio-technology on the bio-control agents bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers;

(ix) The National Bio-fertilizers Development Centre, 6 Regional Centres produce and distribute bio-fertilizers;

(x) 58 Bio-fertilizers Production Units have been financed by the Department of Fertilizers with a total production capacity of 8,300 tonnes of bio-fertilizers per annum; and

(xi) Organising field demonstrations on bio-fertilizers by National and Regional Centres.

#### **Regularisation of Casual Staff in Patna Doordarshan Kendra**

3954. DR. C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the services of all casual staff working in Doordarshan Kendra, Patna have not been regularised even after decision given by Central Administrative Tribunal bench at Patna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the studio which was constructed at the cost of Rs. 40 crore has not started functioning till yet;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether various equipments installed in the studio worth crores of rupees have been damaged due to non-utilisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Services of eligible casual staff working in Doordarshan Kendra, Patna have been regularised in terms of decision of Central Administrative Tribunal, Patna except in respect of 32 eligible casual workers whose services could not be regularised due to non-availability of vacancies. They would be regularised as and when vacancies are available.

(c) and (d) Some units of the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna have already started functioning from the new studio. Normal operation of the permanent studio setup would depend upon the sanction of the full complement of staff and its subsequent deployment.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Clearance of Doordarshan Programmes

3955. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes cleared by the Daltanganj Doordarshan Kendra of Bihar during the last two years;

(b) the details of the cost involved therein and the names of their producers;

(c) the names of the programmes for which proposals are under consideration of the Daltanganj Doordarshan Kendra;

(d) whether there have been complaints of irregularities in the matter of several appointments made during the year 1993-94; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have intimated that during the last two years i.e. 1996-97 and 1997-98 a total number of 114 and 162 in-house programmes of 30 minutes duration each were telecast. The cost involved therein was Rs. 2,18,520-00 and Rs. 6,98,481-00 respectively. In

addition, an amount of Rs. 3,48,400-00 was paid to the outside producers whose programmes were telecast on royalty basis. The names of these producers are shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) Nil, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Producers
1.	Shri Niraj Pravakar
2.	Shri B.B. Sinha
3.	Shri A. Hameed
4.	Shri Monish Kumar Singh
5.	Shri A. Bhupen
6.	Shri Manoj Sinha
7.	Shri Kamal Pal
8.	Shri Pramod Kumar Choudhary

[English]

#### Telephone Out of Order

3956. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephones installed at Alawalpur in Jalandhar remain out of order most of the time and are not set in order even after making a number of complaints;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the telephone installed at Alawalpur, which are connected from the Jalandhar Telephone Exchange are not connected while connecting from different parts of the country on STD code; and

(d) the steps Government proposed to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir. The telephones installed at Alawalpur, which are connected from the Jalandhar Telephone Exchanges are connected on incoming STD calls. However,



during heavy traffic hours, there is some congestion on the route.

(d) There is a plan to replace the existing transmission media by Optical Fibre Cable Media during 1998-99. After replacement, sufficient number of circuits can be provided to overcome the problem of congestion on the route during heavy traffic hours.

#### **Farmers Look to Other Crops**

3957. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "farmers look to other crops" appearing in the Indian Express dated November 28, 1998;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to stop the farmers from diverting their fields from one crop to other crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has appeared in the Press that due to high rise in prices of onion seeds farmers are turning to other cash crops.

(c) Government of India have taken following steps to increase production of onion and onion seeds:

(i) A mass spray campaign in farmers fields by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) through National Horticultural Research & Development Foundation (NHRDF) has been launched to protect the crop from attack of pests and diseases and increase production in Maharashtra State.

(ii) An assistance to the tune of Rs. 80 lakhs has been provided to the National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation and Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation for increasing production of onion seeds of Kharif and Rabi varieties to be used during 1999-2000.

(iii) Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds under which quality seeds of improved varieties of vegetables including onion are provided to the farmers through minikits.

[Translation]

#### **Indian Cultural Centres**

3958. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the activities of Indian Cultural Centres in other countries under his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The activities of the Indian Cultural Centres abroad are constantly examined and reviewed by Constituent Bodies of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, viz. Governing Body and General Assembly. On the basis of this process, the annual programmes of the ICCR is drawn up.

[English]

#### **Safety Record of Power Plants**

3959. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the safety record of Tarapur Nuclear Power Station, Rawatbhatta Nuclear Plant and Kaiga Reactor has been unsatisfactory;

(b) the number of times the workers and the residents of nearby areas were exposed to dangerous level of radiation from these plants and the number of times the plants were shut down due to technical glitches since their inception;

(c) whether the children living in the villages in the vicinity of Rawatbhatta Nuclear plant have developed various deformities, a possible result of radiation leakage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The safety records of both Tarapur Atomic Power Station and Rajasthan Atomic Power Station have remained satisfactory since their inception. The Kaiga Reactor is still under construction.

(b) There has not been any incident in any of the above plants leading to dangerous levels of radiation. The following are the details of shut-down of the above reactors (for capital maintenance, modifications and upgradation jobs) since their inception.

TAPS - 1 - 14 times

TAPS - 2 - 15 times

RAPS - 1 - 6 times

RAPS - 2 - 9 times

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### Uneconomical Venture

3960. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture is becoming un-economical venture and leading to unemployment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the impact on green revolution and the step the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Agriculture continues to remain an economically viable venture as the value of output from agriculture has been showing an increasing trend. The agriculture output which was Rs. 56875 crore at constant prices in 1980-81 has gone upto Rs. 89264 crore during 1995-96. The average daily number of workers in agriculture and allied sectors has also been registering an increasing trend. The number of estimated average daily workers which stood at 1426 thousands during 1971 increased to 3999 thousands during 1993. The green revolution in aggregative terms has resulted in higher employment in agriculture.

#### Expansion of Telephone Exchanges

3961. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of telephone exchanges in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

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

#### Statement

*Details of Proposal for Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Aurangabad District of Maharashtra subject to Supply of Equipment.*

S. No.	Name of Exchange	Net Expansion
1	2	3
1.	Jatkwadi (Lasur)	436
2.	Chittegaon	360

1	2	3
3.	Hatnoor	124
4.	Vaijapur	640
5.	Sillo	400
6.	Aurangabad	4500
7.	Chikalthana	3000
8.	Gharkhed	3000
9.	Harsul	2000
10.	Waluj	1500

#### Profit of Telecom Department, Madras

3962. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the net profit of Madras telecom department during 1997-98 and the amount paid to the Government;

(b) the percentage of profit utilised for opening of New exchanges in the State;

(c) whether MTNL has utilised major portion of their income on opening of new exchanges and improvement of the telephone facilities in Bombay and Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any recommendation by the Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) The Department does not maintain unit-wise individual Profit and Loss Account. The surplus generated from all the units is augmented by other internal resources such as depreciation, etc, which is then available for funding in a common pool for the developmental activities all over India.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the year 1997-98, for opening of new exchanges and improvement of telephone facilities etc. at Mumbai and Delhi, MTNL has incurred Capital Expenditure of Rs. 912.54 crores which was entirely met from the Internal resources. The details are furnished below:-

#### MTNL for the year 97-98 (Fig. in Rs. Crores)

1.	Total Income	4779.33
2.	Loss Expenditure on Tax, Staff Licence Fee Dividend etc.	3850.17
3.	Retained Profit	929.16

(c) and (f) Tamil Nadu Government had sought improvement in telecom facilities and better attention to investment needs. Steps have already been taken to earmark funds for Tamil Nadu and Chennai Circles commensurate with their developmental requirements.

#### Rehabilitation Schemes For Gulf Returnees

3963. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has asked for special assistance for rehabilitating the Gulf returnees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a) and (b) The Government of Kerala had requested the Union Government to contribute a certain amount from the "Emigration Clearance" fees and from the unclaimed security deposits collected by the Protectors of Emigrants to set up a "Migrant Workers' Welfare Fund". This fund was proposed to be used for the relief and rehabilitation of workers returning to India after service abroad, and for training, identification and preparation of projects, infrastructural facilities, placement systems, etc.

(c) In response to the proposal, the Government informed the Government of Kerala that there would be legal and technical difficulties in utilising the funds generated by the "Emigration Clearance" fees and by security deposits (which are refundable) for the benefit of persons from just one State and that alternative schemes should be examined. However, a proposal for the setting up of an "Indian Overseas Workers' Welfare Fund" is under consideration of the Government. Once this has been set up, it would be possible to extend some financial assistance (i) to workers who return to India due to disability during employment abroad, and (ii) to families of workers who may die during employment abroad.

#### STD/ISD/PCOs in Gujarat

3964. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA :

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Panchayats in Gujarat having ISD/STD/PCO and Fax booths during the last year;

(b) the total number of STD/PCO Fax etc. opened in Gujarat during the said period;

(c) whether the Government have received any

representation from the Gujarat Government to open new STD/PCO/Fax and Telex facilities in the State particularly in the rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these facilities are proposed to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) During the last year no STD/ISD/PCO and Fax booths were opened in Panchayats.

(b) During last year i.e. 1997-98 in Gujarat 3402 ISD/STD/PCOs and 17 Fax booths were opened.

(c), (d) and (e) No representation has been received from the Gujarat Government in this regard.

#### Solar Wind Diesel Hybrid System

3965. SHRI C. P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether projects for solar-wind-diesel hybrid system for electrification is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the locations identified for setting up the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) There is no specific proposal under the consideration of the Government for setting up of a solar-wind-diesel hybrid system for village electrification. However, the design, development and deployment of hybrid energy systems of various kinds are being promoted through research and development projects and soft loan schemes.

As per the existing policy, specific project proposals are formulated by the States in accordance with the general guidelines issued by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. Such proposals are examined on merits for possible financial support by the Government, in addition, under a separate scheme the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry, provides soft loan assistance for installation of hybrid energy systems, including solar-wind-diesel energy based systems. At present there is no application for seeking soft loan for solar-wind-diesel energy based hybrid systems with IREDA.

#### Licence Fees Structures

3966. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any differences between Department of Telecommunications and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India over various issues including the licence fees structures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) There are no differences between the Department of Telecommunication and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on various issues including the issue of licence fees structures.

However, the Department of Telecommunications had filed appeal in Delhi High Court against certain decisions of the TRAI. The Delhi High Court had given the verdict in favour of the Department of Telecom.

[Translation]

#### Poor Internet Service

3967. SHRI SADASHIVRAO D. MANDLIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complaints regarding the poor internet services being provided by the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited have been received;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring improvement in the internet services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaints arise due to congestion being faced in some of the Internet Nodes. This congestion is primarily due to non-availability of adequate number of access lines to the Internet Node.

(c) Congestion has been completely eased in Mumbai, Bangalore and Calcutta in the VSNL Network through the introduction of State-of-the art technology remote access servers. Congestion is expected to be eased in the remaining two cities on the VSNL Network in about a month's time.

[English]

#### Second Channel from Asansol T.V. Centre

3968. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether second channel from Asansol T.V. relay centre is ready for commissioning; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Scheme for setting up of a HPT-DD-II is under implementation, at present, and is scheduled to be completed during year 2000. The scheme was sanctioned in January, 1998 only.

[Translation]

#### Cultivation of Oilseeds

3969. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the area under cultivation for oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details of the new areas likely to be brought under cultivation for oilseeds during Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the estimated likely increase in production of the oilseeds during Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Increase in Oilseeds production is a key strategy for agricultural development. The methods through which oilseeds production is proposed to be increased include area expansion through sequential cropping, inter-cropping, replacement of low economy crop and as substitute crops in problematic area/situation. It is not possible to estimate the new area to be brought under cultivation of oilseeds during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) A target of 30 Million Tonnes has been fixed for the production of oilseeds by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan against a production of 22.24 Million Tonnes in 1997-98.

#### Telephone Connections

3970. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether O.Bs. to install telephones are issued to the consumers in the country specially in Delhi and Bihar despite non-availability of spare cables and other equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time taken to provide telephone connections generally after O.Bs. are issued to telephone consumers in Delhi;

(d) whether Government propose to provide new telephone connections in Delhi and Bihar by making available the telephone equipments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) Sir, normally the OB's for such cases are not issued. However, in cases of bulk release of connections, OBs are issued as per waiting list to maintain the seniority of such cases and in anticipation of completion of cable laying work and commissioning of exchange.

(b) Telephone connections are generally provided within the prescribed norms of 15 days after issue of OB in Delhi except in some cases due to the following reasons:

(i) At the time of bulk release of OBs, some of the pockets/areas may be technically not feasible due to non-availability of cable pairs.

(ii) Due to subscribers reasons.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Efforts are afoot to provide telephone connections in Delhi and Bihar by expansion of existing exchange capacity, opening of new telephone exchange and laying underground cable to make areas feasible for new telephone connections.

#### Loss to MTNL

3971: SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned 'Latelatifi se M.T.N.L. ko 27 crore ki chapat' appearing in 'Rashtriya -Sahara' dated September 22, 1998;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. CGO Complex, TE building is not ready. Only a part of the building is presently used for housing telephone exchange. The building is surrounded by Jhuggis. Fire clearance, Power connection, completion certificate and occupancy permissions are required from the local bodies after relocation of jhuggis. The relocation charges have been paid by MTNL Delhi to MCD Delhi. The new building will be occupied soon after receipt of clearance and permission from Municipal Authorities.

[English]

#### Industrial Estate for Food Processing in A.P.

3972. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agricultural and processed food products export development authority propose to set up an Industrial Estate for food processing units in Andhra Pradesh for boosting exports of horticulture products;

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

(c) the grants proposed to be given in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, a body under the administrative control of Ministry of Commerce, has a scheme for extending financial assistance for setting up of special infrastructural facilities and for conducting feasibility studies relating to export promotion of agro products. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also operating Plan Schemes to help in establishment of Food Processing Industrial Estates whereunder assistance is provided to Public Sector Undertakings/Joint/Assisted/Private Sector/Non-Governmental organisations for creation of common facilities such as Analytical and Quality Control laboratories, cold storage, warehousing facilities, supplementary pollution control facilities etc. Under the above schemes, assistance is provided on receipt of specific proposals.

#### Fiscal Incentives

3973. SHRI K. S. RAO :

SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food sector has been given fiscal incentives on processed food, vegetable products and dairy products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the strategies worked out to overcome financial difficulties being faced by food processing industry; and

(d) the efforts being made for boosting the demand of processed foods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The Ministry

provides financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations, Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector Industries for the growth, development and promotion of food processing industries, including those of processed food, vegetable products and dairy products. The assistance is in the form of soft loan or grant in aid and the quantum of assistance varies from scheme-to-scheme.

Besides, the Government has been taking various policy measures including delicensing of most of the food processing industries and providing fiscal reliefs in Excise and Customs Duties for the Processed Food Sector.

[Translation]

**Cultural Centre/Radio Station at Kaushambi  
in Uttar Pradesh**

3974. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a cultural centre or a radio station at Kaushambi district in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) There is no proposal for setting up a radio station at Kaushambi.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

**Satellite Television Relay Network  
in the Country**

3975. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether satellite television relay network covers all the districts and cities of the country; and

(b) if not, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in all the district and cities of the country particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Doordarshan Programmes are available throughout the country via satellite with the use of appropriate dish antenna system. All the districts including Gujarat of the country are wholly or partially covered by terrestrial service also.

[Translation]

**Communication, Postal and  
Telegraph Facility**

3976. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas having lowest means of communication vis-a-vis National Growth rate in this field;

(b) if so, the areas so far identified having lowest number of communication, post and telegraph offices;

(c) the details of the action plan formulated or proposed by the Government to increase the means of communications postal and telegraph facilities in the country particularly areas having lowest in the number of such facilities; and

(d) the details of the financial resources likely to be mobilised for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (d) Telecommunication facilities including Telegraph facilities are provided based on demand except for Village Public Telephones which are to be provided one per village as per the policy. As per the 9th Five Year proposals, it is proposed to make telephone available on demand throughout the country and also to cover all the villages with telephone facilities. All efforts are being taken to improve the telephone density in the States where it is less than the national average by increasing the annual provision of new telephones giving due Weightage to the tele-density. The number of telephone lines working in each Circle, the tele-density and the proposed target for 1998-99 for new lines is given in the enclosed Statement. Total capital investment proposed for 1998-99 is Rs. 13,772 crores including MTNL.

Reply in respect of Postal facilities is as given below :-

Post offices are opened, under Annual Plans, as per targets approved, subject to norm based justification and available of resources. Further allocation of targets to the postal circles is done keeping in view the total number of post offices in each, and the area and population served per post office. A target for opening 598 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 50 Departmental Sub Post Offices during the Annual Plan 1998-99 has been fixed, subject to available of resources. The Circle-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II. The input involving average area and population served per post office in the various parts of the country Circle-wise which is sort of an indication of the relative spread/growth of postal is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

**Statement -I**

*No. of Telephone Connections Working in each Circle, Target for 1998-99  
and Tele-Density Based on Projected Population*

Circle		DELs Status on 30.11.98	Target of DELs 1998-99	Tele-Density as on 30.11.98
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1312099	250000	1.78
2.	Assam	173685	50000	0.68
3.	Bihar	431603	131000	0.45
4.	Gujarat	1357772	250000	2.88
5.	Haryana	452969	95000	2.35
6.	Himachal Pradesh	188726	59000	2.97
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	99946	30000	1.06
8.	Karnataka	1326463	200000	2.61
9.	Kerala	1190221	325000	3.75
10.	Madhya Pradesh	848212	110000	1.10
11.	Maharashtra	1632408	300000	2.14
12.	North East	128795	32000	1.10
13.	Orissa	239894	60000	0.82
14.	Punjab	944566	190000	3.96
15.	Rajasthan	806347	163000	1.56
16.	Tamil Nadu	1272723	280000	2.29
17.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	749687	133000	0.69
18.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	713018	139000	1.33
19.	West Bengal	347490	120000	0.54
20.	A & N Island	10298	6000	2.85
21.	Mumbai	1945630	230000	13.47
22.	Delhi	1863452	220000	12.16
23.	Calcutta	801468	112000	6.39
24.	Chennai	542973	115000	8.82
Total		19130445	3600000	1.98

**Statement-II**

*Circle-wise Allotment of Targets for Opening Post Office During Annual Plan 1998-99*

S. No.	Name of Circle	Targets Allotted for opening EDBOs in			Targets Allotted for opening DSOs in		
		Other Areas	Tribal Areas	Total	Other Areas	Tribal Areas	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	7	3	10	1	1	2
2.	Assam	40	10	50	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Bihar	42	18	60	2	1	3
4.	Delhi	17	—	17	3	—	3
5.	Gujarat	32	8	40	2	—	2
6.	Haryana	15	—	15	3	—	3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7	3	10	1	1	2
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	20	10	30	1	—	1
9.	Karnataka	8	2	10	4	—	4
10.	Kerala	10	—	10	2	—	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	30	20	50	1	1	2
12.	Maharashtra	46	14	60	3	—	3
13.	North East	31	19	50	1	2	3
14.	Orissa	6	4	10	1	1	2
15.	Punjab	15	—	15	2	—	2
16.	Rajasthan	16	14	30	1	1	2
17.	Tamil Nadu	7	3	10	2	—	2
18.	Uttar Pradesh	66	12	78	6	—	6
19.	West Bengal	29	8	37	3	—	3
20.	Sikkim	6	—	6	1	—	1
Total		450	148	598	41	9	50

## Statement-III

## Circle-wise Details of Post Offices in Urban and Rural Areas as on 31.3.98

S. No.	Name of Circle	Post Offices in Urban Areas	Post Offices in Rural Areas	Total	Area Served per post office in Sq. Kms	Population served per post office
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1339	14839	16178	16.99	4101
2.	Assam	298	3536	3834	22.45	5814
3.	Bihar	743	11097	11840	14.69	7292
4.	Delhi	458	105	563	2.49	16643
5.	Gujarat	861	8069	8930	22.01	4637
	Dadra N. Haveli	1	33	34	14.44	3049
	Daman & Diu	4	13	17	6.59	5975
6.	Haryana	328	2293	2621	16.86	6227
7.	Himachal Pradesh	119	2637	2756	20.21	1854



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	195	1425	1620	137.16	4765
9.	Karnataka	1334	8504	9838	19.52	4555
10.	Kerala	950	4088	5038	7.74	5772
	Lakshadweep	4	10	14	3.2	5173
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1061	10221	11282	39.3	5861
12.	Maharashtra	1336	11022	12358	24.9	6372
	Goa	57	194	251	14.74	4661
13.	North East					
	Arunachal Pradesh	13	271	284	294.72	3028
	Manipur	37	636	673	33.14	2719
	Meghalaya	32	446	478	46.86	3682
	Mizoram	33	354	387	54.52	1783
	Nagaland	19	288	307	53.74	3974
	Tripura	50	659	709	14.66	3865
14.	Orissa	599	7509	8108	19.24	3886
15.	Punjab	481	3382	3863	13.04	5392
	Chandigarh	44	8	52	2.28	12818
16.	Rajasthan	817	9523	10340	33.09	4244
17.	Tamil Nadu	1972	10096	12068	10.77	4610
	Pondicherry	13	57	70	7.14	11571
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2083	18057	20140	14.62	6903
19.	West Bengal	1105	7401	8506	10.43	7992
	Sikkim	13	185	198	35.86	2071
	A & N Islands	12	85	97	84.54	2887
	Total	16411	137043	153454	21.42	5502

[English]

**Nuclear Power Generation**

3977. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need to increase nuclear power generation in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the country's growing energy requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following is the projection for programme for nuclear power generation during the 9th five year plan and beyond the 9th five year plan, subject to the available resources.

Details of reactors/units	Total Capacity (MWe)
1	2
I. Upto 9th five year plan	
(1) Operating reactors [2 BWRs of 160 MWe each & 8 PHWRs (1×100, 1×200, 2×170, 4×220 MWe)]	1840

1	2
(2) Reactors under construction 4 PHWRs of 220 MWe each	880
(3) Reactors sanctioned and work commenced (2 PHWRs of 500 MWe each)	1000
(4) Reactors awaiting sanction (2 PHWRs of 220 MWe each, 2 VVERs of 1000 MWe each and 1 PFBR of 500 MWe)	2940
	<hr/> 6660 <hr/>
II. Beyond the 9th five year plan (in a preliminary stage, to be firmed up based on resources)	
(1) Reactors for which advanced procurement action is to be taken	1440
(2) Reactors in the planning stage	
(i) 10 PHWRs of 500 MWe each	5000

1	2
(ii) 4 FBRs of 500 MWe each	2000
(iii) 5 LWRs of 1000 MWe each	5000
Total	13440
Grand Total	20100

#### Agricultural Research Projects

3978. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Agricultural Research Projects funded by United States of America during the last three years and the current year so far;

(b) the total cost of each projects;

(c) the contribution made by United States of America in these projects; and

(d) the time frame for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) A statement is enclosed.

#### Statement

##### *Details of Agricultural Research Projects Funded by the United States of America During 1995 to 1998*

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Total Cost	Contribution of USA	Completion date
<b>United State India Fund (USIF) Projects:</b>				
1.	Natural Enemies of Bemisia tabaci Genn, and their potential as biocontrol components of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)/ November, 1997	Rs. 6,010,000	Rs. 6,010,000	November, 2002
2.	Regeneration of Agro-biodiversity comprising of agri-horticultural crops/ May, 1998	Rs. 6,396,000	Rs. 6,396,000	May, 2002
3.	Use of in vitro technology for mass propagation and conservation of clonally/ vegetatively propagated crops and their relatives/ May, 1998	Rs. 6,662,400	Rs. 6,662,400	May, 2002
4.	Molecular tagging and precise transfer of rust and Karnal bunt resistance from non progenitor Aegilops species into cultivated wheats/ May, 1998	Rs. 3,403,000	Rs. 3,403,000	May, 2003

#### Regional Passport Office

3979. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Passports issued everyday at Regional Passport Office, Chennai;

(b) whether there is an acute shortage of Passport booklets in this office; and

(c) If so, the steps taken to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The daily average issue of passports at the Regional Passport Office, Chennai is 550.

(b) and (c) The supply during the last few months of passport booklets by the India Security Press at Nasik, the only press authorised to print these documents, has been a little short of the assessed demand. Efforts were made to increase the output at the press and the situation has since improved.

[Translation]

#### Setting Up of Postal Divisions

3980. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
(JHANJIHARPUR) :

SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy followed for the opening of Postal Divisions;

(b) the details of the Postal Divisions set up in Bihar and Orissa during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up new Postal Divisions in these States, particularly in Kendrapara District of Orissa during 1998-99; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) As per existing norms a new Postal Division can be created by bifurcating the administrative jurisdiction of an existing postal Division when its work-load exceeds 2.6 SI units provided that after bifurcation the workload of the existing as well as the new division is not less than 0.9 SI units.

(b) No new Postal Division has been set up in Bihar and Orissa during the last three years.

(c) and (d) A proposal has been received for two separate postal divisions at Kendrapara and Jajpur by bifurcation of Cuttack North Postal Division in Orissa. A proposal has been received for creation of West Champaran Postal Division with headquarters at Bettiah in Bihar.

[English]

#### Training Camps in Afghanistan

3981. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two of the four camps recently blasted by USA in Afghanistan were being used for training Kashmiri militants for war against India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have contacted the Afghanistan Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Pakistan had been actively sponsoring terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India. Pakistani agencies have for several years recruited, financed, trained and armed terrorists who are then infiltrated into India. Terrorist training camps and facilities have been set up by official Pakistani agencies in Pakistan, POK and Taliban held territories in Afghanistan. Following the US bombing raids in terrorists camps in Afghanistan in August 1998 there was credible reports of the presence of terrorists belonging to Pakistani extremist groups in these camps. These groups send their members to Jammu and Kashmir to undertake terrorist activities.

(c) and (d) Government maintains regular friendly contact with the Government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

#### M.A.R.R. System in Assam

3982. SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone installed through Multi Access Rural Radio System in Assam particularly Bongaigaon (Kokrajhar) district, district-wise;

(b) whether the said telephone connections given in the rural areas of Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Dhubri and Goalpara have gone out of order; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to save situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) In Assam 6430 village public telephone have been provided on MARR. Bongaigaon and Kokrajhar districts have 119 and 142 VPTs respectively district-wise data for Assam in shown is the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Some VPTs have gone out of order in Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Dhubri and Goalpara districts. These are being repaired with the help of the suppliers and by our own staff.

#### Statement

Assam Telecom Circle and State District-wise  
Village Public Telephone as on 1-12-1998

1	2	3
1.	Barpeta	235
2.	Bongaigaon	119

1	2	3
3.	Cachar	468
4.	Darang	212
5.	Dhemaj	106
6.	Dibrugarh	142
7.	Golaghat	548
8.	Golpara	85
9.	Halikhandi	113
10.	Jorhat	382
11.	Kamrup	745
12.	Karbi-Anglong(Diphu)	161
13.	Karimganj	174
14.	Kokrajhar	142
15.	Morigaon	146
16.	Nagaon	658
17.	Nalbari	182
18.	North Cachhar Hilly (Hefflong)	13
19.	North Lakhimpur	201
20.	Sibsagar	417
21.	Sonitpur (Tajpur)	417
22.	Tinsukhia	515
23.	Dhubri	249
Total		6430

#### Agricultural Rural Debt Relief Scheme

3983. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of debt waived by the Government under the Agricultural Rural Debt Relief Scheme announced during the year 1989-90;

(b) the criteria laid down by the Government to bring the farmers under this scheme;

(c) whether the benefit of this scheme are likely to be given to small and marginal farmers of coffee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) The agricultural & Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990, formulated by the Government of India was a one time-measure for providing relief upto a limit of Rs. 10,000/- to a borrower of eligible loan as defined under the Scheme. The borrower included an individual farmer, weaver or artisan or landless cultivator who had taken loans from one or more banks for any activity of agriculture or for an artisan activity, and who was a non-wilful defaulter, as defined under the Scheme. The scheme came to an end on 31.3.1991. An amount of Rs. 7514.39 crores was provided as relief to these beneficiaries in the country, by the commercial banks, cooperatives and regional rural banks. These benefits were also provided to small and marginal farmers of coffee, who had availed loans from these banks and who had overdues as on 2nd October, 1989.

#### Upgradation of Air/DD Kendras in Andhra Pradesh

3984. SHRI VENKATARAMI ANANTHA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any schemes for the upgradation and modernisation of AIR stations and Doordarshan Kendras in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) Modernisation of existing facilities is a continuous process depending upon the availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities. Details of schemes for upgradation and modernisation of AIR/DDn facilities in Andhra Pradesh and their completion schedule is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement		
Sr. No.	Name of project	Expected date of completion
1	2	3
<b>ALL INDIA RADIO</b>		
(i)	Replacement of old and obsolete 10KW 4W Transmitter at Hyderabad by modern 20KW MW Transmitter	1997-2000
(ii)	Modernisation of studio equipments by inducting digital equipments, stereo equipments, and other latest state of art equipments.	By the end of 9th Plan period.

1	2	3
<b>DOORDARSHAN</b>		
(i)	Upgradation of High Power Transmitter (HPT) at Rajamundhry from 1 KW to 10 KW.	1999
(ii)	Replacement of Low Power Transmitter by HPT at Warangal.	Within 3 years
(iii)	Digital studio camera chain in replacement of existing camera chain, 3-D computer graphic work station, bilingual character generator, non-linear editing system etc. for Hyderabad.	1998-99

#### **Completion of work on T.V. Tower in Rajasthan**

3985. SHRI GANGARAM KOLI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work on T.V. Tower at Bendharak in Dhaulpur-Bayana regions of Rajasthan has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the transmission from the said tower is likely to be started; and
- (d) the towns likely to be covered under the transmission network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) There is no approved scheme, at present, for the establishment of TV Transmitter at Baudharak in Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Farakka Barrage**

3986. DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the operation of Calcutta Port (Calcutta Dock System) has been adversely affected due to decrease in the flow of water below Farakka Barrage during the lean seasons since the Indo-Bangladesh Agreement was signed;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government to stop the down-hill trend of the Port Operation;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating to review the Agreement;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government to remove huge silt deposited in the navigation channel of the Port?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The Treaty has been in operation to the satisfaction of both the parties since signing for the last two years and does not call for an early review.

(f) Dredging is carried out regularly to remove silt from the navigation channel to ensure navigability of vessels calling on the Port.

#### **Telephone Exchange in Gurgaon**

3987. SHRI U. V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to upgrade Gouri Harsru telephone exchange in Gurgaon, during 1998-99;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether telephone exchanges in the said district are remain out of order;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At Garhi Harsru we have a C-256 P electronic exchange with a capacity of 184 lines. Subject to timely supply of equipment it is expected to be replaced by a higher capacity exchange of 1000 lines during the current year 1998-99.

- (c) Not applicable in view of the reply to part (a) and (b).
- (d) and (e) Except for occasional break down due to erratic commercial supply the telephone exchanges work satisfactorily most of the time.
- (f) Though the exchanges are working satisfac-

torily following steps are being taken to further improve the performance of telephone exchanges particularly in rural areas;

(i) Stable transmission media for all exchanges by the year 2002.

(ii) Laying more underground cables to replace overhead lines.

[Translation]

#### Telephone Exchanges, Post Offices in Bihar

3988. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges, post-offices and sub-post offices set up in Motihari district of Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) the names of the places where telephone exchanges, post offices and sub-post-offices are proposed to be set up by the Government during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) The details are given below:-

Year	Telephone Exchanges	Post Offices (Extra Departmental)	Sub-Post offices (Departmental)
95-96	Nil	Nil	Nil
96-97	2	Nil	Nil
97-98	1	2	Nil

(b) The details are given below:-

Sl. No.	Telephone Exchanges	Post Offices (Extra Departmental)	Sub-Post offices (Departmental)
1.	Gaighat	Bhatnahia	Nil
2.	Churhari	Bardaha-Dhouharwa	
3.	Dariapur		
4.	Alamganj Bazar		

[English]

#### LPT Station at Kendrapara

3989. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPT station located at Kendrapara in

Orissa is defunct and not catering to the T.V. viewers of the area in spite of representations made by public to the Doordarshan, Bhubaneshwar in this regard;

(b) if so, whether any remedial measures have been envisaged to replace the defunct machinery to the satisfaction to TV viewers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir. A low power TV transmitter is functioning normally at Kendrapara.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Lokayukta in States

3990. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the names of the States in the country where Lokayukta have been appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : According to the information available with the Department of Personnel & Training, there are 15 States where the institution of Lokayukta is functioning. Their names are indicated in the Statement attached. The information relating to appointment of Lokayukta in the States is not centrally maintained as this is the concern of the concerned State Government.

#### Statement

*Names of the State where the Lokayukta is functioning*

S.No.	Name of the State
1	2
1.	Assam
2.	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Bihar
4.	Gujarat
5.	Haryana
6.	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Karnataka
8.	Kerala

1	2
9.	Madhya Pradesh
10.	Maharashtra
11.	Orissa
12.	Punjab (with nomenclature as "Lokpal")
13.	Rajasthan
14.	Uttar Pradesh
15.	National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[English]

#### Leave Encashment

3991. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of 5th Pay Commission were made effective from 1 January, 1996;

(b) whether accumulation of Earned Leave to Central Government Employees have been made effective from 1.8.1998 from 240 days to 300 days;

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

(d) whether a large number of Government servants have retired from service in between the period from 1.1.96 to 31.7.97;

(e) if so, whether they have been denied the benefits of encashment of earned leave earned by them beyond 240 days to their credit;

(f) whether the Government propose to give benefit to the retired employees during 1.1.96 to 31.7.97 and having more than 240 days Earned Leave upto 300 days before their retirement by allowing encashment thereof;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The Fifth Central Pay Commission recommended revision of Pay Scales and Dearness Allowances of Central Government Employees and the pensionary benefits to be given effect to from 1.1.96 whereas the introduction of new allowances, revision of rates of allowances etc. was recommended from a prospective date, *inter-alia*, because of the

heavy financial liabilities involved. As encashment of leave is not a pensionary benefit but a concession/benefit granted under the CCS (Leave) Rules, the enhancement of the ceiling on accumulation of Earned leave from 240 days to 300 days allowed as per orders issued by the Deptt. of Personnel & Trg. on 7.10.1997 was made effective 1.7.97, the date on which advance credit of Earned Leave of 15 days for the then current half-year ending on 31.12.97 was allowed as per the said Rules.

(d) to (h) Accumulation/encashment of Earned Leave is allowed subject to the ceiling of number of days in force at any given point of time. Such leave, earned beyond the ceiling (if not availed of in time as per CCS (Leave) Rules) lapses irrespective of the fact whether the concerned Govt. servant retires or remains in service. As the ceiling has been enhanced to 300 days with effect from 1.7.97, any credit of Earned Leave beyond 240 days could accrue to any Govt. servant only on or after the said date and accordingly the question of encashment of earned leave beyond 240 days to those retiring upto 30.6.97 does not arise. However, those retiring after 30.6.97 are entitled to encash the leave beyond 240 days to the extent earned after this date, subject to the ceiling of 300 days.

#### Sugarcane Research Centres

3992. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Sugarcane Research Centres in Bihar, location-wise; and

(b) the allocation made by the Union Government to these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The details of the Sugarcane Research Centres in Bihar, location-wise is given below:

Name of the Centre	Institute	Location
i. Sugarcane Research Institute	Rajendra Agricultural University	Pusa
ii. Research Centre of Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	Motipur

(b) The details of the allocations made by the Union Govt. for the year 1998-99 are as follows:

S. No.	Name of Centre	Name of Project/Scheme	Amount (in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
i.	Sugarcane Research Institute, Pusa	a) All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane	6.63
		b) Centrally sponsored scheme on sustainable development of sugarcane based cropping system (SUBACS)	5.75

1	2	3	4
ii.	Reserch Centre of Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Motipur	I.C.A.R.	6.68

### Technology Park

3993. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a technology park in Sikkim with a link up base in Bangalore has been received from Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be approved and assistance given by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) A letter has been received from the Government of Sikkim seeking assistance for the setting up of a Technology Park in Sikkim with a linking base in Bangalore. Such a project does not require any approval. Currently, there is no scheme for financial assistance to State Governments for such projects.

### National Telecommunication Conference

3994. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Telecommunication Conference held recently; and

(b) if so, the main agenda discussed therein and decision taken therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Department of Telecommunications has not held any Telecommunication Conference recently.

However, a National Telecom Seminar and Exhibition for Relevance of Telecommunications in Socio-Economic Development was organised by Department of Telecommunications on 14.1.98 to create awareness and to celebrate 50th Anniversary of Independence.

(b) During the Seminar the role of telecommunications for Socio-Economic Development was highlighted by the eminent speakers. Exhibition was visited and products appreciated by visitors and participants.

### Production of Hindi Films

3995. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s Sony Pictures Entertainment had submitted a \$ 2.5 million proposal for the production and distribution of Hindi Films;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) the mechanism evolved with grant of the Status of Industry to the film-world to prevent monopolisation in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. M/s Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc. USA (SPE), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sony Corporation has submitted a proposal to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board in the Ministry of Industry for investment in India with a 100% foreign equity amounting to \$ 2.5 million for the purpose of production and distribution of films in India. The comments of this Ministry have been called for in its capacity as administrative Ministry. The proposal is under consideration as the policy regarding extent of permissible foreign equity in this sector is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

### Funds for Development of Telecom System in U.P.

3996. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount distributed for the development of Telecom in U.P. during the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) whether the telecom circle have completed development work as per the target fixed in the State;

(c) if so, the details of amount spent for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year; and

(d) the number of new telephone connections provided in U.P. particularly in Ghaziabad and Bulandshahar districts during the last three years, exchange-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) The amount distributed/allocated for the development of Telecom in U.P. during the last three years and the current financial year is given below:



(Rs. in Crores)

Circle	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
U.P. (E)	259.48	445.31	577.46	411.41
U.P. (W)	280.33	335.85	399.59	415.02

(b) U.P. State comprises of two telecom circles U.P. (E) and U.P. (W). Both the telecom circles have completed their target during the last three years by and large. The details are furnished below:

*U.P. (W) : Direct Exchange Lines (Nos.)*

Year	Target	Achievement
1995-96	75000	83070
1996-97	75000	105027
1997-98	99000	132875

*U.P. (E) : Direct Exchange Lines (Nos.)*

Year	Target	Achievement
1995-96	70000	68266
1996-97	80000	111885
1997-98	95000	181043

(c) The details of amount spent in the Circles during the last three years and the current financial year is given below;

Circle	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
U.P. (E)	258.03	359.29	593.94	208.54 *
U.P. (W)	281.65	314.35	424.15	80.31 *

\* Expenditure incurred upto Oct., 1998.

(d) Details are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House shortly.

[English]

#### **Silchar T.V. and Radio Station**

3997. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of Broadcasting done by the Silchar T.V. Station and Radio Station in Assam is poor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the viewers/listners of Karimganj and Hailakandi districts are covered by the said stations; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Dakra Nala Pump Project**

3998. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR 'BIJOY' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dakra Nala Pump Project in Munger district of Bihar has achieved its objective for which it has been constructed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds incurred on the project so far;

(d) whether some parts of the project are yet to be completed; and

(e) if so, the time by which these parts are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) Dakra Nala Pump Project in Munger District of Bihar was originally sanctioned in 1978. The scheme envisages creation of potential 21.367 th. ha. on completion. No potential has been created so far. Total expenditure incurred till March, 1998 is Rs. 54.92 crores. The main course of the river Ganga has shifted approx. 4 Km away from the present pumping site. The State Government is conducting a technical study in this regard. As per the State Government, project is to be completed in the Xth Plan period.

[English]

#### **Water Management Programmes**

3999. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to involve farmers participation in the Water Management Programme for the better utilisation of irrigation facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of states where such scheme is being implemented;

(d) whether the Union Government have also directed the State Governments to increase the representation of farmers in the Command Area Development Programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Under Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, there is a provision for encouraging farmers for their involvement in better water management in the Projects covered under the programme. In order to encourage farmers' participation, central assistance as onetime functional grant to registered and functional Water Users' Associations is provided @ Rs. 500 per hectare that is Rs. 225 per hectare by Centre, Rs. 225 per hectare by State and Rs. 50 by the Farmers' Association.

(c) The States and Union Territories where the Command Area Development Programme is being implemented are:

Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal (States) and Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Union Territories).

(d) and (e) The States have been requested to involve farmers in the irrigation water management in the commands of irrigation projects covered under the centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme through constitution of Farmers' Associations. The response of the States has been encouraging in this regard and Statewise details are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

##### Details of Response Statewise

S. No.	State	Action taken/proposed to be taken and number of Farmers' Associations / Water Users' Associations (WUAs) formed as per information received from State Government
1	2	3
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH :	To provide legal status to Water Users' Associations, the Government have enacted the "Andhra Pradesh Farmers' Management of Irrigation System Act No. 11-1997" which provides for creation of Water Users' Associations. Government have notified the formation of 1170 Water Users' Associations in the projects under Command Area Development Programme and election to these Associations (WUAs) have been held.

1	2	3
2.	ASSAM :	The State Government have constituted a High Level Working Group under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to formulate policy issues for Participatory Irrigation Management.  Two Farmers' Associations have been formed.
3.	BIHAR :	Paliganj distributary in Sono Command with a command area of 12,200 hac. and involving 75 villages has been handed over to the Water Users' Association for operation and management.
4.	GOA :	Government of Goa have enacted "The Goa Command Area Development Act, 1997" to implement farmers' participation under Command Area Development Programme. So far 39 Water Distribution Cooperative Societies have been formed.
5.	GUJARAT :	A High Level Working Group under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary has been set up in March, 1994 to formulate the policy issues relating to Participatory Irrigation Management.  Seventy One Farmers' Associations have been formed. Further thirteen pilot projects for facilitating formation of farmers' associations have been taken up.
6.	HARYANA :	Under Command Area Development Programme, Water Users' Associations at the outlet level have been formed.  So far, 554 Water Users' Associations have been formed.
7.	KARNATAKA :	The Government of Karnataka have constituted a High Level Working Group under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary to formulate policies for successful implementation of farmers' participation.  So far, 224 Farmers' Associations have been formed.
8.	KERALA :	The Government of Kerala have constituted a High Level Working Group for the implementation of Participatory Irrigation Management in Kerala. The "Kerala Command Area Development Act, 1986" provides for formation of Farmers' Associations under the CAD Programme.  So far, 3712 Farmers' Associations at the outlet level have been formed.

1	2	3
9.	<b>MADHYA PRADESH :</b>	
	A High Level Working Group on PIM has been set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary for the implementation of Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM).	
	Sixty five Farmers' Associations at Minor Canal Level have been formed.	
10.	<b>MAHARASHTRA:</b>	
	So far, 201 Farmers' Associations at Minor Canal Level have been formed and 440 Associations are in the pipe line and at various stages of formation.	
11.	<b>MANIPUR :</b>	
	So far, 62 Farmers' Associations have been formed.	
12.	<b>ORISSA :</b>	
	A High Level Working Group under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary has been constituted to formulate policy issues for implementation of Participatory Irrigation Management.	
	So far, 777 Farmers' Associations at Village Level and 15 Farmers' Associations at Minor Canal Level have been formed.	
13.	<b>RAJASTHAN :</b>	
	The State Government have constituted a High Level Working Group under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary for policy formulation for participation of farmers.	
	So far, 3843 Farmers' Associations at the outlet level and 35 Farmers' Associations at Minor Canal Level have been formed.	
14.	<b>TAMIL NADU :</b>	
	Three hundred and twenty eight Farmers' Councils at distributary level have been formed.	
15.	<b>UTTAR PRADESH :</b>	
	The State Government have constituted a High Level Working Group under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to formulate policy issues and guidelines for the implementation of Participatory Irrigation Management in the State. One Water Users' Association has been formed.	

1	2	3
16-25.	<b>ARUNACHAL PRADESH :</b>	
	Himachal Pradesh :	No action taken.
	Jammu and Kashmir :	
	Maghalaya :	
	Nagaland :	
	Punjab :	
	Tripura and :	
	West Bengal :	
	Daman & Diu and	
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	

[Translation]

#### Utilisation of Transponders

4000. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the availability of Transponders and their demand, they are not being fully utilised due to indifferent attitude of 'DOT';

(b) whether due to under utilisation of transponders 'DOT' has suffered a loss of several crores of rupees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of days for which transponders were not put to use and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of transponders perished without being put to any use and the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no laxity on the part of DOT in utilising various transponders after the same are allocated to DOT by DOS (Department of Space) on INSAT system.

Transponders on INSAT system are fully utilised soon after receipt of compatible ground communication equipments and antennae etc. However some transponders are kept for contingencies.

(c) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) Utilisation of 8 transponders (2 Ku-band in INSAT-2C and 6 normal C-band on INSAT-2DT) is currently under progress after keeping some as spare for unforeseen and emergent requirements. One MSS (Mobile Satellite Service) transponder could not be utilised due to gain variation problems in the transponder.

(e) No transponder except those kept as spare has

perished without being put to any use. Even the MSS transponder having gain variation problem is being put to experimental use. Steps have also been initiated for its operational use if possible, to provide fixed rural remote connectivity.

[English]

**Expenditure on Doordarshan/AIR Projects in Kerala**

4001. SHRI A. C. JOS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the evaluation made regarding the expenditure likely to be incurred for accomplishing the Doordarshan and AIR projects in Kerala;

(b) the details of Doordarshan Kendras functioning in the State location-wise;

(c) whether requisite staff have been provided for installation and maintenance of these centres; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Schemes for further expansion of AIR and Doordarshan Net-work in Kerala at estimated cost of Rs. 1476.00 lakhs and Rs. 3206.93 lakhs respectively are presently under implementation and are scheduled to be completed in phases within about three years subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Whereas staff sanctions for most of the centres are available, 2 LPTs are functioning without staff sanctions by deputing staff from other Kendras on tour and 8 LPTs with partial sanction. The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to have a quick study of the staffing norms of various HPTs/LPTs/VLPTs to workout their overall staff requirement. On receipt of recommendations of the SIU, necessary action will be taken for creation/abolition of posts in required categories so that all the transmitters are fully manned and the already completed projects are commissioned at the earliest.

**Statement**

**PROGRAMME PRODUCTION CENTRE**

Trivandrum

**HIGH POWER TRANSMITTER**

Cochin  
Trivandrum  
Calicut (INT)

**LOW POWER TRANSMITTER**

Adoor  
Attappadi  
Cannanore  
Changanacherry  
Chengannur  
Idukki  
Kalpetta  
Kanhargarh  
Kasargod  
Kayamkulam  
Mallapuram  
Palghat  
Pathanamthitta  
Punatur  
Shoranur  
Tellicherry  
Thodupuzha  
Trichur  
Calicut ( DD II)  
Cannanore (DD II)  
Cochin (DD II)  
Trivandrum (DD II)

**VERY LOW POWER TRANSMITTER**

Kanjirapalli  
Devikolam

[Translation]

**Installation of T.V. Tower in H.P.**

4002. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to install T.V. Tower at Bijli Mahadev and Srigarh in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) There is no approved scheme at

present for establishment of T.V. Transmitter at Srigarh. However, a scheme for establishment of a Very Low Power Transmitter at Bijli Mahadev in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh is under implementation and is scheduled to be completed during 1999.

[English]

### Pending Irrigation Projects

4003. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of medium and major irrigation projects in the country particularly in Maharashtra have witnessed abnormal escalation in terms of time over-run and cost over-run;

(b) if so, the details thereof project-wise as compared to their original estimated cost;

(c) the main reasons for such high escalation;

(d) the present status, revised cost and time scheduled for their completion, project-wise; and

(e) the funds likely to be made available by the Government during the current financial year and for the Ninth Five Year Plan for the completion of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are taken up for implementation by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources as per their own priorities. The normal completion period is 10-15 years in respect of major projects and 5-10 years in respect of medium irrigation projects. This period and increase in estimated cost of a major project depends on various factors such as its size, availability of land, clearance from various appraising agencies, geological conditions, etc. Equally important are the funds allotted by State Governments to individual projects. There are 105 on-going medium projects started upto Vth Plan and 171 on-going medium projects started upto VIth Plan. The details giving statewise position (including that of Maharashtra) of on-going number of projects, original cost, latest estimated cost, outlay during IXth Plan and Annual Plan 1997-98, likely schedule of completion are shown in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Estd. Cost (Rs. Cr.)		Outlay in (Rs. Cr.)		Likely Completion		Remark
			Original	Latest	IXth Plan	97-98 (A.P.)	IXth Plan	Beyond IXth Plan	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>MAJOR PROJECTS</b>									
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	189.93	4100.63	1362.47	222.00	3	3	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3.	Assam	3	23.96	352.82	65.60	18.00	—	3	
4.	Bihar	11	2141.85	5712.53	1028.00	132.50	1	10	
5.	Goa	2	226.83	678.59	2180.00	50.00	—	2	
6.	Gujarat	6	156.67	931.53	44.10	32.12	6	—	
7.	Haryana	5	107.78	1013.51	221.00	52.65	2	3	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	29.84	151.18	33.00	6.03	1	—	
10.	Karnataka	7	701.11	5620.59	2060.00	1016.05	2	5	
11.	Kerala	4	69.43	1027.50	390.00	106.00	3	1	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14	1267.50	4319.69	806.33	200.73	9	5	
13.	Maharashtra	17	715.60	7253.88	2931.12	535.02	8	9	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	3	272.50	2550.46	483.00	103.50	1	2	—
19.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	5	130.17	1340.30	1330.23	233.00	3	2	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	18	1245.86	6675.69	1945.71	407.68	9	9	—
25.	West Bengal	3	94.98	1442.41	524.03	94.50	3	—	—
Total		105	7374.01	43171.31	15404.59	3209.78	51	54	—

## MEDIUM PROJECTS

1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	89.41	450.23	187.30	39.54	6	8	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	9	23.04	156.63	59.63	7.55	8	1	—
4.	Bihar	13	62.87	542.49	182.00	37.58	4	9	—
5.	Goa	1	13.11	40.00	0.30	0.00	—	1	—
6.	Gujarat	7	40.27	228.60	24.43	11.15	7	—	—
7.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	8.27	11.30	0.20	0.20	1	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	30.97	192.57	33.66	0.50	7	—	—
10.	Karnataka	12	30.80	739.29	133.35	58.35	7	5	—
11.	Kerala	2	7.06	208.67	50.00	70.00	1	1	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30	192.17	981.55	119.34	45.26	6	21	—
13.	Maharashtra	47	300.71	1162.84	534.12	93.89	29	18	—
14.	Manipur	1	7.93	47.72	3.11	3.00	1	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	8	114.18	483.97	153.60	98.64	7	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
19.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	4	14.92	179.00	57.00	27.50	1	3	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	3	21.17	154.00	60.66	7.00	2	1	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1.85	22.15	0.46	0.20	—	1	—
25.	West Bengal	11	7.36	54.00	17.64	4.88	11	—	—
Total		171	966.63	5955.01	1636.80	505.24	98	73	—

**PCO/STD/ISD And Fax Facility**

4004. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/ISD, Fax facility and public telephone booths working at the present in the West Bengal particularly at Mathabhanga region under the Coochbehar district;

(b) the number of applications lying pending for installation of said booths in the State circle-wise;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said applications are likely to be processed and approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Number of STD/ISD, Fax facility and Public Telephone Booths working in West Bengal are 13437. The number of STD/ISD, PCO working at Mathabhanga of Coochbehar District is 18.

(b) Number of applications pending for allotment of STD/ISD/PCOs are 11657 in West Bengal. The Telecom. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The main reasons for pendency are non-availability of exchange capacity and STD facilities.

(d) The pending applications are expected to be processed and approved by the end of current financial year.

**Statement**

SSA	No.. of Applications pending
1	2
Asansol	768
Bankura	282
Berhampur	639

1	2
Calcutta (W.B. Circle)	2366
Coochbehar	209
Jalpaiguri	287
Kharagpur	2382
Krishnagar	1697
Malda	60
Purulia	398
Raiganj	369
Siliguri	927
Suri	130
Calcutta Telephone District	1143

[Translation]

**Bomb Explosion**

4005. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a bomb explosion in Indian Airlines Office located in Karachi recently;

(b) if so, the extent of loss of life and property as result thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Government have lodged a protest with Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response of Pakistan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There has been

no bomb explosion in the Indian Airlines Office located in Karachi. However, on 27 October, 1998, there was a bomb blast in a Police Check Post opposite the Indian Airlines Office in Karachi which caused damage to the shops and offices, including the Indian Airlines Office, in the vicinity. The window panes and the main-door glass of the Indian Airlines Office were smashed. However, no staff member of the Indian Airlines were injured.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has on various occasions reminded the Government of Pakistan of its responsibility to provide adequate security to the Indian Airlines Offices in Karachi and Lahore.

[English]

#### Post Based Roster System

4006. SHRI R. S. GAVAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued orders on July 2, 1997 consequent upon a judgement of Supreme Court to implement reservation in recruitment/promotions for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe officers through post-based roster in lieu of existing vacancy-based roster;

(b) if so, whether the judgement/orders will be enforced/applicable only from the date of issue of these orders for future recruitment/promotion;

(c) whether reservation is likely to be given in promotion on vacancy based roster for promotion of CSS officers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe category to class I for which panels are yet to be issued from 1987 onwards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) To implement the ratio of the judgement of the Supreme Court in the case of R.K. Sabharwal, reservation in respect of appointments made subsequent to the orders dated July 2, 1997, has to be with reference to the post-based rosters.

#### Fifth Pay Commission

4007. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Anomalies Committees set up in response to the suggestions recieved after the Report of Fifth Pay Commission alongwith their terms of reference;

(b) the details of the Committee which have since submitted their reports alongwith the dates of their submission and outcome thereof, Committee-wise; and

(c) the time by which rest of the Committees are likely to submit their reports alongwith the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) In order to look into the anomalies arising out of the Fifth Central Pay Commission's recommendations, common to two or more Departments and in respect of common categories of employees, an Anomaly Committee at National Level has already been set up. Instructions have also been issued to set up Anomaly Committees at Departmental level to consider anomalies pertaining exclusively to the Department concerned and having no repercussion on the employees of another Ministry/Department. Since the recommendations of the Anomaly Committee are to be handled by the respective Ministry for the approval of the Government, information in regard to the Departmental Anomaly Committees is not Centrally maintained.

#### Slaughter of Buffaloes Calves

4008. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the young buffalo calves are being slaughtered in contravention of Supreme Court orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to enforce the Supreme Court orders in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) (a) to (c) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### National Agriculture Commission

4009. SHRI B. M. MENSINKAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Agriculture Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether minimum support price of crops, stor-



age of foodgrains, crop insurance, and interest of farmers have been taken into consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) It has been decided to set up a High Powered Commission to look into the real financial condition of farmers, and to recommend ways to improve their financial condition. The Terms of Reference and Constitution of the Commission are under finalization.

#### Coin Operated Public Telephone Booths in Delhi

4010. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :

SHRI C. D. GAMIT :

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of public telephone booths in the capital and other cities in the country are apparatus unable to accept all the one rupee coins differing in size and weights;

(b) if so, whether the telephone users are very much harassed as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to install a new telephone instrument to amend the present one, capable of accepting all sizes of one rupee coin in circulation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some old CCB (Coin Collecting Box) PCOs do not accept new one rupee coins.

(b) Sir, difficulty is likely to be experienced by the user in case of non-availability of old one rupee coins.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The new CCB, PCOs accept both old and new one rupee coins. The existing instruments are being modified progressively.

[Translation]

#### Special Package to Gujarat

4011. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have announced any special package for the development of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Union Government have not announced any special package for the development of Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Trade with Bhutan

4012. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to persuade Bhutan to reopen the trade route between the two countries at N.K.Darranga in Nalbari district of Assam;

(b) if so, the outcome of these efforts; and

(c) if not, the further action contemplated to mitigate the hardships faced by the local traders on both sides of the border?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS : (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) Government are aware that restrictions on some routes between Bhutan and the State of Assam have inconvenienced residents of N.K. Darranga in Nalbari District of Assam. Government are sensitive to this matter and, in consultation with the Royal Government of Bhutan, have opened an additional crossing point at Hanuman Mandir (N.K. Darranga). District authorities on both sides of the border are in regular touch to see what further relaxations can be made.

#### Cellular Telephone Companies

4013. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Cellular Telephone Companies functioning in Kerala and their areas of operations; and

(b) the details of terms and conditions stipulated by the Government while granting permission to such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) M/s. Escotel Mobile Communications Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. BPL US West Cellular Ltd. have been licensed to operate Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in

territorial jurisdiction of Kerala Telecom Circle which is coterminous with that of Kerala State.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

##### *The main terms and conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) licence.*

1. The licensee companies must be Indian registered companies.
2. The initial period of the licence shall be 10 years, which may be extended by the Government.
3. The licensee shall provide the service within 12 months of the effective date of the licence.
4. The service shall conform to Global system for Mobile Communications (GSM) Standard.
5. The service shall be provided within the ceiling tariffs fixed in the Licence Agreement.
6. The licensee shall pay a licence fee to the Telecom. Authority in addition to access and junction charges as applicable.
7. The licensee will also pay wireless licence fee, WPC royalty GSM MOU (Global System for Mobile Communications-Memorandum of Understanding) charges etc.
8. The licences are issued on a non-exclusive basis.
9. The licensee shall provide facility for monitoring of calls in accordance with the provision of Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act., 1885.
10. Direct foreign equity in the licensee companies must not be more than 49% of the equity.
11. The local and external commercial borrowing will be governed by guidelines issued by Finance Ministry, Reserve Bank of India and other Regulatory Bodies.

#### Development Works in W.B.

4014. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether development works in the field of Telecommunications and postal sector and their execution in West Bengal have been taken up during the current financial year;

(b) whether telecom and postal facilities provided

in the State are inadequate as compared to the other States;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to improve the said facilities in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to remove the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Development works in the field of Telecommunications and Postal sector in West Bengal including Calcutta have been taken up during the current financial year. For different development parameters, target for 1998-99 and achievements made upto 30.11.98 in the field of Telecommunications for West Bengal including Calcutta are given below :

Item	Target 98-99	Achievements upto 30.11.98
Sw. Capacity	312000	124035
DELs	232000	162254
VPTs	5000	495

(b) to (d) Telecommunications facilities of West Bengal are comparable with some of the North Eastern States. However, tele-density of West Bengal is less than the National average. All efforts are being made to improve the tele-density by increasing the annual targets, for new telephone connections, progressively and by induction of new technology and development of human resources.

Postal facilities provided in the State of West Bengal are adequate. However, it is proposed to further improve the postal facilities by increased induction of technology and human resource development.

#### Reservoirs

4015. SHRI H. P. SINGH :

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals recieved by the Union Government from the State Governments regarding reservoir schemes during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of schemes out of them have been cleared during the above period till date, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which a decision on the remaining proposals are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) State-wise

details of Reservoir Schemes received by the Union Government from the State Governments during the last three years and their present status of clearance is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Clearance of these schemes is linked with the compliance of observations made by the various Central Appraising Agencies by the State Governments.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Date of Receipt	Status
1	2	3	4
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>			
1.	Veligonda Project (Major)	7.3.96	Sent back in November 1996, as water availability was not established.
2.	Valligallu Reservoir Project (Medium)	12/96	Under Examination.
<b>BIHAR</b>			
3.	Kadwan Reservoir Project (Major)	21.5.98	Under Examination.
4.	Upper Sakhi Reservoir (Major)	20.1.98	Under Examination.
5.	Punasi Reservoir (Major)	1.12.97	Technical Advisory Committee's not under preparation.
<b>KARNATAKA</b>			
6.	Markandaya Reservoir Project (Major)	6.5.97	Under Examination.
7.	Upper Krishna Stage-II M.P. Project (Major)	25.4.96	Under Examination.
<b>KERELA</b>			
8.	Apttapady Irrigation Project (Medium)	1.3.96	Under Examination.
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>			
9.	Upper Narmada Project (Major)	16.9.96	Under Examination.
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>			
10.	Lower Wardha (Major)	24.11.97	Under Examination.
11.	Gunjawani Irrigation Scheme (Major)	15.6.98	Under Examination.
12.	Utawali (Medium)	9.11.95	Under Examination.
13.	Purna (Medium)	29.9.95	Under Examination.
14.	Lal Nalla (Medium)	25.9.97	Under Examination.
15.	Landi Irrigation Project (Major) Joint Venture of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh	6.5.97	Under Examination.
16.	SinaKolegaon	5/96	Sent back in 11/96 as the report was not prepared as per Central Water Commission's guidelines.
17.	Tarali (Major)	7/98	Sent back to State for submitting modified report.
18.	Urmodi (Major)	11/98	Under Examination.

1	2	3	4
19.	Nawargaon (Medium)	15.12.97	Under Examination.
20.	Renapur (Medium)	4.12.97	Under Examination.
21.	Upper Manjra (Medium)	27.11.97	Under Examination.
22.	Pothra Nalla (Medium)	20.5.98	Under Examination.
23.	Chikotra (Medium)	3.6.98	Under Examination.
24.	Labhansarad (Medium)	15.10.98	Under Examination.
ORISSA			
25.	Kanupur Irrigation Project (Major)	9/97	Under Examination
26.	Ong Dam Project (Major)	18.3.97	Under Examination.
27.	Ib Irrigation Project (Major)	8.2.98	Under Examination.
28.	Brutang Irrigation Project (Major)	12.1.98	Under Examination.
29.	Dhauragath Project (Medium)	9/96	Accepted by Technical Advisory Committee.
30.	Telengir (Medium)	9/97	Under Examination.
31.	Ret (Medium)	10/97	Under Examination.
32.	Upper Lanth (Medium)	11/97	Under Examination.
RAJASTHAN			
33.	Garada (Medium)	27.7.95	Accepted by Technical Advisory Committee. Forest clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests, Rehabilitation and resettlement clearance from Ministry Welfare and State Finance Clearance awaited.
UTTAR PRADESH			
34.	Kishau Dam Project (Multipurpose)	15.7.97	Under Examination.

#### Service Conduct Rules

4016. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have turned down the recommendation of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) the employing of children below 14 years of age as domestic servants by the Central Government Employees should constitute breach of service conduct rules;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, steps taken/proposed for inclusion of the above provision in the Service conduct Rules of the Central Government Employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI

KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The National Human Rights Commission's recommendation for inclusion of a rule in the Conduct Rules of Government servants for prohibiting employment of children below 14 years of age was examined and it was found that amendment of Conduct Rules would not serve its intended purpose while it may lead to considerable avoidable difficulties. The Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission was informed accordingly. However, the matter is being reconsidered on the advice of the National Human Right Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Chemical Pesticides in Crops

4017. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI S. S. OWAISI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have taken drawn to the news-item captioned "Study finds most vegetable tainted" appearing in Indian Express dated November 19, 1998;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the use of chemical pesticides in crops?

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

(b) The news report is based on studies conducted by the Punjab Agricultural University. The salient points are :

(i) The wide spread contamination of vegetables is mainly found to be due to non-adherence of farmers to the university recommendations, particularly, in respect of the use of toxic chemicals. The pesticide residues problem becomes more serious in cases where "Off season vegetables" are grown on commercial scale. In such cases, farmers resort to the excessive and indiscriminate use of pesticides.

(ii) Farmers do not observe prescribed waiting periods while harvesting the vegetables and taking them to the market. Further, the pesticides sale is not regulated by expert prescriptions. Most of the farmers are dependant on the pesticide dealers for purchasing the pesticide on credit basis. As such, the farmers are also borrowing recommendations from the dealers.

(iii) It has been recommended that Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 should be strictly enforced to regulate the use of pesticides.

(c) (i) The Government is promoting eco-friendly approach through Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on various crops to reduce the use of pesticides.

(ii) A massive educational and training programme on IPM for farmers and extension functionaries has been launched for minimising the use of pesticides.

(iii) Use of biopesticides including neem based pesticides are being encouraged.

#### Public Telephones

4018. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for providing public telephones in village Sheelkhera, tehsil Ashta in district Shehor;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) to (c) : No Sir, no representation has been received for village public telephone. The village Sheelkhera has been earmarked to Bharti Telenet Ltd., a basic telecom service provider, as a part of license agreement signed by DOT with them for providing village public telephone.

#### Poor Telecommunication Facilities in Orissa

4019. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to improve the telecommunication facilities in Orissa particularly in Jagat Singh region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) (i) It has been planned to install 3000 lines MAX-L C-DOT exchange during 1993-99 at Jagatsinghpur in place of existing 2 units of 512 P ILT exchange.

(ii) Underground cable is being laid in place of fault prone open wire subscriber lines.

(iii) Rural exchange in Jagatsingh region are being upgraded depending upon demand.

(iv) During 1998-99 about 40% of villages in Jagatsinghpur will have telephone facility.

(v) For providing reliable connectivity to exchanges Optical Fibre Cable is being laid in Jagatsinghpur area.

(vi) About 75% of exchanges in Jagatsinghpur region will have reliable media by March'99.

#### Purchase of Stationery

4020. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many of the Government departments, public sector undertakings, corporations, Delhi Government Offices and Boards are not making purchases of stationery and other items of office use from Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and NCCF; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified

the sources of purchases by those departments alongwith the reasons for not purchasing the items from the above stated duly authorised by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The information is not centrally maintained/monitored. However, as per existing instructions of the Government, all Central Government Departments etc. are required to make local purchase of stationery and other items required by them only from Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and NCCF. Only if they are not able to supply a particular item, such purchases should be made from the other sources, as per rules, after obtaining "No Objection Certificate" from them. The authorised agencies have reported that most of the Government Departments etc. make local purchases of stationery items etc. from them.

#### Indian Council of Veterinary Research

4021. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken decision to set up Indian Council of Veterinary Research under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying;

(b) if so, the likely set-up thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to amalgamate Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Fisheries with other related sectors to create an independent Ministry with a Cabinet rank Minister; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) On the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, this department have sought views of the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for transfer of Directorate of Marketing and Inspection and Animal Welfare Board, respectively. Once their replies are received; it will be easier to decide about the future of the department i.e. if need be to constitute a Ministry.

#### Indo-South Africa Ties

4022. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI KAMAL NATH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the relations between India and South Africa before and after Pokhran blasts;

(b) whether the relations were mishandled;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to restore friendly relations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The relations between India and South Africa are multi-faceted and are growing. In September this year, the Prime Minister visited South Africa to attend the NAM Summit at Durban. There have been important visits at significant levels between the two countries covering a wide segment of our bilateral relations. Several high level visits are also due to take place in the near future, which will further strengthen bilateral relations. The Indo-South Africa Joint Commission met on December 4-5, 1998 at Pretoria.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### TV Transmitters in Hilly Areas of Uttar Pradesh

4023. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the T.V. transmitters in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh having low power transmitters which remain out of order mostly for want of manpower;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to convert these low power transmitters into high power transmitters;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which sufficient staff is likely to be posted at those low power transmitters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) All the ten Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh are reported to be functioning normally. However, three LPTs at Haldwani, Nainitaula and New Tehri are providing only part-time transmission due to shortage of requisite staff.

(b) and (c) There is no approved scheme, at present, to convert the existing LPTs into High Power Transmitters (HPTs) in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(d) The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to have a quick study of the

staffing norms of various HPTs/LPTs/VLPTs to workout their overall staff requirement. On receipt of the recommendations of the SIU, necessary action will be taken for creation/abolition of posts in required categories so that all the transmitters are fully manned and the already completed projects are commissioned at the earliest.

[English]

### Cellular Telephone

4024. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether introduction of Cellular telephones resulted in generating an additional revenue to DOT;

(b) if so, the additional revenue generated by DOT during the last two years; and

(c) the number of Cellular subscribers in metros and other cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) The Department of Telecom is receiving revenue from cellular operators in respect of interconnect charges, rental for leased lines, circuits and call charges. However as some of these revenues, which would have been earned even otherwise by Department of Telecom through fixed telephone lines has gone over to the Cellular Services, it cannot be stated clearly how much is the additional revenue from cellular services.

(c) As on 30.9.98 :

In the 4 Metro cities	457342 subscribers
In Telecom Circles	488722 subscribers
Total	946064 subscribers

[Translation]

### Inclusion of Computer Applications as a Subject

4025. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether bachelor's degree in computer application is being provided in various Universities in the country including Indira Gandhi National Open University;

(b) whether the Government propose to include "Computer Application" as a subject in the Civil Service Examinations to be conducted by Union Public Service Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Bachelor's Degree in Computer Application is being awarded by some of the universities including Indira Gandhi Open University.

(b) and (c) For the present, there is no proposal to include computer application as a subject in the Civil Services Examination to be conducted by Union Public Service Commission.

### Permission to CBI for Prosecution

4026. DR. SUSHIL INDORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigation had sought permission from the Government to initiate prosecution in 138 cases in which public servants were allegedly involved, till the end of March, 1998;

(b) the total number of cases for which permission of the Government has been sought;

(c) whether the Government have not granted permission in these cases so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the total number of cases in which the Government have granted permission to C.B.I. till the end of October 1998; and

(f) the reasons for not granting permission in the remaining cases alongwith the reasons in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (f) According to the information furnished by the CBI, it had sought permission from the competent authorities to initiate prosecution against the public servants in 138 cases which were pending sanction for prosecution as on 30.6.1997. Thereafter between 1st July, 1997 to 30th November, 1998, 330 more cases have been referred by the CBI to various competent authorities for grant of sanction for prosecution in respect of public servants. Out of the total 468 cases (138+330), sanction for prosecution has already been accorded in 398 cases and in one case, the competent authority has declined sanction for prosecution. The remaining 69 cases are at different stages of processing with the concerned competent authorities for grant of sanction for prosecution as per the established procedure. The delay in processing some cases is due to complicated nature of the cases requiring advice of various authorities such as Central Vigilance Commission, Depart-

ment of Legal Affairs, concerned State Governments and stay granted by Courts etc.

[English]

### Nuclear Restraint

4027. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Government has suggested to India and Pakistan to observe a 'restraint regime' binding upon the two neighbours not to mount nuclear war-heads on their respective missiles and launch vehicles and to observe various other restraints;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the US to the two countries and the Indian Government's response to these US suggestions;

(c) whether these suggestions have come as a condition precedent for withdrawal of US sanctions against the two countries; and

(d) if so, the details of the terms for withdrawal of sanctions and the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Certain suggestions for "restraint" have been put forward by the United States in the bilateral dialogues underway between the two countries. Government maintains that matters relating to defence postures are sovereign functions and are not a subject for negotiations. This has been made clear to the US.

(c) and (d) The dialogue with the United States, is being conducted on the basis of a set of comprehensive proposals put forward by India after the May 1998 tests. It is aimed at making clear India's security concerns and narrowing the gaps in preceptions on strategic issues of mutual concern; it is not restricted to removal of sanctions and its quid pro quo. Statements by United States officials indicate that it is in recognition of "limited progress" that the United States has lifted some of the restrictive measures. Government is of the view that such unilateral and coercive economic restrictive measures are unjustified and counter-productive.

### Non Availability of Packing Material

4028. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :

SHRI M. RAJAIAH :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to non-availability of packing materials the fruits of crores of rupees particularly apple have been damaging (rotting) in Kashmir and other apple growing areas of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect fruit growers from this huge loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government have not received any report from the State Governments regarding rotting of fruits including apple due to non-availability of packing material.

(c) The Government is providing assistance through the National Horticulture Board under the scheme entitled "Integrated Project on Management of Post Harvest Infrastructure of Horticultural Crops" under which assistance is provided in the form of subsidy on merit for improved packaging to minimise post-harvest losses.

### MPLADS

4029. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been recieved from Members of Parliament during the last three years regarding irregularities in execution of works carried out under Members of Parliament Local Areas Development Schemes particularly in respect of Etawa, Uttar Pradesh and misappropriation of funds related thereto;

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

(c) whether complaints have also been recieved that projects without being sponsored by the Member concerned have been executed and project still incomplete were shown as completed; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that projects sponsored by members only be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a to c) Some complaints have been recieved from Members of Parliament regarding irregularities in execution of works under MPLADS including three complaints recieved in respect of Etawa, Uttar Pradesh alleging non-completion of works, mis-utilisation of funds, execution of works without the recommendation of the MP and incomplete works shown as completed works. Regarding the complaints relating to non-completion of two works and mis-utilisation of funds,



the District Collector, Etawa has reported that one work has been completed and for another recovery of Rs 53,000 has been ordered after getting the quality of MPLADS work tested. Regarding the complaint relating to execution of two works without the recommendation of the MP, the works were reportedly taken up on the basis of letter received from Assistant Private Secretary to the Hon'ble MP, the then Minister of State, Planning and Programme Implementation (MOS P&PI) and copies of relevant sanctions and orders were sent to him. As regards the allegation relating to 15 incomplete works shown as completed, enquiry has been ordered.

(d) As per the guidelines on the MPLADS the District Heads are required to take up works only on recommendations of the concerned MPs. To ensure compliance of this provision, all the District Heads have been instructed to entertain only those recommendations which are given by the MPs on their letter heads and under their signatures. All the Hon'ble MPs have also been requested at the level of MOS(P&PI) to give their recommendations on their letter heads under their own signatures.

#### Power Generation

4030. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Commission have a proposal to produce 20,000 MW of power by 2020 A.D.; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :  
(a) Vision 2020 envisages building up of nuclear power capacity of 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

(b) The following is the projection of the programme for nuclear power generation during the 9th five year plan and beyond the 9th five year plan, subject to the available resources.

Details of reactors/units		Total Capacity (MWe)
1		2
I. Upto 9th five year plan		
(1)	Operating reactors [2 BWRs of 160 MWe each and 8 PHWRs (1×100, 1×200, 2×170, 4×220 MWe)]	1840
(2)	Reactors under construction (4 PHWRs of 220 MWe each)	880
(3)	Reactors sanctioned and work commenced (2 PHWRs of 500MWe each)	1000

1	2
(4)	Reactors awaiting sanction (2 PHWRs of 220 MWe each, 2 VVERs of 1000 MWe each and 1 PFBR of 500 MWe)
	2940
	6660
II. Beyond the 9th five year plan (in a preliminary stage, to be firmed up based on resources)	
(1)	Reactors for which advanced procurement action is to be taken
	1440
(2)	Reactors in the planning stage
(i)	10 PHWRs of 500 MWe each
	5000
(ii)	4 FBRs of 500 MWe each
	2000
(iii)	5 LWRs of 1000 MWe each
	5000
Total	
	13440
Grand Total	
	20100

#### Firewood Consumption in Tobacco Industries

4031. SHRI ANANT KUMAT HEGDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of firewood consumed by the tobacco companies during each of the last three years and the loss of forests suffered on this account; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government in reducing the consumption of firewood in tobacco processing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) No wood fuel is used for processing of tobacco by tobacco companies. Some redrying factories use wood fuel for steam generation which is mostly procured from the local sources. However, Virginia Fluecured tobacco is required to be cured by fuel, coal etc.

Except for processing of cigarette tobacco where wood fuel.coal is needed, no fuel is required for bidi, chewing tobacco, hukkah tobacco and cigar etc. However, to reduce the consumption of firewood in curing tobacco, Tobacco Board has initiated some schemes in collaboration with the Central Tobacco Research Institute of the ICAR.

#### Production of Plutonium

4032. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned " Pak producing Plutonium" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated November 19, 1998;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to raise the matching capability in the country and the Government's reaction to the 50-70 MW Khushab reactor having gone critical?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of reports that Pakistan has constructed a 50 MW reactor at Khushab.

(c) Government has been closely monitoring and continuously assessing the nuclear capability of Pakistan. India has a large, diversified and advanced nuclear programme geared to meeting India's developmental and security challenges.

#### Pay Scales of JAOS/JTOS

4033. SHRI UPENDRANATH NAYAK :

SHRI ARJUN SETHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet has approved the report of Fast Track Committee regarding pay scales alongwith recruitment rules of Junior Accounts Officers and Junior Telephone Officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the Fast Track Committee which were not accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) : The Fast-track Committee recommended that the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission granting higher pay scale to JTOs should be accepted subject to upgrading the entry qualification and that the service conditions of JAOs should not be linked to JTOs. The recommendation of the Fast-track Committee has been accepted by the Cabinet.

#### Expert Committee

4034. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted an Expert Committee to give suggestions for increasing the Agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the said committee;

(c) whether the Committee has since started its work; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d): No, Sir.

[Translation]

#### Fund For Basic Needs

4035. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :

SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to be state :

(a) the details of minimum basic needs programme announced by the Government;

(b) whether the Government have estimated the required amount to implement the programme for creating basic needs during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(d) the amount released for the purpose to each State for the current year, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMANTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The Basic Minimum Services (BMS) programme was launched in 1996 as the outcome of the Chief Ministers Conference of July 1996 which adopted the following objectives for the BMS programme with an all out effort for their attainment within a specified time frame.

1. 100 per cent coverage of provision of safe drinking water in Rural and Urban areas.
2. 100 per cent coverage of primary health service facilities in Rural and Urban areas.
3. Universalisation of Primary Education.
4. Provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor families.
5. Supplementary Nutrition via Extension of

Mid-day Meal Programme in Primary Schools to all rural blocks and urban slums and disadvantaged sections and supplementary nutrition programme implemented as part of ICDS.

6. Provision of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations.
7. Streamlining of the Public Distribution System with a focus on the poor.

The BMS Programme replaced the erstwhile Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). While the MNP was largely for the rural areas of the Country, the BMS seeks to provide a network of facilities for social consumption in both urban and rural areas of country.

The provision of funds for BMS is primarily a part of the Plans of the State and Union Territories (UTs). However, in some critical areas, Centrally Sponsored Schemes were introduced in order to provide additional resources to supplement the resources of the States. In addition, to ensure that adequate investment are made in the above mentioned BMS sectors, since 1996-97 the Planning Commission too provides Additional Central Assistance (ACA) exclusively for BMS to States /UTs. The total BMS outlay of the States /UTs is earmarked in the Annual Plan of the States /UTs so that no diversion to non-BMS sectors is possible. The implementation of the BMS Programme rests entirely with the States and UTs.

(b) and (c) Special Action Plans have been drawn up for the Ninth Plan for the BMS sectors of Safe Drinking Water, Primary Health Care, Primary Education, Housing for the Shelterless Poor, and Rural Connectivity with the objective of addressing the problem areas and filling the critical gaps in infrastructures in these sectors on a priority basis for timebound achievement of the objective of full coverage in the country. While it is recognised that the total quantum of funds required for bridging the BMS infrastructure gaps would be very large, a great deal of effort is necessary to pool in resources from all sources, namely, the Central Government, State Government, Local Bodies, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) as well as Externally Aided Projects. No aggregate/ sector-wise requirement of funds for the BMS Programme has been drawn up by the Planning Commission.

(d) The allocation of ACA for BMS made to the States and UTs is for the BMS programme as a whole and is not allocated to any specific BMS sector or sectors in particular. States and UTs have been accorded full flexibility to make their own inter se allocation of ACA funds among the various BMS sectors depending on their own priorities.

In 1996-97, the Centre allocated Rs. 2244 crore as ACA for BMS to States and UTs which was increased to Rs. 2970 crore in 1997-98 and further enhanced to Rs.3410

crore in 1998-99. The Statewise allocations so far made are shown in the enclosed Statement. The release of ACA for BMS to the States/UTs is being made on a monthly basis in twelve monthly equal instalments.

#### Statement

#### Allocation of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for Basic Minimum Services (BMS) in 1998-99

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl No.	State	Additional Central Assistance (ACA) 1998-99
1	2	3
<b>NON SPECIAL CATEGORY STATE</b>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17961.00
2.	Bihar	38332.00
3.	Goa	363.00
4.	Gujarat	7642.00
5.	Haryana	5009.00
6.	Karnataka	10468.00
7.	Kerala	10285.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	23610.00
9.	Maharashtra	15922.00
10.	Orissa	16425.00
11.	Punjab	2694.00
12.	Rajasthan	14001.00
13.	Tamil Nadu	14113.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	50099.00
15.	West Bengal	21433.00
(A)	Sub Total	248357.00
<b>SPECIAL CATEGORY STATE</b>		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	9047.00
2.	Assam	17246.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	10482.00
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	16480.00
5.	Manipur	6430.00
6.	Meghalaya	3899.00
7.	Mizoram	4182.00

1	2	3
8.	Nagaland	4951.00
9.	Sikkim	4725.00
10.	Tripura	5537.00
(B) Sub Total		82979.00
UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	NCT of Delhi	1495.00
2.	Pondicherry	745.00
3.	A & N Islands	1717.00
4.	Chandigarh	618.00
5.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	180.00
6.	Lakshadweep	239.00
7.	Daman & Diu	143.00
(C) Sub Total		5137.00
Grand Total		336473.00*

\* Out of a Budgetary Provision of Rs. 3410 crore as ACA for BMS in 1998-99 Rs. 3364.73 crore has been allocated to State and UTs in 1998-99. Outstanding dues to three States for BMS in 1997-98 amounting to Rs. 2217 crore have also been disbursed from this amount. The balance unallocated amount of Rs. 23.1 crore will be distributed in the course of the year.

[English]

#### Liquor Factories

4036. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the consumption of various type of liquor have marked sharp increase during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the types of liquor factories functioning in the country alongwith distillation and sale during the above period, State-wise;

(d) the details of the new licences issued during the last three years as also in the current year;

(e) whether a large number of licences for extraction and sale of various type of alcohols have been issued in Jammu areas ignoring the basic policy; and

(f) the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Immigration Racket

4037. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned 'Major Indian immigration racket busted by US Government' appearing in Times of India on November 22, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts reported in the news-item;

(c) the number of illegal Indians residing in US; and

(d) the number of persons arrested so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news-item is based on information contained in a News release dated November 20, 1998 of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service of the US Government.

(c) No precise figures are available of the number of Indian nationals who may be residing illegally in the US.

(d) 21 persons have been arrested in this connection until November 20, 1998.

[Translation]

#### Production of Fruits and Vegetables

4038. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India occupies first and second place in the World in production of fruits and vegetables respectively;

(b) if not, the facts thereof and the names of countries which produces more fruits and vegetables than India;

(c) the average annual production of those countries vis-a-vis India;

(d) whether 25 to 40 per cent of the production of fruits and vegetables in India gets perished; and

(e) if so, the reasons for such high magnitude of wastage in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Crop Insurance Scheme

4039. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released Rs. 81.97 crore to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the crop insurance scheme for the current year;

(b) whether the State Government had also initiated an action plan for the ongoing agriculture season at a cost of Rs. 150 crore;

(c) if so, the extent to which the agriculture production in the State of Andhra Pradesh has gone up as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the production of agriculture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Total claims to Rs. 81.97 crores for Kharif 1997 season for Andhra Pradesh were settled by the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir. Initially the Government of Andhra Pradesh decided to implement the Comprehensive Agricultural Development Programme (CADP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 151.69 crores. But during the current financial year (1998-99), the scheme has been revised and is being implemented at a cost of Rs. 131.00 crores.

(c) On implementation of CADP in 1998-99 in the State, the production of major crops such as Rice, Maize and Redgram is likely to increase as follows :

(i) Rice 70.00 lakh MTs as against the normal production of 51.90 lakh MTs.

(ii) Maize 8.77 lakh MTs as against the normal production of 7.42 lakh MTs.

(iii) Redgram 1.18 lakh MTs as against the normal production of 1.00 lakh MT.

(d) Following steps are being taken by the State Government to improve the agricultural production in Andhra Pradesh :-

- Agricultural extension and training programmes like on-farm Extension Demonstrations; Agricultural Market Committee (AMC) Level Training Programmes to farmers; Farmers' Interaction Training Programmes at AMC level under CADP; Kisan Melas organized by the State Agricultural University; Mandal Level Farmers Information and Guidance Centres and setting up of Soil Testing Laboratories at revenue divisional level, are implemented to strengthen the agricultural extension work in the State.
- It has been decided to create additional irrigation potential of Rs. 7.32 lakh hac. during IX Plan.
- Promoting Sprinklers and Drip Irrigation and Watershed Development in Dryland Areas etc.
- Implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Conducting Season Long Training Programme (SLTP) and setting up of Biological Control Laboratories (BCL) as a part of IPM.
- Making available quality seeds through Seed Village Programme.
- Supply of quality inputs through strict vigil on quality control.

To supplement the efforts of the State Government for increasing the agricultural production, the following Crop Production Oriented schemes are being implemented by the Government of India:

- (a) Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice)
- (b) Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP)
- (c) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS)
- (d) Special Jute Development Programme.

[Translation]

### Proportionate Profits

4040. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give proportionate profits of the agricultural products as given on the industrial products; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government fixes each season the minimum support prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities on the basis of the report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of the State Governments and the Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which, in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of prices.

While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers various important factors, viz, cost of production; changes in input prices; input/output price parity; trends in market prices; demand and supply situation; inter-crop price parity; effect on industrial cost structure; effect on general price level; effect on cost of living; international market price situation; and parity between prices paid and prices received (terms of trade). The MSPs fixed by the Government not only cover cost of production, but also a reasonable margin of profit as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity. Moreover, the farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market at prices which may be higher than the support prices fixed by the Government.

[English]

#### Agreement with Belgium

4041. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Belgium Prince Philippe visited India during the month of November, 1998;
- (b) if so, the dignitaries with whom Prince Philippe had talks and nature of talks held with each of them;
- (c) whether any agreement has been signed with Belgium; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Crown Prince Philippe of Belgium visited India at the invitation of the Vice President from November 22-28, 1998.

(b) The Crown Prince called on the President and the Vice President. He also held discussions with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Power. In Mumbai, the Crown Prince met the Governor and the Minister of Trade & Commerce of Maharashtra. In Hyderabad, the Crown Prince met the Governor and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

Wide ranging and useful discussions were held on a number of issues relating to India-Belgium relations, especially in the economic and commercial field, as well as on important international developments.

(c) and (d) No bilateral government-to-government agreements were signed during this visit. However, the following MOUs/cooperation agreements were signed, as per the details given below, between Belgian and Indian partners during the visit.

- (i) MOU between Ahlers Bridge on Belgium and Forbes Gokak Ltd. of TATA group to offer European exporters in India and Indian exporters in Europe, facilities and cost effective logistical and distribution services in the ports of Mumbai and Antwerp.
- (ii) MOU between UCB of Belgium and RCF of India for setting up a joint venture to produce methylamines and their derivatives.
- (iii) MOU between Ion Beam International (IBA) of Belgium and SAHA Institute of Nuclear Physics and the variable Energy Cyclotron Centre on the setting up of a medical cyclotron in Calcutta.
- (iv) A Cooperation agreement between the Belgo-Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- (v) A Cooperation agreement between the Belgo-Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Indian-Belgo Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

#### Gross Domestic Product

4042. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Union Government have projected a fiscal deficit at 5% of gross domestic product during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Union Government also propose to scale down the target for export growth during the said period from 14.5% to 11.8% annually; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) The Draft Ninth Five Year Plan, 1997-2002, approved at the internal meetings of the Planning Commission was released on March 1, 1998 by the then Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The Government has decided to review this Draft so as to suitably reflect the altered priorities, as enunciated in the National Agenda for Governance. Detailed action plans on the above guidelines have been prepared and suitably incorporated into the existing Draft. The new Draft Ninth Five Year Plan has been discussed at the meetings of the internal Planning Commission and Full Planning Commission. The revised document is to be submitted through due process for consideration and approval of National Development Council. The Planning Commission, in its last meeting in November, 1998, decided to recommend to the National Development Council a reduction in the target rate of growth of GDP from 7.0 per cent per annum to 6.5 per cent per annum average over the five years of the Ninth Plan. This has been done to take into account the actual realisation of 5.1% growth during 1997-98 (i.e. the first year of the Ninth Plan) and expected realisation of about 6% growth during 1998-99 (i.e., the second year of the Plan). Consistent with this target, an average fiscal deficit of 5 per cent of Gross Domestic Product and an export growth of 11.8 per cent per year during the Ninth Plan period have also been recommended.

#### LPT at Koppal

4043. SHRI H. G. RAMULU :

SHRI B. M. MENSINKAI :

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

(a) the locations of Low Power Transmitters functioning in Karnataka;

(b) whether there are proposals to set up LPT at Koppal and upgrade LPT into HPT at Ranibennur in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be set up/upgrade; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Expansion/upgradation of TV service in the country is being carried out in a phased manner, which is a continuous activity depending on extent of resultant

coverage, availability of adequate resources, basic infrastructural facilities and interse priorities.

#### Statement

##### *List of LPTs Functioning in Karnataka*

Arsikere  
Athani  
Bagalkot  
Bantwal  
Basava Kaiyan  
Belgaum  
Bellary  
Bhatkal  
Bidar  
Bijapur  
Chickmaghur  
Chikodi  
Chitradurga  
Davangere  
Gadac Betgari  
Vanganati  
Gokak  
Harpanhalli  
Hassan  
Hattihai  
Hole Narsipur  
Hospet  
Hungond  
Karwar  
Kolar Gold Field  
Kumta  
Mandya  
Mangalore  
Medikeri  
Mudicere  
Mysore  
Pavacada  
Ruttur  
Raichur  
Ramadurg  
Rannieennur  
Sagar  
Sandur  
Sirsi  
Tiptur  
Pumkur  
Udipi

[Translation]

**Doordarshan Kendras in Madhya Pradesh**

4044. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Doordarshan Kendras functioning in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the place in Madhya Pradesh where new Doordarshan Kendras are proposed to be set up in the near future;

(c) whether the existing studios and equipments in Madhya Pradesh are adequate enough to meet the present needs; and

(d) if not, the schemes formulated by the Government for modernisation and development of Doordarshan Kendras in Madhya Pradesh during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Two Doordarshan Kendras, one each at Bhopal and Raipur are, at present, functioning in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Three Studio centres, one each at Indore, Jagdalpur and Gwalior are, at present, under implementation in the State. Transmitters already exist at these places. After commissioning of these studios there will be 3 additional Doordarshan Kendras in the State. Equipment available are adequate to meet the present needs.

(d) Modernisation of facilities is dependant upon the availability of resources and inter-se priorities. Digital reverberations and 3D computer graphics, bilingual character generator, additional audio equipment and high band field units are expected to be provided to DDK, Raipur during the current financial year.

[English]

**Modernisation and Expansion of Postal Network**

4045. DR. VALLABHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any targets were fixed by the Government for the modernisation and expansion of postal network in the country particularly in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan; State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made vis-a-vis these targets;

(c) the amount spent thereon;

(d) the details of targets fixed in this regard during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the funds earmarked for the purpose in the said period in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) Yes Sir, a target of 900 Post Offices for modernisation and 2090 new Post Offices was kept during the Eighth Five Year Plan, out of which, for Gujarat Circle the target for new Post Offices was 108 and 63 for modernisation.

(b) Information is given in the Statement-I and II.

(c) Rs. 43.06 Crore for modernisation of Post Offices and Rs. 2.70 Crore for opening of Post Offices were spent during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) A target of 508 Post Offices for modernisation and 2750 for new Post Offices to be opened has been kept in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(e) Rs. 32 Crore for modernisation of Post Offices and Rs. 22.27 Crore for opening of the Post Offices.

**Statement-I**

*Circlewise Details of Number of Post Offices Modernised During the 8th Five Year Plan in the Period 1994-97*

Circle	Number of Post Offices modernised			
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	9	29	26	64
2. Assam	1	9	12	22
3. Bihar	1	7	13	21
4. Delhi	15	33	30	78
5. Gujarat	7	23	33	63
6. Haryana	2	6	12	20
7. H.P.	3	13	15	31
8. J & K	4	2	—	6
9. Karnataka	4	24	22	50
10. Kerala	2	21	20	43
11. M.P.	4	19	21	44
12. Maharashtra	8	69	62	139
13. North East	12	5	18	35
14. Orissa	2	7	13	22
15. Punjab	5	7	15	27



1	2	3	4	5
16. Rajasthan	7	17	14	38
17. Tamil Nadu	12	26	35	73
18. Uttar Pradesh	6	27	44	77
19. West Bengal	3	17	27	47
Total	107	361	432	900

**Statement -II**

*Circle-wise Targets Fixed and Post Offices Sanctioned during the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97)*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Targets	Allotted	Post Offices Sanctioned	
		EDBOs*	DSOs**	EDBOs*	DSOs**
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	25	26	28
2.	Assam	63	18	63	15
3.	Bihar	183	49	184	25
4.	Delhi	1	41	-	25
5.	Gujarat	59	49	59	32
6.	Haryana	28	40	34	24
7.	H.P.	53	29	128	9
8.	J & K	12	8	28	3
9.	Karnataka	34	42	39	40
10.	Kerala	35	36	48	44
11.	M.P.	113	37	102	28
12.	Maharashtra	163	51	172	62
13.	North-East	82	18	79	7
14.	Orissa	87	21	94	12
15.	Punjab	27	19	25	18
16.	Rajasthan	105	43	104	26
17.	Tamil Nadu	30	24	24	19
18.	Uttar Pradesh	206	73	244	40
19.	West Bengal	117	27	93	9
Total		1440	650	1546	466

\* Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices.

\*\* Departmental Sub Post Offices.

**Dam Across Koshi River**

4046. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted by the Government to construct a dam across the river Koshi at Kathar;

(b) if so, the outcome of the survey;

(c) whether the site was not found suitable as per survey report; and

(d) if so, the details of other suitable alternative sites which have been identified for the construction of the dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ( SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. During 1940's preliminary investigation for construction of a dam at Kothar, in Nepal, just down stream of Barahakshetra, across Kosi were carried out by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Kothar Dam site was not found to be suitable.

(d) A suitable site which is about 1.6 km. up-stream of Barahakshetra had already been identified in 1940's.

**Customer Service Centres**

4047. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Customer Service Centres functioning in Bangalore, district-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open new Customer Service Centres in the city; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Sir, twenty one (21) Customer Service Centres are functioning in Bangalore Telecom District as detailed below :-

Bangalore (Urban area) = 14

Bangalore (Rural area) = 17

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Three (3) new Customer Service Centres in Bangalore city are proposed to be opened at

Nandini Layout  
Magadi Road & Mysore Road.

[Translation]

**Status to A.I.R. Station at Vadodara**

4048. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether A.I.R. station, Vadodara have not been granted full fledge status so far and all the programmes are being broadcast from Ahmedabad station;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to broadcast the programmes independently and to encourage the local artists by giving full fledge status to Vadodara A.I.R. station; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (d) All India Radio, Vadodara is a Link station to All India radio, Ahmedabad. All India Radio, Vadodara devises and produces several and varied programmes which are broadcast by All India Radio, Ahmedabad for wider dissemination through their high power transmitter (200 KW MW) at Ahmedabad with an identity announcement in Gujarati "This is Akashwani Ahmedabad-Vadodara". Thus the local artists get sufficient opportunity and encouragement. Also, All India Radio, Vadodara has been allowed to book commercial advertisements independently.

#### Poor Visibility of Doordarshan Programme at Urai in Uttar Pradesh

4049. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recieved complaints regarding the poor visibility of Doordarshan Programmes from the relay centre situated at Urai in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR

NAQVI) : (a) Complaints have been recieved regarding low power of the transmitter with the request for its upgradation.

(b) and (c) A low power TV transmitter is presently functioning at Urai in Jalaun district of U.P. providing TV service within its coverage range. Expansion of TV service is being carried out in a phased manner depending on the availability of resources interse priorities etc. However there is no approved scheme at present for upgradation of power of LPT Urai or the establishment of any other TV transmitters in Jalaun district of U. P.

[English]

#### Plan Outlays

4050. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of plan outlays finalised for 1998-99 by the Planning Commission, State-wise;

(b) the details of percentage of its increase for the current year as compared to last two years;

(c) the per capita Central Assistance provided to States for the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the States to increase its resources for financing their annual plan outlays?

THE THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PALNNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The statements indicating Statewise Plan Outlays for 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 with percentage increase of the outlays over the last year and per capita Net Normal Central Assistance for these three years are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(d) Plannig Commission has been impressing upon the states to generate higher level of own resources through increase in tax and non-tax revenues and also by containing non-plan revenue expenditure.

#### Statement-I

*Originally Approved Outlays for Annual Plan 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 with Percentage Increase*

Sl. No.	States	1996-97	1997-98	% age increase over last year	1998-99	% age increase over last year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2989.00	3579.55	19.76	4678.95	30.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	520.00	600.00	15.38	625.00	4.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	1434.00	1510.28	5.32	1650.00	9.25
4.	Bihar	2143.91	2268.42	5.81	3768.74	66.14
5.	Goa	250.00	230.56	-7.78	291.34	26.36
6.	Gujarat	3378.00	4509.62	33.50	5450.00	20.85
7.	Haryana	1433.65	1576.04	9.93	2260.00	48.40
8.	Himachal Pradesh	900.50	1008.00	11.94	1440.00	42.86
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1250.00	1551.81	24.14	1900.00	22.44
10.	Karnataka	4360.00	4153.59	-4.73	5353.00	28.88
11.	Kerala	2207.27	2851.10	29.17	3100.00	8.73
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3144.80	3718.15	18.23	3700.00	-0.49
13.	Maharashtra	8319.67	8393.19	0.88	11600.73	38.22
14.	Manipur	350.00	410.00	17.14	425.00	3.66
15.	Meghalaya	370.00	382.00	3.24	400.00	4.71
16.	Mizoram	281.00	290.00	3.20	333.00	14.83
17.	Nagaland	290.00	291.00	0.34	300.00	3.09
18.	Orissa	2205.50	2529.46	14.69	3084.43	21.94
19.	Punjab	1857.05	2100.01	13.08	2500.00	19.05
20.	Rajasthan	3310.49	3514.42	6.16	4300.00	22.35
21.	Sikkim	192.00	220.00	14.58	237.00	7.73
22.	Tamil Nadu	3719.05	4004.90	7.69	4500.00	12.36
23.	Tripura	370.00	439.91	18.89	440.00	0.02
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6549.03	7246.57	10.65	10260.00	41.58
25.	West Bengal	3158.63	3907.62	23.71	4594.85	17.59
Total States		54983.55	61286.20	11.46	77192.04	25.95

## Statement - II

Per Capita Net Normal Central Assistance

(In Rupees)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	126	132	138
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4521	4617	4924
3.	Assam	438	448	453

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	130	144	159
5.	Goa	469	463	473
6.	Gujarat	85	90	101
7.	Haryana	125	123	138
8.	Himachal Pradesh	857	944	947
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1295	1266	1282
10	Karnataka	91	96	106

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	157	158	175
12.	Madhya Pradesh	114	121	143
13.	Maharashtra	76	79	97
14.	Manipur	1521	1590	1598
15.	Meghalaya	1318	1371	1379
16.	Mizoram	3234	3504	3645
17.	Nagaland	1887	2075	2232
18.	Orissa	149	158	195
19.	Punjab	112	111	113
20.	Rajasthan	116	123	129
21.	Sikkim	3907	4203	4192
22.	Tamil Nadu	131	137	140
23.	Tripura	1063	1158	1346
24.	Uttar Pradesh	121	123	143
25.	West Bengal	119	116	147

#### Financial Assistance for Agriculture Projects

4051. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka have sent proposals seeking Central Assistance for undertaking various agricultural projects in the respective States;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which decision on these proposals are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) No proposals has been received from the Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka for undertaking various agricultural projects.

#### Broadcasting Bill

4052. SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL :

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

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

(a) whether Cable Operators Federation of India has accused the Government of favouring some big business houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether a number of projects linked with cable T.V. are being cleared without the Broadcasting bill;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce the Broadcasting Bill providing compulsory uplinking of channels in the country;

(e) if so, whether the modalities of the Bill have been worked out; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) The Cable Operators Federation of India have submitted a representation to the Government alleging inter-alia that one group has been granted permission for operating global satellite telephone system using its own satellite and has also been extended other privileges viz. loans from financial institutions, using electric poles for laying cables etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Government have initiated steps for enacting a broadcasting law for the country which would seek to contain, apart from other provisions, compulsory uplinking from Indian soil.

#### Pact with Iran

4053. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed any pact with Iran regarding developing rail and road links with the Central Asian Republics (CARs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has been trying to stall/delay the implementation of the pact; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI

JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 22nd February, 1997, India signed an Agreement with Iran and Turkmenistan on International Transit of Goods.

(b) The salient features of the Agreement are : facilitation, simplification and acceleration in customs procedure and other formalities for transit of goods; exemption of import and export duties or other taxes for goods in transit; future possibility of setting up a simplified visa regime for personnel engaged in the transit of cargo under the Agreement and a regular joint mechanism for supervising the implementation of the Agreement.

(c) We do not have any such information.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Release of Fishermen

4054. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :

SHRI E. AHAMED :

SHRIMATI BHAVANA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA :

SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fishermen, army men and other Indians released from Pak jails and sailed home during 1998 till date;

(b) the number of fishermen, army men and other Indians still in Pak jails;

(c) whether the Government have taken this issue with the Pak Government for their release; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) 220 Indian nationals, which

included 195 fishermen and 25 civilian prisoners have been released by Pakistan so far in 1998.

(b) According to available information 1188 Indian nationals, including 13 fishermen of two fishing vessels seized by Pakistan on 21.11.98 and 54 missing defence personnel, are believed to be under detention in jails in Pakistan.

(c) and (d) The issue of early release and repatriation of Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan has been repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan. During the recent discussions on "Friendly Exchanges in various fields" held in New Delhi on 13.11.98, as part of the composite dialogue process between the two countries, Government have conveyed specific proposals to Pakistan aimed at securing early release of detainees in each other's custody.

Our efforts to secure the early release and repatriation of all Indians under detention in Pakistan will continue.

#### Water Management

4055. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 413 dated 15.7.1998 and state:

(a) the mechanism evolved by the Union Government to oversee the execution of the centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in the different States/UTs;

(b) whether any time frame has been given to the State Governments for the completion of these schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The information in respect of each scheme referred to in reply given to starred Question No. 413 answered on 15.07.1998 are given as below :

Sl. No.	Ministry implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme/ Schemes under operation	Mechanism evolved by the Union Government to oversee the execution of the schemes
1	2	3

#### I. MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(i) Command Area Development Programme

This scheme is being implemented through Command Area Development Agency/Authority or other organisations created for this purpose by the State Government and the work is overseen by Secretary in-charge of the Programme at the State level. Physical and financial progress and Programme are monitored at Central level by the Command Area Development Wing created for this purpose. The mechanism of monitoring includes getting quarterly, annual progress reports, periodical visits, meetings and evaluation.

1	2	3
(ii)	Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics	The scheme is overseen at Central level by the Minor Irrigation Wing of the Ministry. The scheme is monitored through regular contacts with States/UTs, by way of communications, personal visits, organising meetings and obtaining reports from States/UTs.
(iii)	Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal	The work of the scheme was being overseen through reports, meetings, visits etc. However, the work on this project came to a stand still in 1990 and presently the matter is subjudice.
<b>2. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION</b>		
(iv)	Soil conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects	Both the schemes are overseen by Central Government through obtaining progress reports, visits, and periodical meetings with the concerned agencies/officers. These schemes are also monitored through various Committees constituted at Centre, State and Project levels.
(v)	Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers	
(vi)	National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas	The mechanism of overseeing the execution of the scheme by the Central Government in different States include conducting periodic reviews at various levels, getting physical and financial progress reports, issuing time to time guidelines and taking up impact assessment.
<b>3. MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT</b>		
(vii)	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)	The scheme is monitored from the Central level down to grass root level. At the State levels and Central level, State level and Central level Coordination Committees respectively monitor the programme. A High Level Coordination Committee on credit support to IRDP also functions at the Central level to monitor and review all aspects relating to credit linkage for IRDP. The progress is reviewed through periodic review meetings, progress reports, workshop and verification.
(viii)	Million Wells Scheme	This scheme is being implemented through district level Zilla Parishads/District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in the States. At the State Level, the work is overseen by Secretary, Rural Development through State, District and Block level Committees. Physical progress and Programme at Central level are overseen through monthly and annual progress reports from the Districts/States besides conducting review meetings and visits.
(ix)	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme	The implementation of the programme is being monitored both at the State and Central Government levels in the Department of Rural Development and Ministry of Programme Implementation. This monitoring include aspects like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coverage of "Not Covered" habitations partially or fully.</li> <li>- Full coverage of partially covered villages.</li> <li>- Population coverage separately in general category, Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).</li> </ul>

(b) and (c) Centrally Sponsored Schemes are Plan schemes and they are sanctioned and operated from Plan to Plan.

[Translation]

#### **Irrigation Facilities in Hilly Areas**

4056. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start irrigation programmes/schemes in hilly areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) There are no irrigation programmes/schemes under consideration of the Union Government in the hilly areas. So far as the Minor

Irrigation Schemes are concerned, such schemes do not require clearance from the Union Government and they are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The details of such minor irrigation schemes are, therefore, not maintained by the Central Government.

[English]

### Holidays for Employees

4057. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide maximum number of holidays to its employees;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the country suffers a loss of thousands of crores of rupees and industries have to lose four hundred crore rupees in a day on this account;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to announce a new policy with regard to holidays in the light of the above facts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) ( SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (d) Government appreciate the implications of a holiday and for this reason, the number of holidays have been reduced over the years for administrative offices from 23 effective holidays in early 50s to the existing level of 17 which includes festivals falling on Sundays/Saturdays etc., thereby reducing the effective number of holidays. Industrial establishment observe upto 16 holidays, inclusive of three national holidays. After a recent review, it was decided that no holiday will be declared in future on the death of any VIP other than the incumbent President or the Prime Minister of India.

### Inland Fisheries

4058. SHRI BIKRAM KESHAR! DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Institute for Fresh Water and Aquaculture (CIFA) Bhubaneswar worked out any programme to develop Inland Fisheries in the Big Reservoirs in the KBK District of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to breed and propagate the Mahaseer Fish in these Reservoirs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) No, Sir. The development of Inland Fisheries in big reservoirs is not a mandate of CIFA, Bhubaneswar.

(b) The question does not arise.

### Natural Calamities

4059. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:

SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount requested by each flood affected states and the funds sanctioned and actually released by the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) whether despite the visit of Central teams to various flood affected States to assess the aftermath of natural calamities, the funds sanctioned have not yet released;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay and the time by which the funds are likely to be released;

(d) the reasons for low allocation and disparity amongst the States; and

(e) the names of the districts declared 'Scarcity hit districts' this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Details indicating State-wise assistance sought and assistance provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) during 1995-96 to 1997-98 in the wake of Cyclone, rains/floods are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) Assistance from the NFCR is provided for calamities of rare severity only. In accordance with the scheme for constitution and administration of the NFCR, the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) considers and decides whether a calamity is to be treated as a calamity of rare severity for assistance from the NFCR. The quantum of assistance from the NFCR as decided by the NCRC, is released to the concerned State Government. The request for assistance from the NFCR received during 1997-98 from Madhya Pradesh and Manipur in the wake of heavy rains and floods is at various stages of process.

(e) Details indicating the districts affected by drought during South West Monsoon period, 1998 (June to September), as intimated by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I***Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.*

1995-96

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Flood/Cyclone	293.20	*	—
		Flood	582.06	21.00	23.08.1996
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	50.50	10.00	23.08.1996
3.	Bihar	Flood	1102.28	21.00	23.08.1996
4.	Haryana	Flood	588.09	39.41	06.11.1995
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	481.96	12.49	29.11.1995
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Flood	211.08	18.17	06.11.1995
7.	Meghalaya	Flood/Landslide	41.13	10.00	23.08.1996
8.	Mizoram	Flood	59.99	4.71	29.11.1995
9.	Orissa	Cyclone	264.00	25.75	06.11.1995
			300.00	5.00	17.09.1996
10.	Punjab	Flood	658.00	16.16	06.11.1995
11.	Rajasthan	Flood/Drought	612.99	21.00	23.08.1996
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Flood	357.40	#	—
13.	West Bengal	Flood	631.99	21.00	23.08.1996
Total			6234.67	255.69	

\* Not Considered as calamity of rare severity.

# No team was deputed.

*Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.*

1996-97

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	i. Flood/Cyclone	125.74	#	—
		ii. Flood/Cyclone	550.63		
		iii. Flood/Cyclone	2143.00	142.00	01.01.1997
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	110.53	03.00	23.12.1996
3.	Assam	Flood	415.91	21.00	17.09.1996
4.	Bihar	Flood	168.92	07.00	23.12.1996
5.	Gujarat	Flood	282.01	@	—
6.	Haryana	Flood	102.00	@	—



1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	458.37	10.56	17.03.1997
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Flood	273.97	#	—
9.	Karnataka	Flood	621.00	@	—
10.	Kerala	Flood	342.00	@	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Flood	55.00	@	—
12.	Rajasthan	Flood	321.00	@	—
13.	Sikkim	Flood	43.92	5.52	17.03.1997
14.	Tamil Nadu	Cyclone/Flood	621.55	25.00	17.03.1997
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Flood	589.90	@	—
16.	West Bengal	Flood	309.00	@	—
Total			7535.00	214.08	

# Not Central Team deputed.

@ Not considered as calamity of rare severity.

## Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.

1997-98

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Cyclone	168.00	Nil	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	105.15	#	
3.	Bihar	Flood/Hailstorm	428.82	10.00	14.01.98
4.	Gujarat	Flood	664.33	86.90	18.8.97
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	609.78	24.80	5.12.97/ 14.1.98
7.	Kerala	Flood/Landslide	1106.26	12.91	29.8.97
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Flood Heavy Rains	121.36 2103.75	22.50 \$	14.1.98
9.	Maharashtra	Drought, Flood, Hailstorm & U.T. Rains	156.76	#	
10.	Manipur	Flood	59.13	\$	
11.	Orissa	Heavy Rains	151.50	#	
12.	Punjab	Flood	175.72	Nil	
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Heavy Rains Flood/Landslide	242.97 323.10	Nil #	—
16.	West Bengal	Flood	177.00	Nil	—
Total			6593.63	157.11	

\$ Memoranda under consideration.

# Not considered necessary to depute Central Team.

**Statement-II**

*Districts Affected by Drought in Various States During the Southwest Monsoon Period (June to September, 1998)*

State	District
Orissa	Bolangir, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Phulbani, Sundargarh, Sambalpur
Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit
Punjab	Faridkot, Sangrur, Amritsar
Bihar	Vaishali
Rajasthan	Jalore, Pali, Bhilwara, Jhalawar, Kota, Sirohi
Madhya Pradesh	Chattarpur, Hoshnabad, Rajgarh, Sehore, Seoni, Shivpuri, Bastar, Mandla, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Raipur, Shahdol, Sidhi
Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur
Jammu & Kashmir	Ladakh, Srinagar, Udhampur, Kupwara
Gujarat	Kutch
Assam	Jorhat, Dhubri, Kabri-anglong
Kerala	Wynad
Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari, South Arcot, Tiruvannamalai
West Bengal	Hooghly, Howrah, Bankura

[Translation]

**Setting Up of Divisional Office**

4060. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation to set up a divisional office of the Department of telecommunication by merging Deoria and Kushinagar districts in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mau, Deoria and Kushinagar (Padrauna) are the revenue districts falling under Mau Telecom District headed by Telecom District Manager with headquarter at Mau. Creation of separate Telecom District at Deoria is not feasible because of administrative and operational reasons.

[English]

**Prasar Bharati Board**

4061. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IB Ministry Prasar Bharati lock horns" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated October 16, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Prasar Bharati Board have been turning down the Government's instructions to re-view allocation of the commissioned programmes;

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

(d) the corrective measures propose to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All programme matters fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati and decisions in such cases including allocation of commissioned programmes are taken by them keeping in view the programme requirements of Doordarshan.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**T.V. Transmitters in H. P.**

4062. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed to set up T.V. Transmitters at various places in Himachal Pradesh to cover the entire State; and

(b) the details of steps taken to promote the cultural programmes of the local people in their dialect at Shimla and other places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Schemes for the establishment of 11 TV transmitters (LPT-1, VLPT-10) in Himachal Pradesh have been sanctioned and action for finalisation of sites/procurement of equipment has been initiated. Installation work would depend upon the availability of sites and equipment. Lead time involved in completion of these projects is about one year from the date of taking over the site. Locations are given in statement enclosed. After commissioning of TV transmitters under implementation, the TV coverage in the State would increase from present

66.3% to 72%. Further extension of TV services in the State would be carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se-priorities.

(b) 223 programmes of music, documentaries, poetry, culture and dance of various tribes of Himachal Pradesh in different dialects e.g. Mashavi, Kullavi, Mandali, Kangri etc. spoken in the State have been produced and telecast from DDK Shimla since June, 1995. The Prasar Bharati proposes to give more focus on this area in the near future.

#### Statement

*List of TV Transmitters to be established in Himachal Pradesh for which schemes have been sanctioned.*

#### Low Power Transmitters

Mandi (DD-2)

#### Very Low Power Transmitters

Bijli Mahadev

Dalhousi

Tissa

Chauri Khas

Jhantingri

Kaja

Awah Devi

Chunaghai

Nehri

Ashapuri

[English]

#### Krishna Valley Projects

4063. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has approached the Union Government for financial assistance to complete the irrigation projects in the Krishna Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon and the total estimated amount that is required to complete all the projects in the Krishna Basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) 10 Major, 9 Medium and 5 ERM (Extension Renovation Modernisation) Irrigation Projects of Krishna Valley with a latest

estimated cost of Rs. 10832.6 crores are under execution in the State of Karnataka. Of these, the details of four projects for which the State has sought Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) during 1998-99 and the funds released so far are as under :-

(In Rs. Crores)

Name of Project	CLA Demanded	CLA Sanctioned	First Instalment Released
Upper Krishna Stage I (Phase III) (Major)	100.00	100.00	50.00
Malaprabha (Major)	25.00	20.00	-
Hirehalla (Medium)	6.00	6.00	3.00
Ghataprabha Stage III (ERM)	30.00	25.00	-
Total	161.00	151.00	53.00

#### Ratio of Reservation

4064. SHRI N. K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing ratio of job reservation for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates in Class I and Class II categories;

(b) whether the Government propose to raise the existing ratio; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Reservation is provided to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the rate of 15% and 7.5% respectively in all groups in direct recruitment by open competition and at the rates of 16.2/3% and 7.5 % respectively in direct recruitment otherwise than by open competition. Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes wherever permissible in promotion, is at the rates of 15% and 7.5% respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Growth Rate of Cereals

4065. SHRI M. RAJIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether green revolution has turned grey after 30 years and growth rate of cereals have come down in the country;

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

(c) the effective steps suggested by the experts to remedy the situation; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Statewise growth rate of area, production and yield of cereals is shown in the enclosed Statement. The green revolution in India came into existence with the introduction of high yielding varieties of cereals particularly photo-insensitive and high fertiliser responsive varieties of wheat, rice and introduction of hybrids of cereals comprising of 81.31 million tonnes of rice, 69.27 million tonnes of wheat and 34.27 million tonnes of coarse cereals has been achieved during the year 1996-97. Due to diversion of area of coarse cereals from 47.34 million hectares during 1967-68 to 32.10 million hectares during 1996-97 to other remunerative crops, the trend of area, thereby production in total cereals has shown a marginal reduction. However, there is a continuous increase in area and production of rice and wheat.

(c) and (d) Indian Agriculture Research System (Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities) are evolving area specific latest production technologies and their recommendations are being passed on to the States for implementation through various crops development schemes. For enhancing the growth rate and sustaining the cereals production, the production technologies are being disseminated through State plans and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Cereals Development Programmes of Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals. Besides, a Central Sector Scheme on Minikits is also being implemented so that latest released varieties of Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are demonstrated to the farmers for their acceptance.

#### Statement

##### Statewise Compound Growth Rates of Total Cereals

(Percent per annum)

State	1967-68 to 1996-97			1980-81 to 1996-97		
	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	-1.53	2.01	3.60	-2.41	1.00	3.50
Assam	0.82	2.05	1.23	0.58	2.38	1.79
Bihar	-0.19	1.87	2.07	-0.18	2.91	3.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gujarat	-1.43	0.78	2.24	-1.78	0.07	1.88
Haryana	1.04	5.04	3.96	0.63	4.34	3.69
Himachal Pradesh	0.40	1.51	1.11	-0.07	2.00	2.08
Jammu & Kashmir	0.64	1.74	1.10	0.50	1.07	0.57
Karnataka	-0.27	1.58	1.86	-0.37	2.31	2.69
Kerala	-2.39	-1.19	1.22	-3.63	-2.23	1.45
Madhya Pradesh	0.03	2.56	2.53	-0.41	2.80	3.22
Maharashtra	-0.04	2.77	2.82	-0.76	1.85	2.63
Orissa	-0.14	1.43	1.57	-0.40	1.88	2.29
Punjab	2.26	5.13	2.81	1.37	3.49	2.10
Rajasthan	0.09	2.70	2.61	-0.26	3.09	3.36
Tamil Nadu	-1.68	0.80	2.52	-1.50	1.95	3.51
Uttar Pradesh	0.52	4.12	3.58	0.04	3.44	3.40
West Bengal	0.54	2.80	2.25	0.95	4.71	3.72
All India	0.01	2.89	2.41	-0.32	2.88	2.69

#### Prawn Culture

4066. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government /private parties have recieved any external assistance for promoting the prawn culture in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### Complaint Cell

4067. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide any central set up to look into the complaints against the Telecommunication Department in J & K particularly in Jammu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) and (b) Sir, a P.G. Cell is functioning at Headquarter to look into the grievances of the subscribers. As per existing instructions, P.G. Cells (Complaint Cell) are also available to the subscribers at Telecom Districts and Telecom Circles. Presently, in J & K Telecom Circle, three PG Cells are working in Jammu.

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

#### **Comprehensive Nuclear Power Policy**

4068. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the countries are moving away from nuclear energy and are shelving their plans for setting up fast breeder reactors as the nuclear power is neither cheap nor environmentally sound nor safe and expose the workers and people living in surrounding areas to the dangerous level of radiation;

(b) whether the Government propose to make comprehensive energy policy which does not depend so crucially on fossil fuels;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the percentage of total electricity being produced from Atomic Plants and the percentage of budget of Department of Atomic Energy is being spent for generation of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a) The nuclear power production plans of any country are dependent on the country's energy needs. As the Atomic Power Plants emit very little amounts of green-house gases, it make them environmentally more sound as compared to other commercial energy generating sources. The cost of nuclear power generation is comparable with that of Thermal Power Plants and the Atomic Power Plants are economically competitive. As regards safety, various national and international norms of radiological releases are laid down which not only protect workers from over exposure but also ensure safety of the general public from harmful levels of radiation.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

(d) The percentage of electricity produced from Atomic Power Plants during 1997-98 is 2.1% of the total electricity production in the country. 15% of the total budget of the Department of Atomic Energy was spent on power generation during 1997-98.

[Translation]

#### **Telephone and Telephone Exchanges Out of Order**

4069. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes formulated for the proper maintenance of the installation of the telephone connection and the reasons for not implementing them;

(b) the details of the telephones particularly Public Telephones went out of order during the last two years, district-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to solve this problem in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) Detailed instructions have been issued for proper maintenance of telephone exchanges. All exchanges are acceptance tested by the Department before the commissioning.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) To improve the telephone services in the country, the following steps are being taken:-

(i) All the electro-mechanical exchanges are being replaced by latest state of Art modern electronic exchanges.

(ii) Overhead lines are being replaced gradually by underground jelly filled type cables.

(iii) Replacement of old and worn out dropwire, housewiring telephone instrument etc.

(iv) Replacement of old batteries of the exchanges.

(v) Arranging additional engine alternators for areas where power supply is not reliable.

(vi) Reliable transmission media like optical fibre cable technology are being inducted in the rural network.

(vii) WLL and TDMA/PMP technologies and satellite based VPTs will be used to provide the telecom facilities in remote and rural areas.

[English]

#### **Expansion of Doordarshan Network in Aurangabad, Maharashtra**

4070. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Doordarshan network particularly in Aurangabad District, Maharashtra;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Expansion of Doordarshan Network in the country is being carried out in a phased manner subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities. The Prasar Bharati envisages to set up a High Power Transmitter for DD-II Service at Aurangabad during the 9th Plan period.

- (c) Does not arise.

#### Indians in Greece

4071. SHRI D. S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some Indians at port of Igoumenitsa in Greece were confined illegally;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for confinement; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE) : (a) and (b) In the wake of reports in the Greek media about the discovery of 25 alleged illegal migrants from India having been locked up for 4 days in a truck, enquiries by the Embassy Of India in Athens revealed that a Greek truck was transporting illegal aliens on payment of a specific amount from Athens to Igoumenitsa. The Greeks involved in this operation disappeared before the local police could apprehend them. Greek Police, after breaking the lock of the abandoned truck found these 25 persons confined in a specially constructed hidden compartment.

- (c) There is no confirmation that any of the 25 persons found in the abandoned truck are Indian Citizens. Informal enquiries have revealed that the Greek authorities may have released the persons without filing any charges.

#### Lower Bhawani Projects Farmers Association

4072. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the date from which funds were released or to be released under the revised financing pattern of the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme to Lower Bhawani Project Farmers;
- (b) the reaction of the farmers on the revised financial pattern;

(c) whether the Lower Bhawani Project Farmer's Association has submitted any representation to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments for carrying out various activities under the programme. One of such activity is encouraging farmers participation in irrigation water management for which one time functional grant @ Rs. 500 per hectare (to be shared @ Rs. 225.00 per hect. by Centre and Rs. 225.00 per hect. by State and Rs. 50.00 per the hect. by Farmers Association) is provided for registered and functional Farmers' Associations since 1.4.96 in place of management subsidy used to be provided earlier. The central assistance is admissible in the irrigation commands covered under the Programme. The registered and functional Farmers' Association in Lower Bhawani Project are also eligible for such assistance.

(b) The Farmers' Association have shown a great interest to receive the grant as per the revised financing pattern effective from 1.4.96.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) The State Government has been requested to expedite the proposal for central assistance for the year 1998-99, which may include one time functional grant also.

#### STD Facility

4073. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether STD facility has been made available in all the telephone exchanges of urban and rural areas of the country particularly in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) the number of Talukas where this facility is not available so far, State-wise;
- (d) the time by which such facility is likely to be made available in all the telephone exchanges of the country; and
- (e) the number of telephone exchanges where this facility is proposed to be provided during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) No Sir. State-wise details regarding provision of STD facility to the exchanges in urban and rural areas in the country, are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) The number of Talukas where this facility is not available is given State-wise in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) STD facility is likely to be made available in all the telephone exchanges of the country by March, 2000 subject to availability of resources.

(e) STD facility is planned to be provided to 2648 telephone exchanges during 1998-99, subject to availability of resources.

#### Statement-I

*Status STD in Urban and Rural Exchanges of the Country as on 30.11.98, State-wise*

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Exchanges		Number of exchanges where STD facility is available	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	306	1806	303	1363
2.	Assam	81	238	81	238
3.	Bihar	205	650	205	629
4.	Gujarat	298	1175	298	964
5.	Haryana	126	669	121	335
6.	Himachal Pradesh	66	545	66	416
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	116	139	84	39
8.	Karnataka	375	1808	375	1600
9.	Kerala	187	635	187	635
10.	Madhya Pradesh	355	2379	355	1631
11.	Maharashtra	530	2384	509	1295
12.	Goa	34	36	34	27
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	65	10	31
14.	Meghalaya	11	35	11	27
15.	Mizoram	17	25	11	10
16.	Tripura	6	45	6	43
17.	Manipur	20	11	16	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Nagaland	10	25	10	9
19.	Orissa	134	630	133	618
20.	Punjab	205	791	205	647
21.	Chandigarh	10	4	10	4
22.	Rajasthan	257	1408	251	837
23.	Tamil Nadu	522	1002	522	901
24.	Pondicherry	12	6	12	5
25.	Uttar Pradesh	820	1313	813	556
26.	West Bengal	286	573	283	441
27.	Sikkim	9	16	9	15
28.	Andaman & Nicobar	3	26	3	25
29.	Delhi	159	0	159	0

#### Statement-II

*Number of Talukas where STD Facility is not available in the Country as on 30.11.98 State-wise*

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Talukas where STD facility is not available
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	No Talukas
3.	Bihar	No Talukas
4.	Gujarat	0
5.	Haryana	No Talukas
6.	Himachal Pradesh	No Talukas
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	No Talukas
8.	Karnataka	0
9.	Kerala	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	No Talukas
11.	Maharashtra	13
12.	Goa	0
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	No Talukas
14.	Meghalaya	No Talukas
15.	Mizoram	No Talukas

1	2	3
16.	Tripura	No Talukas
17.	Manipur	No Talukas
18.	Nagaland	No Talukas
19.	Orissa	No Talukas
20.	Punjab	No Talukas
21.	Chandigarh	No Talukas
22.	Rajasthan	No Talukas
23.	Tamil Nadu	0
24.	Pondicherry	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	No Talukas
26.	West Bengal	No Talukas
27.	Sikkim	No Talukas
28.	Andaman & Nikobar	No Talukas
29.	Delhi	No Talukas

[Translation]

#### Regional Publicity Units In Uttar Pradesh

4074. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the locations in Uttar Pradesh where the offices of Directorate of field publicity units exists;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more such units in other districts of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) The location of Field Publicity Units in Uttar Pradesh are as shown in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) A new Field Publicity Unit is envisaged to be set up at Haridwar in Uttar Pradesh during the remaining period of the Ninth Plan, depending upon the availability of resources required for the purpose.

#### Statement

*Location-wise list of existing Field Publicity Units of Directorate of Field Publicity in the State of Uttar Pradesh.*

- (1) Lucknow
- (2) Banda
- (3) Jhansi

(4) Mainpur

(5) Varanasi

(6) Gonda

(7) Kanpur

(8) Rai Bareilli

(9) Allahabad

(10) Azamgarh

(11) Gorakhpur

(12) Lakhimpur Kheri

(13) Sultanpur

(14) Dehradun

(15) Aligarh

(16) Moradabad

(17) Pauri

(18) Uttarkashi

(19) Gopeshwar

(20) Muzaffarnagar

(21) Bareilli

(22) Agra

(23) Nainital

(24) Ranikhet

(25) Pithoragarh

(26) Meerut

#### Telephone Exchanges

4075. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up telephone exchanges in Koshambi, Allahabad and Fatehpur districts of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed statement. The steps taken in this regard as under.



- (i) One telephone exchange has already been opened.
- (ii) Equipment for seven more exchanges is available.
- (iii) Equipment for balance two exchanges has already been ordered and supplies are expected by March, 1999.
- (c) Does not arise in view of para (a) above.

#### Statement

*List of Telephone Exchanges proposed to be set up in Kaushambi, Allahabad and Fatehpur Districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1998-99 along with status.*

S.No.	Name of District	Name of Exchange	Status
1.	Kaushambi	Deviganj Kara	Equipment available
2.	Kaushambi	Paschim Sarira	Exchange opened
3.	Allahabad	Muthiganj	Equipment ordered
4.	Allahabad	Colonel Ganj	Equipment available
5.	Allahabad	Tagore Town	Equipment available
6.	Allahabad	Subedarganj	Equipment ordered
7.	Allahabad	Meerapur	Equipment available
	Allahabad	Mansurabad	Equipment available
9.	Fatehpur	Amauli	Equipment available
10.	Fatehpur	Bhitora	Equipment available

[English]

#### STD/ISD/PCOs Booths in A.P.

4076. SHRI VENKATARAMI ANANTHA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advertisements were published some time ago for the allotment of STD/ISD/PCO booths in various towns, cities of Andhra Pradesh particularly in Anantapur District;

(b) whether these booths have not been allotted even after the expiry of more than one year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which allotments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Sir, 3962 STD PCOs have been provided in A.P. Circle from 1.4.98 to 30.11.98. In Anantapur, applications received upto 16.1.98 have been cleared and 194 STD PCOs have been provided.

(d) The balance applications in Anantapur will be considered for allotment in the next STD POC allotment committee.

#### Telecom Services in Rajasthan

4077. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conditions of telephones in Bayana and Bharatpur areas of Rajasthan is dilapidated;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the telecom service in the State particularly in the said areas; and

(c) the name of the telephone exchanges modernised during the last three years in the said areas and also the name of exchanges proposed to be modernised in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) No, Sir. The telecom services in Bayana and Bharatpur areas of Rajasthan are quite satisfactory.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) 28 telephone exchanges working in Bharatpur Secondary Switching Area including Bayana have been modernised/upgraded during last three years. The details are given in Statement. No exchange is pending for modernisation.

#### Statement

*List of Telephone Exchanges which have been Upgraded during last three year in Bharatpur Secondary Switching Area.*

S.No.	Exchange
1	2
1.	Kanchanpur
2.	Angai
3.	Baseri
4.	Bandsaretha
5.	Bayana
6.	Dhadren
7.	Bharatpur
8.	Dehra

1	2
9.	Kuma
10.	Paprera
11.	Rarah
12.	Deeg
13.	Jaluki
14.	Khah
15.	Korer
16.	Nagar
17.	Sinsini
18.	Basainawab
19.	Dholpur
20.	Rajakhera
21.	Gopalgarh
22.	Jurehra
23.	Kaman
24.	Bhusawar
25.	Nithar
26.	Pathena
27.	B. Paharpur
28.	Rupbas

#### M.A.R.R. Telephone System

4078. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections provided under Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) in Sunderban district, West Bengal, category-wise;

(b) the total cost of project; and

(c) the number out of them working in order at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) 253 rural public telephone have been provided through MARR system in Sunderban district, West Bengal.

(b) Rs. 3.77 crores.

(c) Out of 253 rural public telephones 159 are working satisfactorily. Remaining 94 public telephones are not functioning satisfactorily. The DOT is taking action to set them right.

#### Demand of Postal Employees

4079. SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the demands of Postmen, Mail Guards and mail delivery staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether their scale of pay and other facilities have been enhanced; and

(d) if so, the date from which the same has been made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Pay Scales of Postmen and Mail Guards have been enhanced as under :-

Pay Scales	Enhanced Pay
w.e.f. 01/01/96 on implementation scales w.e.f. 10/10/97 of 5th CPC	
Entry Rs. 2750-4400*	Rs. 3050-4590
TBOP Rs. 3050-4590	Rs. 3200-4900
BCR Rs. 3200-4900	Rs. 4000-6000

(\*with two advance increments)

There was no demand for enhancing other facilities which remain the same as already admissible.

[Translation]

#### Public Telephone in Villages

4080. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

PROF. RITA VERMA :

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY :

\*Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in the country covered by the telecom network upto October, 1998, State-wise;

(b) the total number of villages planned to be covered upto March 1999, State-wise;

(c) the number of public telephones which were out of order in the country as on March 31, 1998, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for the non-operation of a good number of public telephones in the rural areas;

(e) the average expenditure involved in the installation of a village public telephone;

(f) whether the rural telephone system has not been successful in the country;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to activate the disordered telecom units during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) In the Country 310,019 villages have been covered with telecom facilities upto 31.10.98. Another 38,563 villages are expected to be covered by March, 1999. State-wise data is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) As on 31.3.98, 22,403 VPTs were out of order in the country. State-wise list is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The main reason for the non-operation of some of the public telephones are —

- (i) Damage to the MARR equipment by lightning.
- (ii) Interruption on overhead lines due to bad weather, high velocity winds, rain and theft of overhead lines.
- (iii) MARR system also have not been found to be very stable.

(e) On an average installation of a VPT costs about Rs. 100000/-.

(f) and (g) Analog MARR technology has not performed very satisfactorily.

(h) The faulty equipment is being repaired in the work shops and with the help of Suppliers. Annual Maintenance Contract (AMCs) have been signed in many cases. Equipment damaged beyond repair will be replaced gradually.

**Statement-I**

Sl. No	Name of State	Total Villages with VPTs as on 31.10.98	Villages to be covered upto March, 99
1	2	3	4
1.	A & N	178	38
2.	A.P.	22933	305

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	10568	2780
4.	Bihar	19028	5096
5.	Gujarat	13923	0
6.	Haryana	6807	20
7.	H.P.	6710	869
8.	J & K	2683	899
9.	Karnataka	21544	1781
10.	Kerala	1530	0
11.	Maharashtra & Goa	29269	2335
12.	M.P.	39245	4000
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	557	230
14.	Manipur	603	217
15.	Meghalaya	984	88
16.	Mizoram	577	108
17.	Nagaland	528	148
18.	Tripura	549	38
19.	Orissa	19213	1771
20.	Punjab	11938	318
21.	Rajasthan	21345	1789
22.	Tamil Nadu	17648	132
23.	U.P. (East)	31254	6216
24.	U.P. (West)	16861	4793
25.	West Bengal & Sikkim	13291	4992
26.	Delhi	191	0
Total		310019	38563

**Statement-II**

Sl.No	Name of State	Total Villages with VPTs as on 31.10.98
1	2	3
1.	A & N	2
2.	A.P.	546
3.	Assam	547
4.	Bihar	4601
5.	Gujarat	757
6.	Haryana	595
7.	H.P.	224

1	2	3
8.	J & K	186
9.	Karnataka	574
10.	Kerala	Nil
11.	Maharashtra & Goa	246
12.	M.P	5126
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	107
14.	Manipur	53
15.	Meghalaya	66
16.	Mizoram	48
17.	Nagaland	40
18.	Tripura	211
19.	Orissa	2958
20.	Punjab	261
21.	Rajasthan	1019
22.	Tamil Nadu	319
23.	U.P. (East)	1773
24.	U.P. (West)	1697
25.	West Bengal & Sikkim	447
Total		22,403

[English]

#### Revision of Recruitment Rules

4081. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is resentment amongst the Officer/Staff of Group A and B of Delhi Milk Scheme as the Recruitment Rules which were to be revised after the implementation of Fifth Pay Commission have not been revised so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the Recruitment Rules are likely to be revised;

(d) whether all the posts of Group A and B in Delhi Milk Scheme have been made promotional post;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) by when the recruitment rule likely to be revised accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) No resentment amongst officers of Group A and B in Delhi Milk Scheme has come to notice so far. Consequent upon the acceptance of the report of Fifth Pay Commission, action has been initiated to amend recruitment rules for all categories of staff wherever warranted strictly as per the guidelines of DOP&T.

Revision of recruitment rules require consultation/ approval of other Departments like DOP&T, UPSC, Ministry of Law etc. and hence no firm commitment as to the time frame for revision of recruitment rules can be given.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The mode of recruitment for each post is governed by the guidelines issued by the nodal department. The departments are required to comply with those guidelines and hence all Group A and B posts cannot be made promotional posts.

(g) Since the amendment of rules involve inter-departmental consultation involving Department such as DOP&T/UPSC/Ministry of Law, therefore, no commitment can be given as to by which time Recruitment Rules can be finally revised.

#### Telecom Facilities in Sikkim

4082. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing telecom facilities in Sikkim at the State Capital, district and subdivisional levels are deemed to be adequate by the Union Government;

(b) whether any request in this regard has been recieved from the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these inadequacies likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) The telecom facilities of Sikkim are better than that of most of North Eastern States. However, all efforts are being made for improvement. Sikkim has 12978 lines of net switching capacity with a working connection of 11839 (as on 30.11.98). During the current year it is planned to provide 6000 new telephone connections.

(b) and (c) Request has been recieved from the State Government to provide the following facilities :-

1) 10000 lines ISDN exchange at Gangtok.

2) Network linking all District H/Qs and subdivisional H/Qs.

3) "Wireless in Loop" and "Fibre in Local shop" technology.

4) Mobile Telephony at Gangtok.

(d) STD/ISD facility is available in all the District Headquarters and Sub-divisional Headquarters. Mobile Services is to be provided by the private operators. Other facilities are being actively considered for provision and expected to be available by the year 2000.

#### Entry of Indians

4083. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has banned the entry of Indians at the Wagha border;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any formal communication from Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) Wagha/Attari is one of the designated border checkposts under the India-Pakistan Visa Agreement, 1974. By mutual agreement Indian and Pakistani nationals are normally permitted to enter through this checkpost only by rail.

No proposal has been received from Pakistan to restrict this arrangement.

#### World Bank Assistance for Fisheries

4084. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the assistance being provided by the World Bank for the development of fisheries in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala;

(b) the names of places where the projects are being implemented with the help of the World Bank, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the amount received from the World Bank during the last three years; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The World Bank assisted Shrimp & Fish Culture Project is being implemented in five States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The amount of World Bank assistance for the

above Project received during the last three years; State-wise is given below :-

(Rs. in lakhs)			
State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Andhra Pradesh	113.39	122.82	11.60
Bihar	4.19	72.89	2.97
Orissa	397.47	368.27	248.63
Uttar Pradesh	9.54	64.51	4.19
West Bengal	318.69	1431.26	400.63
Central Component	100.69	56.24	0.00
Total	943.97	2115.99	668.02

#### Statement

*State-wise Distribution of the World Bank assisted Shrimp & Fish Culture Project (CR 2329-IN)*

#### A. Shrimp Culture Component:

1. Andhra Pradesh — Bhyravapalem (District -East Godavari)
2. Orissa — Jagatjore - Banapada (District - Kendrapara)
3. West Bengal — a) Digha (District - Midnapore)  
b) Dadanpatra (District - Midnapore)  
c) Dighirpar (District 24 Parganas South)  
d) Canning (District 24 Parganas South)

#### B. Inland Fisheries Component :

1. Andhra Pradesh :			
No. of Reservoirs	—	42	
Name of the District	—	Distribution	
1. Karimnagar	—	6	
2. Medak	—	14	
3. Nizamabad	—	7	
4. Khamman	—	9	
5. Chittor	—	4	
6. Krishna	—	2	
Total	—	42	

## 2. Orissa

No. of Reservoirs	—	43
Name of the District	—	Distribution
1. Ganjam	—	6
2. Angul	—	1
3. Nayagarh	—	2
4. Phulbani	—	1
5. Mayurbhanj	—	8
6. Dhenkanal	—	2
7. Nuapura	—	2
8. Nawaragpur	—	1
9. Sundargarh	—	3
10. Bargarh	—	4
11. Deogarh	—	1
12. Keonjhar	—	3
13. Kalahandi	—	3
14. Malkangiri	—	1
15. Sambalpur	—	1
16. Korapur	—	3
17. Jharaguda	—	1
Total		43

## 3. Uttar Pradesh :

a) No. of Reservoirs	—	06
Name of Districts	—	Distribution
1. Jhansi	—	1
2. Mahoba	—	1
3. Mirzapur	—	2
4. Chandauli	—	2
Total :		06
b) No. of Oxbow Lakes	—	05
Name of Districts	—	Distribution
1. Bahraich	—	1
2. Gorakhpur	—	3
3. Siddharthgarh	—	1
Total		05

## 4. Bihar

No. of Oxbow Lakes	—	27
Name of Districts	—	Distribution
1. East Champaran	—	16
2. West Champaran	—	3
3. Muzaffarpur	—	6
4. Samastipur	—	1
5. Bagusarai	—	1
Total		27

[Translation]

## LPTs in Bihar

4085. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHAN JHARPUR) : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of existing range and capacity of T.V. Transmitters in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the transmission range of these T.V. Transmitters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) 52 TV Transmitters (HPT-5, LPTs-45, VLPT-1 and Transposer-1) are presently functioning in Bihar. A statement showing location wise details is enclosed. The HPTs of 1 KW to 10 KW have a range of about 50 to 100 Kms, LPTs of 100 W to 300 W have a range of about 10 to 20 Kms, and VLPT/transposer of 10 Watts have a range of about 5 Kms.

(b) and (c) Schemes for upgradation of LPT, Jamshedpur and LPT (DD-2) Patna to HPT, are presently under implementation.

## Statement

## TV Transmitters Functioning in Bihar

## HPT

Daltonganj

Katihar

Muzaffarpur

Patna

Ranchi

## LPT

Aurangabad

Begusarai

Bettiah  
 Bhagalpur  
 Bokaro  
 Buxar  
 Chaibasa  
 Darbhanga  
 Daudnagar  
 Deoghar  
 Dhanbad  
 Dumka  
 Forbesganj  
 Gaya  
 Ghatshila  
 Giridih  
 Godda  
 Gopalganj  
 Gumla  
 Hazaribag  
 Jamshedpur  
 Jamui  
 Khagaria  
 Kodarma  
 Lakhisarai  
 Lohardaga  
 Madhepura  
 Madhubani  
 Motihari  
 Munger  
 Mushabani  
 Nawada  
 Noamundy  
 Phoolparas  
 Raxaul  
 Saharasa  
 Saraikela  
 Sasaram

Sheikhpura  
 Sikandra  
 Simri Bakhtiarpur  
 Sitamarhi  
 Siwan  
 Supaul  
 Patna (DD I)  
**VLPT**  
 Simdega  
**TRANSPOSER**  
 Ramgarh HTPL

[English]

### Post-Shot Drilling Operation

4086. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5078 on July, 1998 regarding incentives to scientists and state :

(a) whether the post-shot drilling operations at Pokhran have been completed; and

(b) if so, the facts revealed from the drilling operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :  
 (a) The post-shot drilling operations at Pokhran at the sites of the three sub-kiloton device detonations have been completed. The drilling operations at the site of the thermonuclear device detonation are in progress and those at the site of the fission device detonation will be taken up shortly.

(b) The samples from the post-shot drilling operations are being analysed including for radioactivity. All the results obtained from the samples so far are consistent with and confirm the predicted behaviour of the tested devices.

### Economic Reforms Programme

4087. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the economic reforms programmes launched by the Government with regard to removal of poverty in the country during the last three years;

(b) the funds earmarked/released by the Government under these programmes during the above period, State-wise; and

(c) the outcome of such programmes so far in removing the poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The process of economic reforms was introduced by the Government with the primary objective of accelerating the rate of economic growth which in the long run would lead to alleviation of poverty. However, in the short run poverty alleviation programmes continue to provide supplementary employment and consequent additional incomes, specially during the lean agricultural season to the poor. These programmes are : (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP); (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY); (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS); (iv) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY); (v) Million Wells Scheme (MWS); and (vi) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). While the first five programmes are being implemented in the rural areas of the country the last one is urban poverty alleviation programme. The details of the programmes are given below :

i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) : IRDP is in operation in all the blocks of the country since 1980. It aims at providing self-employment to the identified rural poor through acquisition of productive assets and inputs which generate additional income on a sustained basis to enable them to cross the poverty line. Assistance is provided in the form of part subsidy by the Government and the remaining as term credit advanced by the financial institutions. Under this scheme Central funds are allocated to States/UTs on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country.

ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) : From April 1989, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) were merged and renamed as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). The main objective of JRY is the generation of additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed persons in the rural areas on public works which lead to the creation of rural economic infrastructure, community and social assets. Under this scheme Central funds are allocated to the States/UTs in proportion of rural poor in the State/UT to the total rural poor in the country. From States to the districts. The allocation of funds is made on the index of backwardness. Under this scheme, funds are allocated to Village panchayats, Intermediate panchayats and District level panchayats in the ratio of 70:15:15.

iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) : EAS was launched on 2nd October, 1993 in identified backward blocks. The scheme has since been universalised to cover all the rural blocks in the country with effect from 1.4.1997. The primary objective of EAS is to provide gainful employment during lean agricultural season in manual work to all able bodied adults in rural areas who are in need and desirous of work, but cannot find it. The secondary objective is the creation of economic infrastructure and community assets for sustained employment and development. The scheme is demand-driven with no fixed earmarking of annual funds for any district or block. Instead, initial notional allocations are made to districts at

the commencement of each year and thereafter depending on the demand for supplementary employment and the actual utilisation of funds the districts can request for additional funds.

(iv) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) : As a part of the efforts to meet housing needs of the rural poor, IAY was started in May 1985. This programme which was being implemented as a sub-scheme of JRY has now become an independent scheme with effect from 1.1.1996. The programme aims at providing dwelling units free of cost to the poor families living below the poverty line in rural areas. The criterion for allocation of IAY funds to various States and UTs is made on the incidence of poverty.

(v) Million Wells Scheme (MWS) : The MWS was launched as a sub-scheme of NREP/RLEGP during 1998-99. This scheme which was part of JRY, is now an independent scheme with effect from 1.1.1996. The objective of this scheme is to provide open irrigation wells, free of cost to small and marginal farmers who are below the poverty line. Where wells are not feasible due to geological factors other minor irrigation works can be undertaken such as irrigation tanks, water harvesting structures as also developments of lands belonging to small and marginal farmers. Construction of tubewells and borewells are not permitted under the programme. Under MWS, inter-State allocations are made on the incidence of poverty. Districtwise allocations are made by the States from their allocations with reference to the unirrigated land with potential of well irrigation and improvement of land held by the poor.

(vi) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) : SJSRY has been launched as a replacement for Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP) on December 1, 1997. This programme has two sub-schemes, namely, (i) Urban Self Employment Programme and (ii) Urban Wage Employment Programme. The self employment and wage employment component of the erstwhile Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP) has been reorganized under this single programme. The scheme gives a special impetus to empowering and uplifting the poor women and launches a special programme, namely Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas under which groups of urban poor women setting up self-employment ventures are eligible for subsidy upto 50% of the project cost.

(b) The information on funds released by the Government under these programmes during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is given in the enclosed Statement I and II.

(c) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy for reducing poverty : (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through basic minimum services; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes. While millions of persons have been assisted under these programmes leading to increase in their employment and income, no specific study has, so far, been made to access the actual contribution of these anti-poverty schemes in reducing poverty.



**Statement-I**  
**Yearwise Central Release (1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98)**  
(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. State/UT No.	JRY			IAY*			MWS*			EAS			IRDP		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1. Andhra Pr.	28746.57	14594.96	16685.84	11260.90	9603.38	3473.71	3473.71	3424.74	14550.00	20110.00	16740.00	5055.01	4834.33	5434.85	5434.85
2. Arunachal Pr.	243.58	103.88	102.06	159.82	103.21	20.45	20.45	22.89	1859.00	1701.00	1890.00	171.85	272.58	424.45	424.45
3. Assam	7719.76	3186.93	5524.15	3157.45	2931.07	1050.14	1050.14	1210.22	8020.00	10820.00	8592.00	1537.96	1304.77	1728.48	1728.48
4. Bihar	54418.13	22856.07	29322.77	15737.76	15130.72	4649.58	4649.58	4668.92	16230.00	21245.00	18234.00	3639.65	5378.67	4954.02	4954.02
5. Goa	284.87	116.88	104.38	71.82	51.46	19.26	19.26	10.50	0.00	80.00	140.00	50.97	49.03	53.97	53.97
6. Gujarat	11085.63	4419.33	5747.72	3308.95	3424.02	1154.16	1154.16	972.94	6970.00	5850.00	4320.00	1613.76	1716.26	2097.64	2097.64
7. Haryana	2988.62	1195.38	1624.75	698.28	758.55	213.61	213.61	180.63	3320.00	2680.00	2670.00	705.76	416.57	593.06	593.06
8. Himachal Pr.	977.02	388.12	403.46	269.16	467.78	89.72	89.72	96.34	450.00	1590.00	2550.00	152.90	113.74	225.68	225.68
9. J & K	2043.49	1199.75	974.62	1071.39	607.12	235.81	235.81	192.94	6740.00	3860.00	4760.00	362.44	299.37	499.90	499.90
10. Karnataka	19088.77	8873.18	10353.99	6883.89	5820.36	2108.51	2108.51	2040.45	10970.00	11560.00	10600.00	2883.11	2285.61	2542.58	2542.58
11. Kerala	7785.29	3286.60	3734.12	2351.03	2148.56	704.75	704.75	823.62	1850.00	2850.00	3989.00	1441.58	1121.46	1249.35	1249.35
12. Madhya Pr.	35283.66	15453.15	18977.15	11372.21	11695.62	3436.91	3436.91	3377.12	22940.00	22670.17	21507.85	6026.02	5671.15	5316.69	5316.69
13. Maharashtra	32701.36	14338.51	16816.09	7387.12	9968.74	3302.83	3302.83	3277.17	11460.00	6730.00	11334.51	3991.26	4717.02	4566.80	4566.80
14. Manipur	275.83	129.92	248.52	285.32	56.69	41.80	41.80	27.01	900.00	1080.00	810.00	100.08	232.39	206.72	206.72
15. Meghalaya	332.20	106.95	159.58	46.70	46.73	30.14	30.14	33.68	250.00	490.00	220.00	225.10	187.86	186.29	186.29
16. Mizoram	183.20	84.21	102.87	54.78	54.47	22.53	22.53	22.55	1200.00	1200.00	800.00	142.13	100.91	140.97	140.97
17. Nagaland	599.49	210.66	243.13	275.31	435.83	49.41	49.41	57.33	2080.00	2786.00	2100.00	311.24	136.00	208.71	208.71
18. Orissa	22017.83	10709.94	13421.32	7943.55	7443.57	1898.68	1898.68	2865.29	11460.00	16427.55	14721.58	3830.88	3375.19	3404.37	3404.37
19. Punjab	787.97	809.26	892.79	582.29	478.32	195.07	195.07	86.17	0.00	980.00	1840.00	202.80	281.80	484.23	484.23
20. Rajasthan	15060.74	7231.81	8351.86	4032.70	3888.40	1018.37	1018.37	1304.78	14030.00	10390.00	9265.00	1969.62	2205.74	2080.12	2080.12
21. Sikkim	442.52	81.37	96.78	27.42	41.21	17.36	17.36	20.87	330.00	220.00	220.00	76.99	33.43	49.92	49.92
22. Tamil Nadu	29419.48	12088.51	14564.38	9222.31	8708.09	2767.77	2767.77	3140.18	8410.00	14725.00	18720.00	2323.42	2930.16	4959.13	4959.13
23. Tripura	671.68	237.45	476.35	144.47	144.84	59.37	59.37	59.37	1560.00	2160.00	1440.00	387.70	531.87	429.01	429.01
24. Uttar Pr.	69536.78	32442.69	35894.15	23733.55	22995.15	6933.01	6933.01	7735.53	15560.00	21304.75	31448.06	11610.46	11011.03	10077.72	10077.72
25. West Bengal	25496.47	9564.86	9066.99	7688.93	4547.01	2705.25	2705.25	1736.71	9240.00	10170.00	7790.00	2555.00	1895.14	2383.83	2383.83
26. A & N Islands	151.14	42.21	50.70	28.26	47.27	10.55	10.55	0.00	40.00	0.00	80.00	7.49	51.94	41.70	41.70
27. D & N Haveli	93.92	44.57	50.22	27.86	11.63	11.07	11.07	5.73	30.00	60.00	30.00	7.49	14.99	31.13	31.13
28. Daman & Diu	59.28	26.99	16.21	7.54	7.49	3.38	3.38	0.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	13.98	13.98	28.91	28.91
29. Lakshadweep	86.70	21.16	25.41	11.83	0.00	5.29	5.29	5.29	100.00	140.00	0.00	4.08	6.99	17.78	17.78
30. Pondicherry	77.12	64.68	74.37	103.23	93.85	10.32	10.32	0.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	28.98	50.13	83.52	83.52
All India	368659.10	163909.98	194106.73	117925.83	111711.14	36238.81	36238.81	37398.97	170569.00	193959.47	196872.00	51422.22	51240.11	54501.53	54501.53

JRY - Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, IAY-Indira Awaas Yojana, MWS-Million Wells Scheme, EAS-Employment Assurance Scheme, IRDP-Integrated Rural Development Programme

\* IAY and MWS were delinked from JRY and made independent schemes from 1.1.1996. Release for IAY and MWS for 1995-96 is included under col. 3

## Statement-II

Central Release Made Under SJSRY for 1997-98

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl No.	State/UT	1997-98
1	Andhra Pradesh	839.66
2	Arunachal Pradesh	50.99
3	Assam	540.38
4	Bihar	506.09
5	Goa	20.94
6	Gujarat	521.86
7	Haryana	86.87
8	Himachal Pradesh	50.54
9	J & K	63.54
10	Karnataka	736.46
11	Kerala	202.99
12	Madhya Pradesh	927.18
13	Maharashtra	1402.22
14	Manipur	122.95
15	Meghalaya	73.24
16	Mizoram	69.63
17	Nagaland	53.33
18	Orissa	223.11
19	Punjab	68.33
20	Rajasthan	329.91
21	Sikkim	20.51
22	Tamil Nadu	919.56
23	Tripura	93.98
24	Uttar Pradesh	1181.03
25	West Bengal	518.63
26	A & N Islands	72.66
27	Chandigarh	48.42
28	D & N Haveli	12.50
29	Daman & Diu	50.05
30	Delhi	32.70
31	Pondicherry	22.66
Total		9862.92

SJSRY - Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana

## STD/ISD Booths

4088. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new STD/ISD Booths in Rural as well as in Urban Areas during current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Targets of STD PCOs during 1998-99 are given in the enclosed statement.

## Statement

Targets for STD Public Telephones for 1998-99

Sl. No.	Name of Circle/District	STD/ISD PCOs
1	2	3
1.	A & N	35
2.	A. P.	6000
3.	Assam	1500
4.	Bihar	6000
5.	Gujarat	4500
6.	Haryana	1715
7.	H. P.	750
8.	J & K	750
9.	Karnataka	6000
10.	Kerala	2250
11.	M. P.	6000
12.	Maharashtra	7500
13.	N. E.	750
14.	Orissa	900
15.	Punjab	3000
16.	Rajasthan	4500
17.	Tamil Nadu	7500
18.	U. P. (East)	7500
19.	U. P. (West)	4500
20.	West Bengal	4500

1	2	3
21.	Mumbai	4500
22.	Calcutta	5500
23.	Delhi	4500
24.	Chennai	3000
Total		93650

[Translation]

#### Expansion of Telecommunication Services

4089. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a provision under which an Indian Company cannot fill its tender for expansion of telecommunication services without collaborating with a multinational company;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of tenders accepted under this provision as on March 31, 1998, location-wise;

(d) the works yet to be executed and completed; and

(e) the names of Indian and Multinational Companies involved in the approved tenders and the names of

the countries to which these multinational companies belong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) Provisions were made in the tenders for Basic, Cellular Mobile Telephone and Radio Paging Service, that the bidding companies must have an experience as service providers for the respective service. The experience clause was provided to ensure the technical and operational capability of a bidder to run the particular service. Since none of the Indian Companies had such an experience, the Indian companies submitted bids for tenders in collaboration with foreign companies having the requisite experience.

(c) The information is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Out of six licensees for Basic Telephone Service, commercial service has been started by two companies in two circles viz., Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Out of the licensees for Cellular Service, commercial service has been started by all except by one each in Tamil Nadu and North East Circles. In the case of Radio Paging, commercial service has been started in all the major 27 cities. In the case of circles, the service has been started in 13 out of 19 circles.

(e) The information as required is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

##### *Details of Letters of Intent/Licenses Issued for Basic Telephone Service*

	Name of the Company	Circle for which LOI issued	Licence signed
1.	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	28-02-97
2.	M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd.	Gujarat	18-03-97
3.	M/s Hughes Ispat Ltd.	Maharashtra & Karnataka	30-09-97 (only for Mah. circle)
4.	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	04-11-97
5.	M/s Essar Commvision Ltd.	Punjab	07-11-97
6.	M/s Telcelink Network Ltd.	Rajasthan	04-03-98
7.	M/s Techno Telecom Ltd.	Bihar	—
8.	M/s HFCL Bezeq Telecom Ltd.	Delhi, Hayana, UP(W) & Orissa	—
9.	M/s Basic Teleservices Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	—

*Details of Service Areas (Metro Cities and Telecom Circles) and Licensee Companies for Cellular Mobile Services.*

Service Area	Name of the Company
<b>A. Metro Cities</b>	
Bombay	1. BPL Mobile Communicatins Ltd. 2. Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd.
Calcutta	1. Modi Telstra Pvt. Ltd. 2. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd.
Delhi	1. Bharti Cellular Ltd. 2. Sterling Cellular Ltd.
Madras	1. RPG Cellular Ltd. 2. Skycell Commns. P. Ltd.
<b>B. Territorial Telecom Circles</b>	
Circle	Name of the Company
1	2
Assam	1. Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Andhra Pradesh	1. J. T. Mobiles Ltd. 2. Tata Commns. Pvt. Ltd.
Bihar	1. Reliance Telecom Ltd. 2. Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
Gujarat	1. Birla AT&T Commn. Ltd 2. Fasel Ltd.
Haryana	1. Escotel Mobile Commn.

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	2. Aircel Digilink India Ltd. 1. Bharati Telenet Ltd. 2. Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Karnataka	1. Modicom Network P. Ltd. 2. JT Mobiles Ltd.
Kerala	1. Escotel Mobile Commn. P. Ltd. 2. BPL US West Cellular Ltd.
Madhya Pradesh	1. RPG Cellcom Ltd. 2. Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Maharashtra	1. Birla AT&T Commn. Ltd. 2. BPL US West Ltd.
North East	1. Reliance Telecom Ltd. 2. Hexacom India Ltd.
Orissa	1. Koshika Telecom P. Ltd. 2. Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Punjab	1. JT Mobiles Ltd. 2. Modicom Network Pvt. Ltd.
Rajasthan	1. Hexacom India Ltd. 2. Aircel Digilink I. Ltd.
Tamil Nadu	1. BPL US West Cellular Ltd. 2. Srinivas Cellcom Ltd.
UP (West)	1. Escotel Mobile Comm. P. Ltd. 2. Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
UP (East)	1. Koshika Telecom P. Ltd. 2. Aircel Digilink I. Ltd.
West Bengal	1. Reliance Telecom Ltd.

*Note The license agreement in this case was signed subsequent to 31-3-98*

*List of the Companies Who have signed the Licence Agreement for Radio Paging Service in 27 Cities*

Sl. No	Name of the Company	Cities
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Page Point Services (India) Pvt. Ltd. 29, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay-400023	Bombay, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad
2.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd. Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri- Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Bombay-400072	Pune, Rajkot, Vadodara, Surat, Bombay
3.	M/s. Telesistem (India) Pvt. Ltd. 23/1, Xlth Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052	Madras, Ernakulam, Trivandrum, Bangalore Coimbatore, Madurai

1	2	3
4.	M/s. Easy Call Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. LB/5, Ansal Bhawan, 16 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001	Calcutta, Nagpur, Bhopal, Hyderabad Patna, Indore, Vishakhapatnam
5.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd. M-7, Commercial Complex, Greater Kailash Part II, New Delhi - 110048	Bombay, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Rajkot
6.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. 44 Bm Nariuman Bhawan, Nariman Point, Bombay - 400021	Delhi, Delhi, Jaipur, Varanasi, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Chandigarh, Kanpur
7.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., Ground Floor, Ghatala Towers, 19 Avenue Road, Nungambakkam, Madras-600034	Madurai, Ernakulam, Coimbatore, Vishakhapatnam, Rajkot, Indore, Jaipur
8.	M/s. BPL System and Projects Ltd., 64 Church Street, Bangalore-560001	Ernakulam, Trivandrum
9.	* M/s. Hutchison Max. Telecom, 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi- 110019	Ahmedabad, Pune, Chandigarh, Hyderabad Bangalore, Vadodara, Ludhiana
10.	M/s. RPG Paging Services Ltd., Sangam Cinema Complex, Sector IX, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022	Delhi, Ahmedabad, Madras.
11.	M/s. Modi Korea Telecommunications Ltd., 210, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase III, New Delhi - 110020	Madras, Chandigarh, Indore, Kanpur Jaipur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Calcutta
12.	M/s. DSS Mobile Communications Ltd. C-22, Safdarjung Development Area, New Delhi - 110016	Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore, Kanpur Madras, Delhi, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad Lucknow, Pune
13.	M/s. Weston Pagers Pvt. Ltd. 9, Commercial Complex, Masjid Moth, Greater Kailash II, New Delhi 110048	Kanpur, Jaipur, Vadodara, Trivandrum, Nagpur, Surat, Chandigarh, Rajkot, Lucknow Vishakhapatnam
14.	M/s. Beltron Telecommunications Ltd., J-189, People's Cooperative Lohiagar, Patna-800020	Patna, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Nagpur, Surat, Varanasi
15.	M/s. Telecom. Informatic (I) Pvt. Ltd. Usha House, B-2/100, Mohan Co-op. Indl. Estate, Delhi-Mathura Road, Badarpur, New Delhi-110044	Bhopal, Coimbatore, Patna
16.	M/s. Netherlands India Communications Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. A-18, Shivalik, New Delhi 110017	Nagpur, Bhopal
17.	M/s. Punwire Paging Services Ltd., B-53, Phase VI, SAS Nagpur, Chandigarh- 160055	Amritsar
18.	M/s. Elder PWI Paging Services Ltd., SCO 147-148, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh-160018	Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi
19.	M/s. Elder PWI Communications Ltd SCO 147-148, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh-160018	Madras, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Pune Chandigarh, Vadodra, Jaipur, Ernakulam.

**List of Radio Paging Companies who have  
Licence Agreement for Telecom Circles**

S. No.	Name of the Company	Circles
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd., Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri - Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Bombay- 400072	Andaman & Nicobar
2.	M/s. Telesistem (India) Pvt. Ltd., 23/1, Xith Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052	Orissa
3.	M/s. Easy Call Communicatins (India) Pvt. Ltd., LB/5, Ansal Bhawan, 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001	North East, Orissa, West Bengal
4.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd. M-7, Commercial Complex, Greater Kailash Part II, New Delhi - 110048	North East, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh
5.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. 44 B, Nariman Bhavan, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021	Jammu & Kashmir

1	2	3
6.	M/s. Modi Korea Telecommunications Ltd., 210, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase III, New Delhi - 110020	West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
7.	M/s. Netherlands India Communications Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. A-18, Shivalk, New Delhi 110017	Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Assam
8.	M/s. Punwire Paging Services Ltd., B-53, Phase VI. SAS Nagar, Chandigarh-160055	Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana
9.	M/s. BPL Wireless Telecommunications Services Pvt. Ltd. 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore-560001	Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala
10.	M/s. Punwire Mobile Comm. Ltd., Udyog Bhawan, Sector-17, Chandigarh-160017	Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan T.N./M.P.,
11.	M/s. Hutchison Max. Telecom, 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Palace, New Delhi- 110019	Punjab

**Statement-II**

**Details of Indian and Foreign of Basic Service Companies**

Name of the Company	Name of the Indian Partner	Name of the Foreign Partner
1	2	3
Hughes Ispat Ltd.	Ispat Industries Ltd., Golden Agent Pvt. Ltd. Ritambra Agents Pvt. Ltd.	Hughes Electronic, Corpn; USA, Altel, USA Kellerton BVI First HNS (Mauritius Atel (Mauritius) Holding Inc
Reliance Telecom Ltd.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	Nynex Internation (India) Ltd. Mauritius Any or a combination of FII/FFIs/ Multilateral agencies/other foreign investors
Telelink Network (India) Ltd.	Shyam Telecom Ltd.	Harris Inc; USA M/s Lintech Ltd; Hong Kong
Bharti Telenet Ltd.	Bharti Telecom & Associates Bharti Televentures Ltd.	STET International Netherland NV STET Internation SPA, Italy
Essar Comvission Ltd.	Essar Investment Ltd. Esasr Steel Ltd. Essar Telecom Ltd.	Bell Atlantic Offshore Mauritius Ltd. Mauritius Asian Pacific Infrastructure Ltd. Mauritius
Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Tata Industries Ltd. Tata Iron & Steel Co.Ltd. Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co. Ltd. Tata Chemicals Ltd.	Bell Canada International Inc. Canada Bell Canada International (Mauritius) AIG (Mauritius) LIC

1	2	3
Basic Teleservices Ltd.	Seven Companies of RPG Group	NTT Japan and Itochu Corp'n. Japan
Techno Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Four Companies of Usha Group	Moscow Local Telephone Network Russia NRI Consortium
HFCL Bezeq Telecom Ltd.	HFCL KJMC Financial Services Ltd. Kotak Mahindra Finance Ltd.	Bezeq Israel (Israel Telecom Corp'n. Ltd.) Israel Shinawatra International Public Company Ltd. Thailand

*List of Foreign Partners of Cellular Mobile Operators  
at the time of Bidding-Telecom Circles*

Sl. No.	Name of the Bidder Company	Indian Promoters	Foreign Promoters
1	2	3	4
1.	Aircel Difilink India Ltd.	Streling Computers Ltd.	Swiss PTT Switzerland Nepostel Consultancy B.V.
2.	Fascel Ltd.	Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. Kotak Mahindra Finance Ltd.	Bezeq, Israel Shinawatra International Public Co. Ltd. Thailand
3.	Hexacom India Ltd.	Shyam Telecom Ltd. Telecommunications Consultant India Ltd	Mobile Telecommunications Co Kuwait) PCM Partnership, USA Ali & Fouad M.T. Kuwait
4.	JT Mobiles Ltd.	Sanmar Electronics Corp. Ltd United Telecom Ltd. Parasrampur Credit & Investment Ltd.	Telia AB Swedin Telephone Organisation of Thailand Jasmine Int. Public Co. Ltd. Thailand
5.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Usha India Ltd. Gordan Herbert (India) Ltd. Verren Financial Service Ltd. Holding & General Finance Co (I) Pvt. Ltd.	Phillipino Telephone Co Phillipines NRI Consortium
6.	Tata Communications Pvt. Ltd	Tata Industries Ltd. Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd.	Bell Canada Intl. Inc., Canada
7.	Escotel Mobile Communications Pvt. Ltd.	Escorts Ltd.	First Pacific Co. Ltd., Hongkong
8.	BPL US West Cellular Telecom SVCS. P. Ltd.	BPL Ltd. BPL Cellular Holding Pvt. Ltd. BPL Refrigeration Ltd. BPL Engineering Ltd.	US West Cellular Investment Co. Ltd.
9.	Bharti Telenet Ltd.	Bharti Telecom Ltd. Apex Enterprises (I) Ltd.	STET International, Italy. STET Intl. Nehterland Ltd.
10.	Birla AT&T Communications Ltd	Hindalco Industries Ltd. Grasim Industries Ltd. Indian Rayon and Industries Ltd. Indo Gulf Fertilisers and Chem. Corp. Ltd.	MCCAW Cellular Comm. Inc. (Via AT&T Cell.) AT&T Intl. (via AT&T Cell P. Ltd)
11.	Cellular Communications India Ltd. (Now RPG Cellcom Ltd.	PRG Telecom Ltd. Harrison Malyalam Ltd. Kec Intl Ltd RPG Mobile Ltd.	Airtouch Intl Inc.

1	2	3	4
12.	Modicom Network Pvt. Ltd.	Modi Mellvest Pvt. Ltd.	Vanguard Cellular Systems Inc., USA (USA)Telecom Intl. Co.Ltd.
13.	Reliance Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	Nynex Intl. (India) Ltd. Mauritius
14.	Srinivas Cellcom Ltd .	Srinivas Computers Ltd.	Century Telephone Enterprises Inc., USA Redington PTE Ltd., Singapore

*Details of Indians and Foreign Partners of Cellular Mobile Service at the Time of Bidding-Metro Cities*

Name of the Bidder Company	Indian Promoters	Foreign Promoters
1. Modi Telestra (Earlier name Indian Telecom P. Ltd)	Modi Rubber Ltd. India Indian MGT, Advisor Ind. Modi Holding, India Fine Instt. Pvt. Ltd. Ind.	OTC, Australia
2. Sterling Cellular Ltd.	Sterling Computers Ind.	Cellular Commn, Intl. U.S.A
3. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd.	Usha Martin Industries	Telecom Malayasia, Malaysia
4. Hutchison Max Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Max India Ltd.	Hutchison Whampoa L
5. Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Bharti Telecom, India	EMTEL Ltd. Mauritius SFR France (General Mobile Co. U.K.Mobile SYS UK International Finance Group of NRI's
6. BPL Systems & Project Ltd.	Group of 9 BPL Cos.	LCC. INC. USA, France Telecom, France
7. RPG Cellular Ltd. (Earlier name Mobile Telecom Services Ltd).	Ceat Ltd., India Others, India	Vodafone Group PLC, U.K. Mistubishi Copr, Japan.
8. Skycell Communications (P) Ltd.	Cromton Greaves Ltd. DSS Enterprises	Bell South Intl. USA Milicom International Luxemborg

*Details of Indian and Foreign Partners for Radio Paging*

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Name of Indian Promoter	Name of foreign Promoter
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Page Point Services (India) Pvt.Ltd. 29, Bank Street,Fort, Mumbai-400023	Arya Comm & Electronic Services Pvt. Ltd.	Motroola International Paging Inc. USA
2.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd. Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Mumbai 400072	Technicom System (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Matrix Telecom Ltd. Australia
3.	M/s. Telesistem (India) Pvt. Ltd. 23/1, Xith Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052	National Telecom India Ltd.	Telesistem SDN BHD, Malaysia



1	2	3	4
4.	M/s. Easy Call Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. LB/5, Ansal Bhavan 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001	Sigma Comm. Ltd.	Easycall Communications Phillipines Inc. Phillipines
5.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd., M-7, Commercial Complex, Greater Kailash Part II, New Delhi -110048	1. Himachal Futuristic Comm. Ltd. 2. MKJ Group of Industries	1. Shinawatra International Co. Ltd. Thailand 2. Silicon Valley Hingkong
6.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. 44-B, Nariman Bhavan, Nariman Point, Mumbai-400021	Teledata Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	ABC Communications Ltd. Hongkong
7.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd. Ground Floor, Ghatala Towers, 19. Avenue Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600034	Usha Martin Industries Ltd.	Telecom Malaysia BHD Malaysia Others
8.	M/s. BPL Systems & Projects Ltd. 64, Church Street, Bangalore-560001	BPL Systems & Projects Ltd.	1. France Telecom: Mobile Int. France: 2. LCC Inc. USA
9.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019	Max India Ltd. (1. Max Telecom Venture Ltd. 2. Liquid Investment & Trading Co. 3. Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd.)	Hutchison Telecom Ltd. Hong Kong 1. Hutchison Telecom (India) Ltd. Mauritius 2. Foreign Investors through ADR offering
10.	M/s. RPG Paging Services Ltd. Sangam Cinema Complex, Sector-IX, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022	Karnataka Telecables Ltd.	1. NIT International Corporation, Japan 2. ITOCHU Corporation, Japan
11.	M/s. Modi Korea Telecommunications Ltd. 210, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase-III New Delhi-110020	Modi Enterprises	1. Nynex Network System Co USA. 2. Korea Telecom, Korea 3. Samsung Electronic Co. Ltd. Korea
12.	M/s. DSS Mobile Communications Ltd. 210, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase-III, New Delhi	Dalmia Group of Companies	1. Steamer Telecommunications, Singapore. 2. Electroms, SDN BDH, Malaysia 3. Korea Mobile Telecom, Korea 4. Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. Korea
13.	M/s. Weston Pagers Pvt. Ltd. 9, Commercial Complex, Masjid Moth, Greater Kailash-II New Delhi-110048	Weston Electronics Ltd.	Harilela Kantone Telecom Ltd. Hongkong.
14.	M/s. Beltron Telecommunication Ltd., J-189, People's Cooperative Lohlangar Patna-800020	Beltron Telecommunications Ltd.	IMS Inc. USA

1	2	3	4
15.	M/s. Telecom. Informatic (I) Pvt. Ltd. Usha House. B-2/100, Mohan Co-op. Indl. Estate, Delhi-Mathura Road Badarpur, New Delhi-110044	Usha (India) Ltd. and Associates	1. Philippine Wireless Inc. Philippines Inc. Philippines 2. DCK Consortium, USA
16.	M/s. Netherlands India Communications Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., A-18, Shivalik, New Delhi-110017	SM Electronics and Services Ltd.	PTT Telecom, Netherlands
17.	M/s. Punwire Paging Services Ltd., B-53, Phase VI, SAS Nagar, Chandigarh- 160055	Punjab Wireless System Ltd. Associates	Telia Intl. Sweden
18.	M/s. Eider PWI Paging Services Ltd. SCO 147-148, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh-160018	Eider Electronics Industries Ltd.	Philippines Wireless Inc. Philippines
19.	M/s. Eider PWI Communications Ltd. SCO 147-148, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh-160018	Eider Telecom Ltd.	Philippines Wireless Inc. Philippines

*Details of Indian & Foreign Partners for Radio Paging Service Circles*

SI No.	Name of Company	Name of Indian Promoter	Name of Foreign Promoter
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd. Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri Kurla Road, Sakinaka, Mumbai-400072	Technicom System (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Matrix Telecom Ltd. Australia
2.	M/s. Telesistem (India) Pvt. Ltd. 23/1, Xlth Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052	National Telecom of India Ltd.	Telesistem SDN BHD, Malaysia
3.	M/s. Easy Call Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. LB/5, Ansal Bhavan, 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001	Sigma Comm. Ltd.	Easycall Communications Philippines Inc. Philippines
4.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd., M-7, Commercial Complex, Greater Kailash Part II, New Delhi -110001	1. Himachal Futuristic Comm. Ltd. 2. MKJ Group of Industries	1. Shinawatra International Co. Ltd. Thailand 2. Silicon Valley Hingkong
5.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd. 44-B, Nariman Bhavan, Nariman Point, Mumbai-400021	Teledata Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	ABC Communications Ltd. Hongkong
6.	M/s. Modi Korea Telecommunications Ltd., 210, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase-II, New Delhi- 110020	Modi Enterprises	1. Nynex Network System Co. USA. 2. Korea Telecom, Korea 3. Samsung Electronic Co. Ltd. Korea 4. Seoul Mobile Telecom Corp. Ltd., Korea

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. Netherlands India Communications Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. A-18, Shivalik, New Delhi-110017	SM Electronics and Services Ltd.	PTT Telecom Netherlands
8.	M/s. Punwire Paging Services Ltd., B-53, Phase-VI, SAS Nagar, Chandigarh- 160055	Punjab Wireless System Ltd. & Associates	1. Telecom Denmark, Denmark 2. Telia Intl. Sweden.
9.	M/s. BPL Wireless Telecommunications Services Pvt. Ltd. 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore-560001	BPL Group of Companies	1. Telecom Denmark, Denmark 2. Telia Intl. Sweden
10.	M/s. Punwire Mobile Comm. Ltd. Udyog Bhavan, Sector-17, Chandigarh-160017	Punjab Wireless Ltd. & Associates	1. Beep-a-call, Israel 2. Digital Telecom, USA
11.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019	Max India Ltd.	Hutchison Telecom Ltd. Hongkong

[Translation]

#### Construction of A Dam

4090. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent by the Union Government on Jewar, Yakudpur and Hamidpur dam constructed across the Yamuna River near Khurja in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years so far;

(b) whether the Government propose the release special fund for the construction of another dam in the said area;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) No Detail Project Reports for these projects have been received in Central Water Commission for appraisal.

#### Border Area Development Programme in Kutch

4091. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kutch in Gujarat has been brought under the Border Area Development Programme;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted adopted for inclusion of this district in the programme;

(c) whether the Union Government have recieved any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for seeking funds for Border Area Development Programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the works to be undertaken under the programme in Kutch during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(f) the details of the projects implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the funds allocated during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is in operation in the border blocks of States bordering Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Hence, the border blocks of Kutch district of Gujarat which have international border with Pakistan are covered under the programme.

(c) and (d) Under this programme, the allocations for a particular year are communicated to the State Government. The State Level Screening Committee decides the schemes to be taken up under the programme. No proposal has been recieved from the State Government for seeking additional funds under BADP

(e) and (f) Funds are released to the State Government which makes further spatial and schematic allocations. During the Eighth Plan the State Government has

reported that schemes in sectors such as health, water supply, electrification, roads, irrigation, security related schemes etc. were taken up. During the Ninth Plan the State Government is taking up construction of school buildings, schemes for sports and youth services and social welfare, in addition to the schemes taken up during the Eighth Plan. During the current financial year 1998-99, an allocation of Rs. 8.88 crore has been made to Gujarat under BADP.

#### Unirrigated Land in Bihar

4092. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total unirrigated land in Bihar at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the additional irrigation facility likely to be made available at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan in the State;

(c) the number of major and medium pending irrigation projects of the State are likely to be completed till the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the progress made so far on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) As per Land Use Statistics for the year 1995-96 (latest) brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Net Irrigated Area in Bihar is 3680 thousand hectares out of Net Sown Area of 7321 thousand hectares leaving about 3641 thousand hectares of land as unirrigated.

(b) the target for creation of irrigation potential in the State of Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan is 697.25 thousand hectares.

(c) and (d) Details of non-going Major and Medium irrigation projects of Bihar likely to be completed by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan and progress made on these projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*Details of Ongoing Major and Medium Project of Bihar Likely to be Completed During Ninth Plan and Progress Thereof*

During Ninth Plan and Progress Achieved							
Sl. No.	Name of Project	Ninth Plan Outlay	Expenditure		Creation of irrigation potential (in thousand hectares)		
			Upto 3/97	During 97-98 Provisional	Upto the end of Eighth Plan	during 1997-98 (provisional)	1998-99 (targets)
Major Projects							
1.	Bansagar (Inter-State Project)	180.00	57.96	3.50	—	—	—
Medium Projects							
1.	Batane	10.00	30.18	0.72	6.38	—	—
2.	Bilasi	6.50	13.19	4.25	—	—	4.00
3.	Katri	13.00	26.55	6.40	—	—	4.97
4.	Orni	13.50	33.49	5.83	5.50	—	4.10
5.	Sakrigali	1.50	9.39	1.41	—	2.60	—
6.	Surangi	14.00	13.21	1.72	—	—	—
7.	Tarai	46.00	20.42	1.66	—	—	—

12.19 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha reassembled at nineteen minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

*At this Stage Shri Shailendra Kumar, Dr. Shafiur, Rahman Barq and some hon-Member came and stood on the floor near the table.*

*At this stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary and Prof. Jogendra Kawade came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. I will hear you.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will hear whatever hon. Members want to say. Please go to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will listen to your point, please go to your seat.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. I will hear you.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will listen to you, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1400 hours.

12.23 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock*

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha reassembled at one minute  
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR SPEAKER in the Chair)

14.02 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav and some  
other hon. Members came and stood on  
the floor near the Table.*

....(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

### (I) Notification Under Aircraft Act, 1934

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

A copy of the Aircraft (1st Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in notification No. G.S.R. 182 in Gazette of India dated the 12th September 1998, under section 12A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2148/98]

### (ii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Centre for the Development of Glass Industry Firozabad for the year 1997-98 etc.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Center for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2149/98]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, under sub-section (3) of section 23 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2150/98]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 24, of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act 1956.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Khadi and

Village Industries Commission for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2151/98]

**(iii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd. for the year 1997-98 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Rama Krishna Hedge, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2152/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2153/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of working of the Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2154/98]

**(iv) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of National Building Construction Corporation Ltd. New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Ram Jethmalani, I beg to lay on the table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd., New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2155/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2156/98]

**(v) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 etc.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2157/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2158/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2159/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and training, New Delhi for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2160/98]

**(vi) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the workings of Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for the year 1997-98 etc.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, on behalf of Shri P. R. Kumaramangalam, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2161/98]

**(vii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the Working of Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Nitish Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rail India Technical and Economic Service Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rail India Technical and Economic Service Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2162/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2163/98]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Container Corporation Of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2164/98]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railways Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Railways Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2165/98]

**(viii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98 etc.**

, THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2166/98]

**(ix) Notifications under Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing) Commodities Act, 1987 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1076 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1998 directing that the commodities mentioned therein shall be packed in Jute packaging material, for supply or distribution, in such minimum percentage as specified therein with effect from the 15th December, 1998 issued under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing) Commodities Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2167/98]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) A Review by the Government of the working of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2168/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2169/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2170/98]

**(ixA) Notifications under Customs Act, 1962.**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-
- (i) G.S.R. 384 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (ii) G.S.R.390 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 1998 making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98- Customs, dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (iii) G.S.R.419 (E) — published in Gazette of



- India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum containing effective rates of special additional duty on various goods mentioned therein.
- (iv) G.S.R.420 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt motor spirit commonly known as petrol when imported into India from so much of the additional duty leviable thereon.
- (v) G.S.R.421 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind certain notifications mentioned therein.
- (vi) G.S.R.566 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to kerosene imported by a manufacturer of linear alkyl benzene for the purpose of extracting N-Paraffin from such Kerosene from the whole of the duty of Customs leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.
- (vii) G.S.R.567 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (viii) G.S.R.592 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (ix) G.S.R.604 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional antidumping duties in Calcium Carbide originating in or exported from China and Romania.
- (x) G.S.R.607 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (xi) G.S.R.608 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose safeguard duties on all imports of Carbon Black at the rate of 10% upto 28th February, 1999.
- (xii) G.S.R.625 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (xiii) G.S.R.652 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the whole of the basic custom duty leviable on pulses.
- (xiv) G.S.R.659 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (xv) G.S.R.661 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (xvi) G.S.R.363 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 23/98-Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (xvii) G.S.R.364 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 12/97-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1997.
- (xviii) G.S.R.365 (E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 34/98-Cus., dated the 13th June, 1998.
- (xix) G.S.R.343(E) — published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to supersede notification No. 29/98-

Cus., dated the 2nd June, 1998, so as to exempt special additional customs duty on goods imported under specified export promotion schemes.

- (xx) G.S.R.344 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to reduce the general effective rate of special additional custom duty from 8% ad valorem to 4% ad valorem.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2171/98]

- (2) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

- (i) G.S.R.355 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 24th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 05/98-CE., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (ii) G.S.R.422 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 05/98-CE., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (iii) G.S.R.423 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind certain notifications mentioned therein.
- (iv) G.S.R.424 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to define for the purposes of classification under chapter 48 of the schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (v) G.S.R.664 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 05/98-CE., dated the 2nd June, 1998.
- (vi) G.S.R.555 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 9/96-CE., dated the 23rd July, 1998.

- (vii) G.S.R.493 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 12th August, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to all goods produced or manufactured in a 100% Export Oriented Unit or a free trade Zone or a Electronic Hardware Technology Park or a Software Technology Park unit and allowed to be sold in domestic tariff area from so much of duty of excise leviable thereon.

- (viii) G.S.R.568 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 05-98-CE., dated the 2nd June, 1998.

- (ix) G.S.R.587 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 05-98-CE., dated the 2nd June, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2172/98]

- (3) A copy of 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.359 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose anti-dumping duties on Isobutyl Benzene imported into India from Peoples Republic of China at the rate of Rs. 12,465 per metric tonne.
- (ii) G.S.R.360 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 134/95-Cus., dated the 31st August, 1998.
- (iii) G.S.R.371 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duties on Polystyrene imported from Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Taiwan and Japan.
- (iv) G.S.R.408 (E) – published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duties

on Vitamin C imported into India, and originating in or exported from Japan and China at specified rates recommended by the designated Authority.

- (v) G.S.R.644 (E) - published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose anti-dumping duties on metallurgical coke originating in or exported from China P.R. and imported into India.
- (vi) G.S.R.645 (E) - published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 22/98-Cus., dated the 6th May, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2173/98]

- (4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 624 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in the Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1998 regarding exemption from the whole of service tax the taxable service, other than certain services mentioned therein provided by a practising chartered accountant, practising company secretary or a practising cost accountant to a client in his professional capacity, issued under section 93 of the Finance Act, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2174/98]

- (5) A copy of the Regional Rural Banks (Appointment and Promotion of Officers and Other Employees) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 642(E) in the Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 29 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 1073(E) dated the 15th December, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2175/98]

- (6) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Regulations, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 81(1)/INS -II/97 in the Gazette of India dated the 9th May, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. F. No. 81(1)/INS -II/97 dated the 12th December, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2176/98]

- (7) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Bank for the year ended on

the 31st March, 1998, together with Auditor's Report thereon:-

- (i) Basti Gramin Bank, Basti (Uttar Pradesh)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2177/98]
- (ii) Ka Bank Nongkyndong Ri Khasi, Jaintia, Shillong (Meghalaya)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2178/98]
- (iii) Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank, Pasighat (Arunachal Pradesh)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2179/98]
- (iv) Sri Visakha Grameena Bank, Sirkakulam, (Andhra Pradesh)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2180/98]
- (v) Balia Kshetriya Gramin Bank Ballia (Uttar Pradesh)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2181/98]
- (vi) Mizoram Rural Bank, Aizawl (Mizoram)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2182/98]
- (vii) Gaur Gramin Bank, Malda (West Bengal)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2183/98]
- (viii) Aurangabad Jalna Gramin Bank, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2184/98]
- (ix) Mallabhum Gramin Bank, Bankura (West Bengal)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2185/98]
- (x) Manipur Rural Bank, Imphal (Manipur)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2186/98]
- (xi) Nadia Gramin Bank, Krishnagar (West Bengal)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2187/98]
- (xii) Subansiri Goanlia Bank, North Lakhimpur, (Assam)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2188/98]
- (xiii) Cachar Gramin Bank, Silchar (Assam)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2189/98]
- (xiv) Giridih Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Giridih (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2190/98]

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| <p>(xv) Chandrapur Gadchiroli Gramin Bank, Chandrapur (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2191/98]</p> <p>(xvi) Nimar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Khargone (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2192/98]</p> <p>(xvii) Bhandra Gramin Bank, Bhandra (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2193/98]</p> <p>(xviii) Dewas Shajapur Kshetriya Gramin Bank (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2194/98]</p> <p>(xix) Ratangiri Sindhudurg Gramin Bank, Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2195/98]</p> <p>(xx) Rajgarh Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sehore (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2196/98]</p> <p>(xxi) Indore Ujjain Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ujjain (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2197/98]</p> <p>(xxii) Barabanki Gramin Bank, Barabanki (U.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2198/98]</p> <p>(xxiii) Solapur Gramin Bank, Solapur (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2199/98]</p> <p>(xxiv) Singhbhum Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chaibasa (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2200/98]</p> <p>(xxv) Avadh Gramin Bank, Lucknow (U.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2201/98]</p> <p>(xxvi) Baitarani Gramin Bank, Baripada (Orissa)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2202/98]</p> <p>(xxvii) Farrukhabad Gramin Bank, Farrukhabad (U.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2203/98]</p> <p>(xxviii) Jammu Rural Bank, Jammu (J &amp; K)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2204/98]</p> <p>(xxix) Begusarai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Begusarai (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2205/98]</p> | <p>(xxx) Howrah Gramin Bank, Howrah (West Bengal)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2206/98]</p> <p>(xxxi) Bhagalpur Banka Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhagalpur (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2207/98]</p> <p>(xxxii) Balasore Gramya Bank, Balasore (Orissa)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2208/98]</p> <p>(xxxiii) Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Narsinghpur (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2209/98]</p> <p>(xxxiv) Thar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2210/98]</p> <p>(xxxv) Bardhaman Gramin Bank, Burdwan (West Bengal)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2211/98]</p> <p>(xxxvi) Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Munger (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2212/98]</p> <p>(xxxvii) Jaipur Nagaur Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jaipur (Rajasthan)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2213/98]</p> <p>(xxxviii) Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack (Orissa)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2214/98]</p> <p>(xxxix) Durg Rajnandgaon Gramin Bank, Rajnandgaon (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2215/98]</p> <p>(xl) Kutch Gramin Bank, Bhuj (Gujarat)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2216/98]</p> <p>(xli) Banaskantha Mehsana Gramin Bank, Patan (Gujarat)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2217/98]</p> <p>(xlii) Sabarkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank, Himatnagar (Gujarat)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2218/98]</p> <p>(xliii) Golconda Grameena Bank, Hyderabad (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2219/98]</p> <p>(xliv) Sri Sathavahana Grameena Bank, Karimnagar (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2220/98]</p> |
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| <p>(xlv) Sri Rama Grameena Bank, Nizamabad (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2221/98]</p> <p>(xlvi) Sri Saraswathi Grameena Bank, Adilabad (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2222/98]</p> <p>(xlvii) Chaitanya Grameena Bank, Tenali (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2223/98]</p> <p>(xlviii) Rushikulya Gramya Bank, Berhampur (Orissa)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2224/98]</p> <p>(xlix) Godavari Grameena Bank, Rajahmundry (A.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2225/98]</p> <p>(l) Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Gopalganj (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2226/98]</p> <p>(li) Ratlam Mandsaur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandsaur (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2227/98]</p> <p>(lii) Gwalior Datia Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Datia (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2228/98]</p> <p>(liii) Yavatmal Gramin Bank, Yavatmal (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2229/98]</p> <p>(liv) Surguja Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ambikapur (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2230/98]</p> <p>(lv) Saran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chapra (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2231/98]</p> <p>(lvi) Buldhana Gramin Bank, Buldhana (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2232/98]</p> <p>(lvii) Shahdol Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahdol (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2233/98]</p> | <p>(lviii) Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Siwan (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2234/98]</p> <p>(lix) Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kota (Rajasthan)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2235/98]</p> <p>(lx) Akola Gramin Bank, Akola (Maharashtra)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2236/98]</p> <p>(lxi) Chambal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Morena (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2237/98]</p> <p>(lxii) Madhubani Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Madhubani (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2238/98]</p> <p>(lxiii) Mandla Balaghat Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandla (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2239/98]</p> <p>(lxiv) Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshangabad (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2240/98]</p> <p>(lxv) Chhindwara Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chhindwara (M.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2241/98]</p> <p>(lxvi) Mithila Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Darbhanga (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2242/98]</p> <p>(lxvii) Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Etawah (U.P.)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2243/98]</p> <p>(lxviii) Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2244/98]</p> <p>(lxix) Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Purnea (Bihar)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2245/98]</p> <p>(lxx) Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank, Diphu (Assam)<br/>[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2246/98]</p> |
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- (lxxi) Alaknanda Gramin Bank, Pauri Garhwal (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2247/98]
- (lxxii) Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Samastipur (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2248/98]
- (lxxiii) Ganga Yamuna Gramin Bank, Dehradun (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2249/98]
- (lxxiv) Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raigarh (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2250/98]
- (lxxv) Nagarjuna Gramin Bank, Khammam (A.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2251/98]
- (lxxvi) Koraput Panchabati Gramya Bank, Jeypore (Orissa)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2252/98]
- (lxxvii) Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bilaspur (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2253/98]
- (lxxviii) Damoh Panna Sagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Damoh (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2254/98]
- (lxxix) Shivpuri Guna Gramin Bank, Shivpuri (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2255/98]
- (lxxx) Krishna Gramin Bank, Gulbarga (Karnataka)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2256/98]
- (lxxxi) Kalahandi Anchalika Gramya Bank, Bhawanipatan (Orissa)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2257/98]
- (lxxxii) Sangameshwara Grameena Bank, Mahbubnagar (A.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2258/98]
- (lxxxiii) Parvatiya Gramin Bank, Chamba (Himachal Pradesh)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2259/98]
- (lxxxiv) Bolangir Anchalik Gramya Bank, Bolangir (Orissa)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2260/98]
- (lxxxv) Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Gorakhpur (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2261/98]
- (lxxxvi) Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Tikamgarh (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2262/98]
- (lxxxvii) Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2263/98]
- (lxxxviii) Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank, Dumka (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2264/98]
- (lxxxix) Kshetriya Grameena Bank, Hanamkonda (A.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2265/98]
- (xc) Palmau Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Daltonganj (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2266/98]
- (xci) Manjira Grameena Bank, Sangareddy (A.P.)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2267/98]
- (xcii) Nagaland Rural Bank, Kohima (Nagaland)  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2268/98]
- (8) A copy of the Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coins) of the One Hundred Rupees (containing Silver 50%, Copper 40%, Nickel 5% and Zinc 5%) Fifty Rupees, Ten Rupees and Two Rupees (containing Copper 75% and Nickel 25%) Coined in the Memory of "SRI AUROBINDO" Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 696 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 1998 under sub-section 3 of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2269/98]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, along with Audited Accounts.  
(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2270/98]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Development Bank of India, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section 5 of section 18 and 23 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Industrial Development Bank of India, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2271/98]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Small Industrial Development Bank of India, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section 5 of section 30 of the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Small Industrial Development Bank of India, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2272/98]

**(x) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Indian Nursing Council New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2273/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2274/98]

**(xi) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the working of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. for the year 1997-98.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2275/98]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2276/98]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2277/98]

- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2278/98]

- (e) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2279/98]

- (f) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2280/98]

- (g) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Sambhar Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Sambhar Salts Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2281/98]

- (h) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Tyre Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Tyre Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2282/98]

- (i) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2283/98]

- (j) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) of item (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2284/98]

- (xii) A copy of Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on assurance given by Ministers during 10th, 11th and 12th Lok Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during various sessions of Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabha:-

#### **Tenth Lok Sabha**

1. Statement No. XXXVIII Third Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2285/98]
2. Statement No. XXXV Fourth Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2286/98]
3. Statement No. XXV Ninth Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2287/98]
4. Statement No. XXI Eleventh Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2288/98]
5. Statement No. XIX Twelfth Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2289/98]
6. Statement No. XVII Thirteenth Session, 1995  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2290/98]
7. Statement No. XIV Fourteenth Session, 1995  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2291/98]



8. Statement No. XII Fifteenth Session, 1995

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2292/98]

### **Eleventh Lok Sabha**

9. Statement No. IX Second Session, 1996

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2293/98]

10. Statement No. VIII Third Session, 1996

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2294/98]

11. Statement No. VII Fourth Session, 1997

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2295/98]

12. Statement No. V Fifth Session, 1997

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2296/98]

13. Statement No. V Sixth Session, 1997

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2297/98]

### **Twelfth Lok Sabha**

14. Statement No. III First Session, 1998

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2298/98]

15. Statement No. III Second Session, 1998

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2299/98]

- (2) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2300/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2301/98]

- (4) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited and the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2302/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2302A/98]

### **(xiii) Notifications under Port Trust Act, 1963 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND  
MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA):  
Sir, on behalf of Dr. Devendra Pradhan, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions ) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963:-

- (i) G.S.R. 354 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 1998 approving the Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust Employees (Retirement) First Amendment Regulations, 1998.

- (ii) G.S.R. 357 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 1998 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees (Contributory Provident Fund) Regulations, 1998.

- (iii) G.S.R. 366 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1998 approving the Tuticorin Port Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Third Amendment Regulations, 1998.

- (iv) G.S.R. 387 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 1998 approving the Mormugao Port Trust Employees (Leave Travel Concession) Amendment Regulations, 1998.

- (v) G.S.R. 470 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 1997 approving the Mormugao Port Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1997.

- (vi) G.S.R. 520 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 1998 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Allotment of Residences) Regulations, 1998.
- (vii) G.S.R. 556 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd September, 1998 approving the Mormugao Port Employees (Welfare Fund) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (viii) G.S.R. 589 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd September, 1998 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (ix) G.S.R. 658 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1998 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (x) G.S.R. 640 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1998 approving the Cochin Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (xi) G.S.R. 655 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th November, 1997 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Contributory Outdoor and Indoor Medical Benefits after retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1997.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2303/98]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2304/98]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2305/98]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Port Trust, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kandla Port Trust, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2306/98]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation (Navik Bhavishya Nidhi), Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation (Navik Bhavishya Nidhi), Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2307/98]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Madras Dock Labour Board, Chennai, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Madras Dock Labour Board, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2308/98]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2309/98]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Administrative Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2310/98]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormungo Dock Labour Board, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mormungo Dock Labour Board, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2311/98]

- (10) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Shipping Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Shipping Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2312/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2313/98]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chennai Port Trust, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chennai Port Trust, for the year 1996-97.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2314/98]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2315/98]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2316/98]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mangalore Port Trust, Mangalore, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Mangalore Port Trust, Mangalore for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2317/98]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Port Trust, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Calcutta Port Trust, Calcutta for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2318/98]

- (17) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 :-

- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2319/98]

- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2320/98]

- (c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2321/98]

- (d) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2322/98]

- (e) (i) Annual Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2323/98]

- (f) (i) Annual Accounts of the Madras Port Trust for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Madras Port Trust for the year 1996-97.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned that (f) of item (17) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2324/98]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) for the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2325/98]

- (xiv) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the Working of Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :  
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2326/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2327/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2328/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the work-

ing of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2329/98]

- (9) A copy of the Indian Telegraph (Second Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 494(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th August, 1998 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2330/98]

- (10) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the HTL Limited, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the HTL Limited, Chennai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2331/98]

**(xv) Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the Working of the Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, etc.**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA)  
Sir, on behalf of Shri Sompal, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2332/98]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Water and

Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2333/98]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Seeds Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Seeds Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2334/98]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2335/98]

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited, Agatti, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited, Agatti, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (e) of item (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2336/98]

- (3) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the years 1991-92 to 1994-95.

- (b) (i) Annual Report of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2337/98]

- (ii) Annual Report of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2338/98]

- (iii) Annual Report of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2339/98]

- (iv) Annual Report of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2340/98]

- (c) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the years 1992-93 to 1994-95.

- (d) (i) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2341/98]

- (ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2342/98]

- (iii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Two statements (Hindi and English versions)

showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2343/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2344/98]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank's Federation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank's Federation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank's Federation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2345/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training of National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2346/98]

- (8) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 508(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1998, fixing the price of Urea, Zincated Urea and Anhydrous Ammonia, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2347/98]

- (9) A copy of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable oils Development Board (Second Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 634 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1998, under section 20 of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable oils Development Board Act, 1983 together with brief statement of the amendment of the NOVOD Board Rules, 1984.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2348/98]

- (10) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Narmada Control Authority, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2349/98]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) of the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2350/98]

**(xvi) Notification under Indian Administrative Services Act, 1951.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy of each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of All India Services Act, 1951:-
- (i) The Indian Administrative Service (Appointment by Competitive Examination) Amendment Regulations, 1998, published

in Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 1998.

- (ii) The Indian Police Service (Appointment by Competitive Examination) Amendment Regulations, 1998, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 675 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 1998.
- (iii) The Indian Forest Service (Appointment by Competitive Examination) Amendment Regulations, 1998, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 676 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2351/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2352/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Electronics Research and Development Centre of India, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Electronics Research and Development Centre of India, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2353/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2354/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Electronics Test Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Society for Electronics Test Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2355/98]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL  
AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA - LAID

14.05 hrs.

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajyab Sabha:

- (1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd December, 1998."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998 as passed by the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd December, 1998.

...(Interruptions)

14.06 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE  
SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their First Report have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated against each:

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Shri Udai Lal Ajna           | - 27.5.98 to 10.6.98   |
| 2. Shri Abhaysinh S. Bhonsle    | - 27.5.98 to 12.6.98   |
| 3. Shrimati Vijaya Raje Scindia | - 23.3.98 to 31.3.98   |
|                                 | - 27.5.98 to 12.6.98   |
|                                 | - 3.7.98 to 22.7.98    |
| 4. Shri Ram Krishna Patil       | - 17.7.98 to 5.8.98    |
| 5. Shri Mani Kumar Subba        | - 21.7.98 to 6.8.98    |
| 6. Shri Omar Abdullah           | - 15.7.98 to 6.8.98    |
| 7. Shrimati Malti Devi          | - 30.11.98 to 23.12.98 |

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

...(Interruption)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : Leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

...(Interruption)

BIHAR REORGANISATION BILL\*

14.06½ hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The house will now take up Item No.25, namely, Bihar Reorganisation Bill, 1998.

Shri L.K. Advani.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the reorganisation of the existing State of Bihar and for matters connected therewith."

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the reorganisation of the existing State of Bihar and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now introduce the Bill.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I introduce\*\* the Bill

...(Interruptions)

14.07 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION

Import of sugar

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Item No. 24, namely, Calling Attention regarding situation arising out of the continuous import of sugar by the Government.

Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy :

...(Interruptions)

\* Published in the Gazette of India extraordinary. Part II, section 2 dated 23.12.98

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President



DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (VISAKHAPATNAM) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs to the situation arising out of the continuous import of sugar by the Government without imposing any levy on imported sugar thereby causing great hardship to the domestic producers and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto...(Interruptions) Sir, I want the reaction of the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please go back to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

14.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifteen of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please wait for a minute. There are two Reports to be presented. I will call you immediately after that.

Item No. 20- Shri Manoranjan Bhakta — not present.

Shri Prabhat Kumar Samantaray—not present.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

15.01 hrs.

RE : BIHAR REORGANISATION BILL-Contd.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not provoke him.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 72, I would like to state that whenever a bill is introduced, hon'ble Members express their views on whether that bill should be introduced or not. In this regard, under Rule 72, hon'ble Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Basu Deb Achariaji, hon'ble Ajit Mehtaji and many other hon'ble Members have given notices in advance to express their opposition, but they have not been heard. Their opinion on Vananchal was not even heard. The rule was violated and there was pandemonium in the House. All conventions were broken. The House is not run arbitrarily. With due respect to you, all hon'ble Members are present here, the Chair is also governed by the rules and Parliament is an ideal to all the Legislative Assemblies of the State. If a bill is presented in the Parliament by violating all rules and the opposition to it will not be heard and the bill is presented amidst pandemonium in the House—any of the hon. Members would honestly say that he has not heard anything about it—then I would like to state that nobody was heard anything about the Vananchal Bill, which has been introduced today. It is a violation of the rule. If it is included in the proceedings, I would like to say that it is a violation of the rules. Keeping in view the dignity of the Lok Sabha, I would like to request you that the Vananchal Bill has not been introduced and if it is included in the proceedings, it will be against the democratic norms of the country. It will not only be against democracy, but it will be the biggest crime in Parliament. Therefore, I would like to demand that if Vananchal bill has been included in the proceedings, the same should be expunged.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I had given notice before 10 o'clock. We rose to oppose the Bihar Reorganisation Bill ...(Interruptions). I rose to oppose the introduction of the Bill, but you have not given me an opportunity. I rose to oppose it because I do not want the partition of Bihar. The bill has not been passed by Bihar Legislative Assembly on the contrary, it has been rejected.

Bihar Legislative Assembly has negated this motion. The people of Bihar do not want partition of the State. Yesterday, in a meeting we were told that the Government would consider it, and after consideration, it would be introduced in the Parliament, but the hon'ble Minister briefed the Press after the meeting and told that tomorrow he would be introducing the bill in Lok Sabha. Does the Government want to run the House in this way?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I have called Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : An assurance was given before all leaders of the opposition. We had suggested that the Bill should not be introduced forcibly, it should be discussed with us. It was not discussed, the bill has been introduced in the House and we have been deprived of an opportunity to speak.

The bill which has been rejected by the Bihar Legislative Assembly has been introduced in the House. This act is irregular. The House has been disgraced. We want that the Government should withdraw it. This is our demand....(Interruptions) You are dividing Madhya Pradesh. The question about Udham Singh Nagar has also been raised. In this regard the Committee has not submitted any report...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also had given notice to express my opposition under rule 72 to item no. 25—Bihar Reorganisation Bill, 1998. Yesterday, we had strongly opposed this bill on the ground that Bihar Legislative Assembly has rejected this Bill, though Uttar Pradesh Government and Madhya Pradesh Government have given their respective approval to Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Bill and Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Bill respectively. Bihar Legislative Assembly has rejected Bihar Reorganisation Bill. Therefore, the Government should not take any step which may agitate the people of Bihar and may cause unrest. The Parliament and Central Government should not behave in this way.

Sir, Article 3 provides that if the Central Government wants to reorganise any State, it has to send that proposal to the President and the President will take the opinion of the concerned Legislative Assembly. That proposal has been disapproved by the Legislative Assembly, it has been rejected. Under these circumstances, this bill is against the Constitution, it is against the public opinion of Bihar. Therefore, in the all party meeting held under your

chairmanship, to which I was also called, we protested against it. Yesterday, when the question was raised, then the Government said, that it will reconsider it. But at 4 O'clock, Khuranaji called a press conference and said that the Government would introduce this Bill tomorrow itself. It appeared as if the Government was backtracking and our Members got provoked. Due to this reason, we went there and we protested against it.

Sir, this House is supreme and its dignity is also supreme. The Government's primary responsibility is to protect its dignity. Our responsibility is that the Government should not act in the manner ...(Interruptions)...which may violate the decorum of the House...(Interruptions) Tomorrow, someone may introduce the Bill ...(Interruptions) It is Government's responsibility to run the House. It is also the responsibility of the opposition but this Government has not discharged its duties... (Interruptions)... Therefore ultimately we leave it to the Chair ...(Interruptions). The dignity of the Chair, and the House should be maintained ...(Interruptions)

If Government does something wrong then we will oppose that. ...\*

Therefore, we say that item number 21 and 22 was not moved. In item number 23 Kumari Mamtaji was not called for. Item number 24 was Calling Attention Motion in which Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy's name was not called then how item number 25 was taken up? Therefore, I have got apprehension that this was not taken up. This should be clarified. It is said that Vanachal Bill has been "laid" on the Table of the House. Therefore we pray that in order to uphold the traditions of House, maintain dignity of Chair, rules and regulations and for aspirations of the people of Bihar, and to save Bihar from burning this should be rejected and item number 25 should be taken as "laid" On the Table of the House. We will not agree to it. This will result in big mass movement. Ruling should be given as to how item number 21, 22 and 23 were taken up.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the introduction of Bihar Reorganisation Bill on legislative competence. There is a specific provision in the Constitution and as per that provision, the President has referred the matter to the Bihar Legislative Assembly and the Bihar Legislative Assembly has rejected the reference of the President. They are not in favour of separating or bifurcating the existing Bihar State. So, this is a clear violation of the constitutional provision. Moreover, I am opposed to all bifurcation of States, because it will lead to so many difficulties. It will open a Pandora's box, it will create so many difficulties and the country will be in chaos if we go on like this. ... (Interruption)

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You are giving notice and creating trouble also.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL) : So, I vehemently oppose the introduction of this Bill on the ground of legislative competence of this House. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (AONLA) : Mr. Speaker, you must listen to what members have to say. We are also disturbed. Here I have two objections on what Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh said. First he had hurled accusations against the Chair, this should be looked in the proceedings. .. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Sir, if question have been accepted then we are also ready.. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, I am speaking on the question of propriety.. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR SPEAKER : What is your submission?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, shall we have to learn dignity of the Chair from them .. (Interruptions) Several members have given notices. How have they been rising, how they get permission .. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, I want to level this charge through you. He is one of the presiding officers and see his behaviour here. My question is of propriety. Under which rule he made noise when Home Minister rose to introduce the bill. He went to the well of the House and depicted the picture of parliament in such a manner that when we go outside we have to hang our head in shame. Therefore, my submission is that \*.. this should be stopped ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you get the bill passed in a state of pandemonium and say dignity of the House is breached. All this dictatorship is going on.. (Interruptions) The people from their side indulge in such behaviour.. (Interruptions) They do not read and they do not see.. (Interruptions)

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (SAMASTIPUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. A new tradition is being established by ignoring the well established rules of the House. If opposition gives notice against something, no heed is paid to that notice. Our request for division is also ignored. We can say Government is playing extreme role .. (Interruptions) The voice of opposition is suppressed. If all this has to be done then all those rules which were made in this House are useless and House becomes free for all.. (Interruptions)

\* [English]

MR SPEAKER : Shri Shailendra Kumar, you have not given a notice. Your name is not there.

.. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS-AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, about bill what they have said is that they have given notices for opposing .. (Interruptions)

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : If order is to be maintained then this should be expunged from the proceedings. Otherwise if House runs in disorder then this will become free for all and everyone will do whatever he likes.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has raised three issues. One point is that the notices given against the bill have not been heeded to. Mr. Speaker, Sir, notices are heard when House is in order and not to keep the House in order.. (Interruptions)

15.17 hrs.

At This Stage Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav and some other hon'ble members came and stood near the Table.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Again you are adopting the same procedure

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Just now you said about running the House.. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? you were talking of decorum in the House and you are doing the same thing now.

...(Interruptions)

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : This is your behaviour in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

15.20 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

##### Third Report—Presented

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (TENALI) : Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the First Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 1998-99.

15.21 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

##### Eleventh Report and Minutes – Presented

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR (AGRA) : Sir, I beg to present the Eleventh Report and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance on the Foreign Exchange Management Bill, 1998.

15.22 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

##### Action Taken Statement – Laid

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table (Hindi and English versions) the statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the following Reports :

- (1) Seventh Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations

contained in the First Report on 'Passenger Amenities'.

- (2) Eighth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Second Report on 'Doubling of the Railways Lines and Metro Railway Project in Calcutta'.
- (3) Ninth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fourth Report on 'Opening of New Lines on Indian Railways.'
- (4) Tenth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifth Report on 'Suburban Railways.'
- (5) Eleventh Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report on 'Gauge Conversion on Indian Railways'.
- (6) Thirteenth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Sixth Report on 'Demands for Grants 1994-95.'
- (7) Seventeenth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifteenth Report on 'Electrification of Railway lines.'
- (8) Eighteenth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twelfth Report on 'Production Units of Indian Railways'.
- (9) Twentieth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fourteenth Report on 'Demands for Grants 1995-96'.
- (10) Twenty first Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Sixteenth Report on 'Requirement, Procurement and Utilisation of Wagons by Indian Railways'.
- (11) Third Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Nineteenth Report on (Tenth Lok Sabha) 'Safety Measures and Maintenance of Assets in Railways'.
- (12) Seventh Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the First Report on (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on 'Budgetary Support to Railways'.

- (13) Eighth Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fourth Report on (Eleventh Lok Sabha) 'Demands for Grants 1996-97.'

...(Interruption)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If the House agrees, the Matters under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Ram Naik.

15.23 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 – LAID

- (i) **Need to provide B-2 category Status to Jamnagar town for payment of house rent allowance to Government employees.**

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL (JAMNAGAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present the population of Jamnagar city of Gujarat is about 6-7 lakhs but the Government employees of Jamnagar do not get class B-2 status for the purpose of H.R.A. whereas for H.R.A. purposes B-2 class criteria of population is three lakh and seventy five thousand. It's a special case, in Jamnagar CCA is being provided since 1.1.1981. Whenever any representation is given by any Member of Parliament or any institution to Centre, answer comes that according to the census of 1991 Jamnagar has population of 3,75,000. But now it is 1998 and not 1991 and 1999 is coming. Therefore, as a special case this city be given the status of B-2 category and H.R.A. be paid accordingly.

Jamnagar's Government Union Association, Chambers of Commerce, Municipal Corporation, different organisations of Gujarat Government as well as I have written letters to Government and have sent proposals but nothing has been done so far.

Reliance industries, S.R. industries and many other industries which have just come there have made an investment of Rs. 40 thousand crores and one and a half lakh workers have come from outside. Population of Army, Navy and Air Force employees is one lakh and twenty five thousand, which was not counted in 1991 census because due to security reasons census employees were not allowed to go inside. Jamnagar is the biggest industrial township of Asia. House Rent is highest in Jamnagar in Gujarat. There House Rent is about Rs. 12/- per sq feet.

World famous pilgrimage Dwarka Dham and Okha place where Sudama presented rice to Lord Krishna are situated here. Lakhs of tourist from country and abroad visit this place. Even after all these proofs Jamnagar is not provided class B-2 status and Government employees are not given H.R.A. accordingly.

Therefore now there is a possibility of strike, hunger-strike, dharna, Gherao, rasta roko, agitation, etc. in whole city, by all workers, Chambers of Commerce etc.

It is therefore, requested that the Central Government should provide B-2 category status to Jamnagar town by considering it as a special case and provide H.R.A. to all.

- (ii) **Need to Shift Administrative Control of Hindustan Cables Limited from Industry Ministry to Communications Ministry to Facilitate its revival.**

[English]

SHRI TAPAN SIKNADAR (DUMDUM) : Sir, the Hindustan Cables Limited, the first public sector undertaking established in 1952, has turned sick since the so-called liberalised economic policy was adopted in 1992. HCL sells cables at five per cent less price to DOT/MTNL, but it receives no benefit like reserved quota for firm order, as it is there with ITI and HTL, nor does it receive any advance payment as do ITI and HTL. However, Hindustan Cables Limited, with its three units at Hyderabad, Rupnarainpur and Naini, may easily be turned around if DOT/MTNL reserve just thirty per cent of their annual requirement for Hindustan Cables and pay fifty per cent of the order amount in advance. To facilitate revival, HCL needs to be shifted from the Industry Ministry to the Communications Ministry for which, I understand, already there is recommendation from the Industry Ministry. Even the Parliamentary Committee on Government assurances has recently accepted the suggestions as above and recommended the same. I draw the attention of the concerned Ministries to act immediately in this regard.

- (iii) **Need for setting up of a Amla based industry in Pratapgarh Region, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI (PRATAPGARH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my constituency Pratapgarh is perhaps the only Lok Sabha Constituency in the World where good quality Amla is produced. 25 per cent farmers of the area is dependent on utilisation of Amla. The farmer who produces such a big quantity of Amla has now become a victim of exploitation by big businessmen. Neither he get the remunerative price of his produce nor the produce is utilised timely.

Therefore my submission to the Central Government

is that an arrangement should be made to set up an Amla based industry in my Constituency Pratapggarh so that the Amla, which is being produced at a large scale. There could be utilised properly and the farmers could get the remunerative price for their hard earned crop. With the setting up of an Amla based industry, poor farmers and small businessmen could be saved from the exploitation of big traders.

**(iv) Need to establish a relay centre of Delhi Doordarshan at Agarmalwa in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, people of a very large area comprising my constituency Shajapur, adjoining district Ratlam and Jhalawad and especially the farmers and other citizens of the Agar, Malwa, Barod, Susmer, Nalkhera, Soyalkalan and Baragaon tehsils of Shajapur district have not been able to enjoy the programmes of Delhi Doordarshan Relay Centre. Therefore the people of this area have been suffering a lot. I made a request number of times to hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting to set up a Doordarshan Relay Centre at Malwa. The Department and the then Information Minister had agreed in principle to set up a Doordarshan Relay Centre and had also given an assurance to set up a Doordarshan Relay Centre at Agar and Malwa subjects to availability of funds. But no sanction has been provided in this direction till date. I demand from the Government that in public interest it should give an immediate consent to the proposal of setting up of a Delhi Doordarshan Relay Centre at Agar Malwa and make available the facility to the people by speedy completion of the project.

[English]

**(v) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to the State Government of Karnataka for desilting the Water Tanks in Kolar in Karnataka.**

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR) : Sir, my constituency, Kolar in Karnataka, is a drought-prone area. This year also there was no sufficient rainfall despite flood and cyclonic havoc in the northern parts of Karnataka. Low rainfall is the perennial problem of my constituency. In this area, more than 80 per cent of the people are agriculturists. There are no irrigational facilities and hence unemployment and poverty are daunting the agriculturists and the educated youths. The number of unemployed has increased enormously in Kolar because of the closure of Kolar gold field mines.

The problem of agriculturists are mounting day by day. During summer season, even drinking water will not be available to the people of my constituency. The ground water level has gone down to 400 to 500 ft. deep. Neither hand-pump nor any other alternative arrangements can help the hapless agriculturists.

There are about 3000 tanks and ponds in my constituency. Their water storing capacity is being reduced

each successive year. In fact, I have represented to the Government of India on several occasions regarding this problem. The centre has not taken any measure to solve this problem so far.

I urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to come to the rescue of the people, particularly the farmers of Kolar, by providing Rs. 2000 crore for desilting the tanks in Kolar.

**(vi) Need to Start Air Service between Nasik and Delhi Via Aurangabad or Poona**

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL (NASIK) : Sir, there is no air service between Nasik and Delhi via Aurangabad or Poona. People have to come to Mumbai to get the air facilities for Delhi. As all of us know, Nasik is a big educational, industrial and agricultural centre of the country. Many important Central Government Departments and industries, such as, HAL and Currency Printing Press, are established here. People from every corner of the country visit Nasik for business/education purpose or otherwise. Many big industrialists have invested their capital in many industries in this city. But due to non-availability of air service for Delhi, it is losing its importance. People engaged with industry/education or any other sector visit Delhi from Nasik frequently. To avail the air facility for Delhi, they have to spend a lot of money and time in reaching Mumbai. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to start air services between Nasik and Delhi via Aurangabad or Poona immediately.

**(vii) Need to introduce air service on Delhi-Kota-Mumbai and Delhi-Kota-Indore route.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA (KOTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, till now no action plan has been prepared for the proper utilisation of the Kota (Rajasthan) aerodrom by Department of Civil aviation. With the starting of the air service from Mumbai to Delhi via Kota and Indore to Delhi via Kota will benefit the professionals, common citizens, industrialists and tourists besides facilitating the tourist traffic coming over to see the various tourist sites of Haroti division like Surya temple, Jhalomad, Kelwara caves, Suryachatri, Bundi, various ponds and Baowlis, Chitrashala, Shikar Burj, old Garh palace, forts, Banganga, Hindoli pond RAAP Ramgar and Sawai Madhopur, Wild Life Sanctuary (including head quarter Bundi of the oldest merged Desi Riyasat Bundi of the country).

The infrastructure is available at Kota airport for air service. Therefore, it is requested that air service between Delhi-Kota-Mumbai and Delhi-Kota-Indore route may be started in public interest.

[English]

**(viii) Re: Need to take necessary steps for stopping cross-border movements of anti-national insurgents along the border of Tripura.**

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY (TRIPURA WEST) :

The Indo-Bangladesh border with Tripura is of 839 kilometres which plays a crucial role in the insurgency in Tripura. The border is open on all sides making it easy for frequent movement of people across the border as population of both sides of the border is of the same stock. Tripura Government has demanded for fencing the border but sanction has not been granted by the Central Government yet. The BSF deployed on the border is inadequate to stop anti-national insurgency militant movement. Border out posts are seven kilometres apart making the BSF patrol ineffective. The BOPs are also undermined.

As a result, militants in uniform and laced with modern sophisticated weapons enter from their Bangladesh hide-outs and operate against the people and armed security force of India, and go back to their hide-outs unharmed. It is learnt that the State Government of Tripura suggested for new 25 BOPs in the gaps on the border with two platoons of the BSF each for effectively stopping the extremists movement on the well-known routes they travel. But no response from the Central Government was found.

It may be noted that protecting the border from intruders—armed and unarmed—is the duty of the Central Government and its armed wings. Innocent and peace-loving people of Tripura are the victim of insurgency violence from across the international border. Such incidents can easily be avoided with deployment of adequate security units. Instead, people of Tripura are subjected to regular kidnapping and other atrocities.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to announce proper measure for protecting the lives and properties of people of Tripura, and protect the country's international border with Bangladesh from illegal intrusion by armed hoodlums.

- (ix) **Need to stop the telecast of the programme City Halchal on Television at district Khiri, Uttar Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (KHIRI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, an illegal programme "City Halchal" is being telecast at the district Khiri. Broadcasters have been using this media to expand their influence by illegal means.

No permissions for telecasting this programme has been given by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India and neither any permission at the State level has been given for its telecast. Even then this programme is being telecast continuously for the past several months. I urge upon the government to immediately stop its telecast and take necessary action against the concerned people.

- (x) **Need for construction of a railway over-bridge near Ulundurpet in Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI M. C. DHAMOTHARAN (CUDDALORE) : Sir, the lifeline of the railway network in Tamil Nadu, the chord line is a very busy BG line between Chennai and Madurai. This BG line crosses two important highways near Ulundurpet. These two roads are, NH-45 between Chennai-Trichy and a State highway between Cuddalore-Coimbatore via Salem. Since it is a level crossing, the heavy traffic on these two roads get choked very frequently, causing great inconvenience.

Agricultural products from the southern districts of Tamil Nadu are transported to Madras and the adjoining areas by trucks and lorries through this NH-45. Same way, the raw materials and electrical components for the cottage, small and medium industries in the southern districts are transported from Chennai on this route. It is so important a road for Tamil Nadu that, if traffic on this route is cut off a few hours, it will affect the daily life of people in many parts of Tamil Nadu.

The Cuddalore-Coimbatore road via Salem is also a busy route because inter-State travel and transportation of goods from Kerala and Karnataka to Tamil Nadu take place through this route.

Since Coimbatore is the Manchester of South India and Salem is a business centre and traffic junction line on this route, the traffic is generally heavy. Therefore, the crossing of these two roads near Ulundurpet is in itself a problem for smooth traffic.

As such, it is suggested that the railway line could be elevated at this place to solve this problem. I request the Government to order for an immediate survey near Ulundurpet and begin construction of railway over-bridge at that crossing without delay.

Thank you.

- (xi) **Need to provide financial help for proper maintenance of canals/nullahs in Calcutta**

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (JADAVPUR) : Sir, there are a number of narrow canals or nullahs, as these are known in and around Calcutta. These canals originate from the river Ganga. These canals, if made operational, can serve even as water ways and can carry passengers and cargo. This would help in relieving the traffic congestions within the metropolitan city. The canal known as Tolly Nullah goes from Hastings to Garia and can be converted into a useful waterway. But before that, the water has to be treated and cleansed. As such, it poses a health hazard to people living on both banks of the canal.

It is, therefore, requested that the Central Government may direct the Environment Ministry and the Urban Development Ministry to examine the matter and allocate financial help for the upliftment of the canals. This will give relief to hundreds of commuters in and around the city of

Calcutta.

**(xii) Need to safeguard the sanctity of Buddhist monuments in the Country**

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE (CHIMUR) : Sir, India abounds in Buddhist monuments and caves, which we claim as our heritage. This attracts lakhs of tourists from Buddhist countries and other parts of the world. Most of the monuments depict life of Buddha and Bodhisattvas, and two of the monuments caves of Elephanta and Ghanapuri are on the World Heritage List. This represents our ancient Buddhist culture and we are proud of the same.

Of late, a systematic attempt is being made by the vested interests to defile the originality of the Indian culture by putting up idols of Hindu Gods and Goddesses as a result, the very basic fabric of the Indian culture is being affected. This should be stopped.

The Archaeological Survey of India is the agency for upkeep, restoring and safeguarding the sanctity and originality of the monuments.

I, therefore, request that the monuments be handed over to the Buddhist organisations to upkeep, restore and safeguard the sanctity of these monuments.

**(xiii) Need for Construction of a Railway Over-bridge at Chandauli-Sakaldiha Station Road U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA (CHANDOLI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the demand for constructing a railway over-bridge at Chandoli-Sakaldiha station road has been persisting for a long-long time but no action in this regard has been taken so far. Quite often, station road is overcrowded, which results in traffic jam. A lot of time is wasted in negotiating this route. Accidents have become a common sight due to lack of an over-bridge. Traffic remains jam for several hours on the arrival of trains due to which the people have to face great hardships. Therefore arrangement should be made for the construction of an overbridge at Chandoli-Sakaldiha station road keeping in view the long standing demand of the people and the problems faced by them. The construction of an overbridge would help in stopping the accident which take place due to its absence.

**(xiv) Need to release more funds for development of Bateshwar, a tourist resort at Shikohabad, U.P.**

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (FEROZABAD) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform, through you, that Shikohabad, Bateshwar near Agra is a very important pilgrimage in my constituency. The Government of India had sanctioned about 44 lakhs rupees under the 1994-95 scheme. The Government of India had also declared it a tourist spot. This way also its significance increases to a great extent because the tourists from all over the world visit Agra. Remaining amount should immediately be

allocated to Bateshwar so that the work can be completed in time. Being in the proximity of Agra, here too the tourists will pour in large number which will be a source of huge profit to the Government of India.

**(xv) Need to sanction the export quota of cotton of at least five lakh bales to the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Grower's Marketing Federation**

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSALE (SATARA) : The Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Grower's Marketing Federation has been a pioneer in the export of cotton bales and has established its reputation in the international market. The Federation has not been given a fair share of the export quota by the Government of India. If the Federation gets better share of export quota, it will be able to get a better realisation for their cotton, and thus, in turn it will benefit the farmers in the State. Considering the volumes of purchases of cotton by Federation under the scheme, if the export quota of minimum five lakh bales is sanctioned by the Central Government at the beginning of the season, the Federation will stand benefited as it will be able to realise the best available market price. Therefore I request the Union Government to sanction the export quota of cotton at least five lakh bales to the Cotton Federation.

**(xvi) Re : Need to treat the calls between Hyderabad and sub-urban areas within a radius of 100 kilometres of Hyderabad city, Andhra Pradesh as local calls.**

SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY (NALGONDA) : I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Communications to the need to bring the towns and villages around Hyderabad city particularly of R.R. district, Nalgonda, M. Nagar, Medak, Karimnagar districts, which are in the radius of 100 kilometres or so into the short-distance call areas by which it will be virtually a local call. This will improve the system of communications and help several industries around Hyderabad and many people who work in the capital city and sub-urban area. The small business people also feel the necessity of quick communications system.

Though Hyderabad is the capital of the State and good telephone system is existing in the city but sub-urban areas are not getting the facilities. Even towns 30 kilometres from cities like Kanukur, Mahesmeram do not have STD system. Now, private companies like Tata are in competition with DoT. Therefore, it is urgent to provide best facilities to DoT consumers.

**(xvii) Need to include Kerala in the Express Highway between North and South**

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA) : Express Roads declared by hon. Prime Minister from North to South and South to North is a welcome step. From Kanyakumari to Kashmir this road should naturally pass through Kerala and all South Indian States. But it is learnt that Kerala is not included in this route. A consoling



statement that a road from Cochin to Salem to this express highway will be constructed will not take away the grievance of Kerala. The other free highways declared also exclude Kerala. The Government of India should take steps to route the express highways through Kerala. I also suggest that the technology of using rubberised bitumen pavement may be used in the express highways.

**(xviii) Need to ensure that State Governments do not use ESMA frequently against Government employees**

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (SONEPAT) : The misuse of ESMA by State Governments has been a cause of concern ever since this Act came into force. The manner in which 34 Nurses, 200 employees of Haryana Tourism Corporation, numerous Nagar Palika employees were terminated and the invoking of this law on the eve of general strike called by National Manch of Mass organisations in Haryana has been greatly resented to by the employees.

I would urge upon the Government that suitable instructions be given to the employees not to misuse the Act against the Government employees, particularly, in Haryana.

**(xix) Need for exploration of oil blocks at Sunderbans and adjoining areas in Wes. Bengal**

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR) : Sir, under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) Government has decided to begin exploration of 48 offshore, on-shore and deep sea oil blocks. The country will need an investment of around Rs. 100,000 crores over the next ten years for attaining oil security.

In this context, I would like to invite Government's attention to various surveys conducted by ONGC in Sunderbans and its adjoining areas in West Bengal which had confirmed the existence of oil blocks below the ground level. The exploration activities were also taken up by the authority some time back but before it could reach any conclusion, the work has been stopped.

Since the Government, under NELP, are about to start exploration of 48 locations, I urge upon the Government to ensure that Sunderbans and its adjoining areas which were earlier earmarked for exploration, could definitely find its place into the list of probable locations for carrying out exploration activities.

15.23 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER  
Members of Parliament Local  
Area Development Scheme**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, on behalf of

the Prime Minister, I lay the statement regarding Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme increasing the amount from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 2 crore per year and some other benefits to be implemented from the year 1998-99.

[Placed in the Library. See LT-No. 2356/98]

**Statement**

Members of Parliament belonging to almost all political parties have for some time been demanding that the amount allocated under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme be increased. As we are all aware, when the Scheme was initiated in 1993, each Member of Parliament had a choice to suggest works of the tune of Rs. 1 crore as per the guidelines.

It has been increasingly perceived that though the efficacy of the scheme is not in doubt, in view of the increasing demands made on Members of Parliament for development of their areas and the rising cost of inputs, the amount of Rs. 1 crore need to be increased. Separate meetings were held under the Chairmanship of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha wherein it was proposed that Government should increase the allocation to Rs.2 crore per Member of Parliament. It gives me pleasure to announce that my Government has accepted this recommendation.

Further it has also been decided that the interest accrued on the funds deposited with the nationalised banks may be used for the same purpose for which the basic amount has been allocated. It has also been decided that in respect of the Members of Rajya Sabha, the unspent balance left by the predecessor Rajya Sabha MP in a particular State will be equally distributed amongst the successor Rajya Sabha Member from that particular State. All these changes/modifications will come into effect from the financial year 1998-99.

We hope with the increased allocation and modifications made by us, Members of Parliament will be in a better position to serve the people.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the National Song will be played. I am requesting all the hon. Members to go back to their seats.

*The National Song was Played.*

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

15.24 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*

# Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debate

(English Version)

Wednesday December 23, 1998/Pausa 2, 1920 (Saka)

<i>Col./Line</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
3/27	Shri K.P. Mohan	Shri K. Parymohan
24/23	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)	THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
131/1	(c) and (f)	(e) and (f)
192/20	SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE	SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE
277/3(from below)	Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq	Dr. Shafiqur Rahman
299/28	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILAMALAI)	THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI)
325/23	SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR	SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT
328/16	SHRI TAPAN SIKANDAR	SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR

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**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in  
Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and Printed at Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006**

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